

THE SECRETS OF A PRODUCTIVE LIFE OVERLOADED: FROM BURNOUT TO BALANCE PART 3

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"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."
John 15:8 (NIV)

- BEARING FRUIT BRINGS _____ TO GOD
- BEARING FRUIT SHOWS THAT I AM A _____
- GOD WANTS ME TO BEAR _____ FRUIT

MEMORY VERSE: *"You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last!"* **John 15:16 (NIV)**

- BEARING FRUIT IS THE PURPOSE OF MY _____.
- A TRULY PRODUCTIVE LIFE IS ONE WHERE THE FRUIT _____!

4 KINDS OF FRUIT

1. THE FRUIT OF _____
2. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT (9 CHARACTER QUALITIES)
3. THE FRUIT OF BRINGING SOMEONE TO JESUS
4. THE FRUIT OF MINISTRY TO OTHERS

THE SERIOUSNESS OF NOT BEARING FRUIT:

Jesus said: "...I've been coming to look for fruit on this tree and still haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?" **Luke 13:7 (NIV)**

FOUR SECRETS OF A PRODUCTIVE LIFE

1. I MUST CULTIVATE DEEP _____.

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

Jeremiah 17:7–8 (NIV)

HOW CAN YOU GROW DEEP ROOTS?

"Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners or join those who have no use for God. Instead, they find joy in obeying the Law of the Lord, and they study it day and night. They are like trees that grow beside a stream, that bear fruit at the right time, and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do." **Psalm 1:1–3 (GNB)**

"Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving." **Colossians 2:6–7 (GNB)**

2. I MUST ELIMINATE THE _____ IN MY LIFE.

THIS IS LIVING WITH MARGIN!

PARABLE OF THE SEED & SOILS: *"The seed is the Word of God... The seed that falls among weeds stands for those who hear, but the worries and riches and pleasures of this life crowd in and choke them, and their fruit never ripens."* **Luke 8:14 (GNT)**

EXAMPLE OF WEEDS: LUKE 14:16-20

Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, Come, the banquet is ready. But they all began making excuses. One said, I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me. Another said, I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me. Another said, I just got married, so I can't come." **Luke 14:16–20 (NLT)**

3. I MUST COOPERATE WITH GOD'S _____ IN MY LIFE.

Jesus: "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more." John 15:1-2 (NLT)

NEVER CONFUSE _____ WITH _____.

"No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." Hebrews 12:11 (NIV)

4. I MUST PATIENTLY WAIT FOR & EXPECT A _____.

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity." John 12:24-25 (NLT)

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NLT)

MY NEXT STEPS TODAY:

- I will memorize **John 15:16 (NIV)**
- I will accept Christ for the first time
- I will join the New Life church family
- I will sign up for the next baptism
- I will sign up for the next membership classes
- I will attend the rest of this sermon series
- I will deepen my root
- I will remove one weed a month for the rest of this year

I WILL _____ MYSELF TO BE PRODUCTIVE.

Join us next week as we continue our new sermon series:

Overloaded Part 4

Keeping Your Tank Filled Instead of Running on Empty