

Bay City Wesleyan Church
December 30, 2018

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Sunday Morning 12-30-2018

Jesus promised, "You will bear fruit, lots of fruit, lasting fruit." John 15:5

Let's pray at 1:55 PM daily to see Jesus producing fruit in and through us.

<http://bible.com/events/538179>
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[Image]

Claiming the promise in 2018

<https://imageproxy-cdn.youversionapi.com/320x320/https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mushroom-event-images-prod/5722009-1514675144006.jpg>

The Promise:

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Galatians 4:1-7 NLT

1</small> Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. 2</small> They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. 3</small> And thatâ€™s the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles of this world. 4</small> But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. 5</small> God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. 6</small> And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, â€œAbba, Father.â€ 7</small> Now you are no longer a slave but Godâ€™s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/gal.4.1-7.nlt>

THREE THEMES IN PHILIPPIANS

1. Joy and rejoicing
2. Partnership in the gospel
3. Spiritual growth

Philippians 1:3-11 NIV

3</small> I thank my God every time I remember you. 4</small> In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5</small> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6</small> being confident of this, that he who

began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. 7</small> It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. 8</small> God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9</small> And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10</small> so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11</small> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/php.1.3-11.NIV>

Sermon in a Sentence

Whatever the size of the Spirit's goal for you, you cannot finish unless you start.

Think and pray to determine the Spirit's goal for you.

Think and pray to decide what you need to do to get started.

Start. Start small. But most of all, start.

Zechariah 4:6-10 NLT

6</small> Then he said to me, "This is what the Lord says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. 7</small> Nothing, not even a mighty mountain, will stand in Zerubbabel's way; it will become a level plain before him! And when Zerubbabel sets the final stone of the Temple in place, the people will shout: "May God bless it! May God bless it!" 8</small> Then another message came to me from the Lord : 9</small> "Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it. Then you will know that the Lord of Heaven's Armies has sent me. 10</small> Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand. (The seven lamps represent the eyes of the Lord that search all around the world.)

<https://bible.com/bible/116/zec.4.6-10.nlt>

Will you take a few moments now to determine what the Spirit wants you to start to grow as a follower of Jesus?

Let's pray.

Holy Spirit, what goal do you have for me this year? How do you want my love to abound more and more?

Holy Spirit, whatâ€™s a good place for me to start?

Holy Spirit, here we are listening for your goal for each one. Show us what you want us to do and we will start so we can finish it. Amen.