**This…; Is What Matters To Jesus**

John 15:1-11

In discipleship what really matters to Jesus?

*“That you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.”* (vs. 8)

The bottom line is – genuine/growing disciples bear fruit! (Col. 1-9-10, Gal.5:22, 23)

So what enables disciples to be fruitful over the long haul?

1. Genuine/growing disciples **value** their relationship with Christ (4-8)

* What we value we will prioritize and make time for
* A disciple’s fruitfulness is directly related to the value they place on intentionally remaining in Christ, maintaining a vital connection.

2. Genuine/growing disciples **take** God’s word seriously (9-11)

* Fruitful disciples *“remain in His love”* by obeying His commandments (vs. 10)
* Fruitful disciples experience *“complete/full”* joy when living in obedience to Jesus ways. (vs. 11)

3. Genuine/growing disciples **understand** *‘pruning’* is part of the process (1-2)

* Fruitful disciples acknowledge they belong to God (1 Cor. 6:19, 1 Cor. 3:23)
* Fruitful disciples acknowledge God is a ‘good, good Father.’ (Heb. 12: 10b-11, Rom. 8:28, Jas. 1:2-4)

*“Christians were chosen for this and appointed for this. It is God’s design and economy that each believer should live in union with His son and be fruitful – express the effect of that union in daily life.”*