

## SERMON NOTES

Series: Building Upon the Firm

Foundation of God's Word

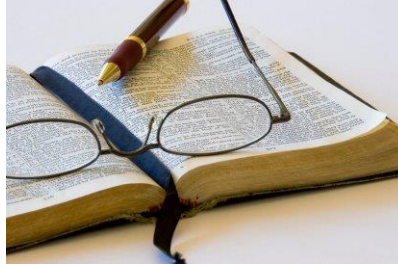
Title: By Understanding the  
Meaning of a Passage (III)

Text: John 15:1-17

Topic: How to Study the Bible

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 8/14/22; File Under: Christian Living



*"If anyone doesn't remain in me, he's like a branch that's thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."* John 15:6

The second principle of interpretation is...

### 2. YOU MUST DEFINE THE \_\_\_\_\_.

You can't assume you know the meaning of a word because many words have \_\_\_\_\_ meanings.

The mistake some make in interpreting John 15:6 is they see the word \_\_\_\_\_ and think it must mean \_\_\_\_\_.

In John 15:1-17, the word "fruit" is used \_\_\_\_\_ times in seventeen verses. But what is it?

The word "fruit" is used forty-four times in the New Testament, and it has at least \_\_\_\_\_ different meanings.

### 3. I must interpret unclear verses with \_\_\_\_\_.

In John 15 we find three clear characteristics of fruit in verses 4, 8 & 11.

- a. *"Remain in me, and I will remain in you."* (4) "remain" means to stay, to continue, to abide, to connect. Bearing fruit is produced by \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
- b. *"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."* (8) Bearing fruit brings \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
- c. *"I have told you this [Jesus says] so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."* (11) Bearing fruit will give me \_\_\_\_\_.

### 4. Look for the most \_\_\_\_\_ meaning.

Avoid the temptation to want to find some \_\_\_\_\_ meaning in the Bible. There are no \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible. The purpose of the Bible is to \_\_\_\_\_ God, not to \_\_\_\_\_ him.

Don't try to make every detail mean something. When there's a story in the Bible, every detail \_\_\_\_\_ have a spiritual meaning.