024. Bearing Fruit

Anthony Cook
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, cooka@csl.edu

Jason Broge
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, brogej@csl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholar.csl.edu/tabletalk
Part of the Practical Theology Commons

Recommended Citation
http://scholar.csl.edu/tabletalk/24

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Resources for Ministry at Scholarly Resources from Concordia Seminary. It has been accepted for inclusion in Table Talk: Family Devotions by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Resources from Concordia Seminary. For more information, please contact seitzw@csl.edu.
**TABLE TALK**

**Bearing Fruit**

**Prepare:**

**As one person lights a candle, the family reads together:** (adapted from Jeremiah 17:7-8)

*C: Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,*

*R: he is like a tree planted by the water.*

*C: He is not anxious when the heat comes,*

*R: for he does not cease to bear fruit.*

**Read: John 15:1-8 (ESV)**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

**Reflect:**

Branches only bear fruit by being connected to the vine. As Christians, our ability to bear fruit is a result of our being connected to Jesus. The fruit we bear is proof we are his disciples.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (John 15:1-8) means for you as a family.  

*Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.*

**Pray:**

_The head of the household prays:_

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for grafting us into the vine that is Jesus. Help us to abide in him so that we might bear fruit.

In Jesus’s name, amen.