

“Provision Through Trust”

By Mrs. Sojourner



Let us look at the topic of trust in the book of “Ruth.” Naomi and her husband Elimelech and their sons left Bethlehem, Judah and moved to Moab because there was famine in the land. Over the course of ten years both sons married, neither had any children, and all three men died. Naomi, after hearing that the Lord had delivered his people from the famine, moved back to Jerusalem. Ruth, Naomi’s daughter-in-law, clung not only to Naomi, but to Naomi’s way of life and to Jehovah. (Ruth 1:1-5,16-17)

Naomi’s family, upon leaving Judah, chose to trust what they could perceive with their senses: there was food in Moab. Unfortunately, over the course of a decade, what they reaped from this trust was death: father and sons died and the family line was seemingly severed because no children were born to either son.

Our gracious God showed his redemption through Ruth. Now a widow, Ruth could have easily gone back to her family and her fam-

ily’s gods, as did her sister-in-law Orpah. She chose to do otherwise.

Notes:

[a]

Ruth chose to completely commit to Naomi and to Jehovah—even to the point of pronouncing a curse upon herself if she broke this commitment.

Ruth chose to trust Jehovah and his ways, even though she could not see how they would eat, or how she could gain respect in a foreign land that usually did not accept people of other cultures and/or religions. Ruth trusted the unseen God and he provided for their physical needs and he gave her a place of honor as the wife of Boaz, an honored man. Our gracious God also continued the line of Elimelech and Mahlon through Ruth and Boaz. (4:9-10) Ruth trusted God and he provided beyond her dreams. Go do likewise.

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Sojourning

Vol. 7 No. 6 February 10, 2008

...with The Sojourner

“Being A Branch”

(Teaching Sketch)

John 15:1-8



What do I attach myself to, or better said, to what am I attached? Everyone is attached to a person, a philosophy, a culture, a belief, or something. By being attached to something I am a part of it, whatever it may be. I take on the very nature I have through my attachment. I was born into a family, a culture, a country, a belief system and so was everyone else.

Jesus The Vine

Jesus said he is the vine and I, as a Believer, am a branch of the Jesus Vine. As long as I remain attached to the Jesus Vine then I am a part of the Jesus Vine. I will have the characteristics of the Jesus vine since I am a Jesus vine branch. A vine branch gets its life from the vine through very small tubes which bring water to the branches and nourishment from the soil in which the vine is rooted.

Natural Branch Function

The natural function of a branch is to grow, and in growing add leaves to the vine which will bring about energy for the vine as well as fruit for reproduction of the vine to the glory of the gardener or husbandman.

Notes:

The Gardener

The gardener dresses the vine to keep it healthy and productive. A part of the process in dressing the vine is to ensure each of the branches it clean and healthy so the gardener will prune the vine of all non-productive and dead portions to strengthen the vine for one purpose—to bear fruit. The branches which are removed are taken away from the plant and burned to prevent the vine’s branches from becoming diseased.

Disease Destroys

Disease destroys! Disease prevents a plant from fulfilling its purpose. A diseased plant cannot bear fruit. It may start to produce healthy

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture:

John 15:1-8^(NIV)

The Vine and the Branches

¹"I am the true^[a] vine,^[b] and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes^[c] so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I will 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.

⁵"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

a. True (as not concealing)

b. A vine (as coiling about a support)

c. The Greek for prunes also means cleans.



"The Sojourner Live"

**Sunday, Feb. 24th at
9:00 PM (EST)
8:00 PM (CST)**

The Sojourner will be broadcasting a special message on "The Kingdom" don't miss it.

Click the link on the his site's media page!

"Being A Branch" (Teaching Sketch)

John 15:1-8

fruit but the fruit will either wither and fall away before harvest, or if the fruit lasts until harvest it will be discarded as unwholesome.

Living On The Vine

Living on the vine, the Jesus Vine, is the only way I can remain healthy as a Believer and acceptor of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Living on the Jesus Vine is known as to abide (the NIV says remain). The Greek word for abide or remain is *meno*, it means *to stay*, (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy):—abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry (for).

Much Fruit

Jesus said in John 15:6 ...If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit... How do I know my faithfulness and standing in The Kingdom? I will bear much fruit. No Jesus did not say I must be perfect if I remain in him. He did say the Father, the Gardener, would clean or prune me, not I, but the Gardner. Jesus said, I would bear much fruit and in the doing bring glory to The Father, The Gardener!

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

