



## DAY EIGHT - Fruit Bearing

John 1:1-2 - Fruit Bearing

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Let us look at the meaning of word.

- Word- (according to Webster's dictionary) noun, single distinct meaningful element of speech or writing, used with others (or sometimes alone) to form a sentence and typically shown with a space on either side when written or printed.

This means that we use words to communicate our will, convey our thoughts, or issue commands; it is also the medium of communication with others. By calling the Son of GOD the WORD, we acknowledge that Jesus is the medium by which GOD tells us HIS will and issues HIS commandments to us (Hebrews 1:1-3). Per the text, we know that Jesus, the Word, was there in the beginning, before the world was created. He was with GOD and HE was GOD. He is eternal

John 15:4 - Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain **in Me**.

The text reminds us that there are 2 things that are absolutely necessary for our salvation:

- That we continue to be closely united to Christ by faith and love, and live **in HIM**
- That we continue to remain **in Him** otherwise we are powerless.

I am reminded of a punishment that I read about in a parenting magazine where the author advised parents not to take away electronic devices from disobedient children but instead to take away the charging cord. Once the battery runs out, these devices are powerless. As the branch partakes of the nature of the tree, is nourished by its juice, and lives by its life. Thus, it's the same for us. If we are not connected to the True Vine (John 15:1-2), we too become powerless.



Hebrews 4:12 - “ For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

The text so amplifies the nature of the Word of GOD and personifies it. From the text, we see the Word of GOD described as

- Living- the word of GOD has that effect on those to whom it is preached
- Active- doesn't go out of “style” as some things are known to do
- Sharper than any two-edged sword - doesn't become dull, is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago
- Piercing- able to see through all our fronts and excuses
- Able to judge

This further helps to remind us that the Word of GOD is powerful. It doesn't lose power. This takes me back to a time when I was bitter. I had a vision for an outreach project and shared that vision with someone looking for help and guidance on how to further advance the idea. I didn't get the help and guidance that I was looking for but instead I was surprised to see that my vision was being used by that person but to help a different area. Furthermore, I received zero credit for the idea. I was wounded and started thinking that I couldn't trust my brothers or sisters to not steal my ideas. No one could discern what I was thinking or what I was feeling; but GOD knew. I needed the Word of GOD for comfort but also to convict me and remind me of my purpose. That day, I was quickly reminded of the bickering in the early church where some were saying they were of Apollos and other of Paul and how Paul reminded them that we are all servants of GOD and all Glory is due to GOD (1 Corinthians 3:1-9).

Knowing that Jesus is GOD, that we need GOD for power and sustenance, and that the Word of GOD is living and active today, let us not live an ordinary life. Remain attach to the True Vine, let Christ manifest Himself in you, through the Word and let the Holy Spirit empower you. Root deeper to reach wider.

*If you want someone to believe in your redeemer, you are going to have to look redeemed. Friedrich Nietzsche*