

How to Bear Fruit for God

The Power of Hinting and the Holy Spirit

(Part 4)

As we continue our exploration of how to bear fruit for God, let's take a moment to reflect on the lessons from the previous parts of this series. Last month, we celebrated the birth of Jesus, a time when we exchange gifts with loved ones. Yet, amid the fleeting nature of earthly gifts, we are reminded of a special, eternal gift from God—the Holy Spirit.

The Gift of the Holy Spirit

In **Acts 2:37-39**, we see the promise of the Holy Spirit as a gift for all believers. This divine Counselor, Teacher, Spirit of Truth, and Guide is meant to help us bear much fruit in our lives. As Jesus said in **John 15:8**, God is glorified when we bear much fruit, just as parents delight in seeing their children grow and thrive.

However, many Christians who have received the Holy Spirit seem to bear little fruit or show limited spiritual character. Why is this? The answer lies in understanding how Jesus communicated and taught His followers—through a method called "remez."

Jesus' Teaching Style: Remez

The term "remez" refers to a rabbinic teaching method that involves hinting or alluding to deeper truths. Jesus often used this technique to guide His listeners toward spiritual understanding.

In the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), we see Jesus employing this Haggadic style of teaching, which invites reflection and discovery.

The more familiar we are with Scripture, the more the Holy Spirit can use this method of hinting to reveal profound truths to us. It's like a spiritual version of the game "**Name That Tune**," where **familiarity leads to winning**. Similarly, being well-acquainted with God's Word allows us to recognize His hints and uncover answers to our questions.

The Power of Remez: Discovering Spiritual Truths

Let's consider an example of how remez can help us understand why some Christians bear little fruit despite receiving the Holy Spirit. Jesus often hinted at spiritual truths through imagery like rivers, water, and trees.

In **Ezekiel 47:1-12**, we see a vision of water flowing from the temple, becoming a life-giving river. This river nourishes trees that bear fruit every month and have leaves for healing. Similarly, in **Psalms 1:1-3**, the righteous are compared to trees planted by streams of water, yielding fruit in season and whose leaves do not wither.

These passages hint at the transformative power of being connected to God's life-giving Spirit. The "**river**" represents the flow of the Holy Spirit in our lives, bringing nourishment and enabling us to bear consistent fruit.

Rivers of Living Water

In **John 7:37-39**, Jesus speaks of rivers of living water flowing from within those who **believe** in Him. This living water symbolizes the Holy Spirit, which was given after Jesus' death and resurrection. On the day of Pentecost, this **new dimension** of the Holy Spirit began to operate in believers' lives.

The Holy Spirit not only empowers us but also equips us with a **supernatural prayer language—speaking in tongues**.

Acts 10:44-47 describes how the Holy Spirit fell on those who heard Peter's words, enabling them to speak in tongues and glorify God. This heavenly prayer language is described as rivers of living water flowing from our spirit.

What Is in the Water?

The "**water**," or our prayer language, consists of words from God. As Jesus said in **John 6:63**, His words are spirit and life. **When we pray in tongues**, we speak words given by the Holy Spirit (**Acts 2:4**). These words carry life and power, as **Proverbs 18:21** reminds us that life and death are in the power of the tongue.

The Holy Spirit communicates directly with us and only speaks what He hears from the Father and Jesus (**John 16:13-14**). This means that our prayer language is filled with divine wisdom and guidance. It is a **direct connection** to God's will and purposes.

Bearing Fruit Through the Spirit

To bear fruit for God, we **must remain connected** to Him through His Word and Spirit. Just as trees by streams of water yield consistent fruit, so too will our lives reflect His character when we are nourished by His presence.

The "**rivers**" flowing from within us—**our prayer language and communion with God**—are essential for spiritual growth.

Memorizing Scripture enhances our ability to recognize God's hints through *remez*. As we meditate on His Word day and night (**Psalms 1:2**), we become more attuned to His voice and guidance. This intimacy with God allows us to bear fruit in every season and glorify Him through our lives.

Conclusion

The journey to bearing fruit for God involves understanding His methods of communication and embracing the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Through remez, Jesus hints at deeper truths that invite us into a closer relationship with Him. By staying rooted in Scripture and allowing the Holy Spirit to flow through us like rivers of living water, we can yield consistent fruit that brings glory to God.

As we continue this series, let us remain open to discovering more about how God speaks to us and equips us for His purposes.

The next part will delve deeper into the concept of remez and how it can transform our understanding of Scripture and our walk with God. Stay tuned!

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