

# Bearing Fruit 多結果子

John 約翰福音 15 章

11 Aug 2024 年 8 月 11 日, Ash Kwok

What is success in your life? What does it look like to be fruitful in your life? I wonder what fruitfulness looks like in the businesses you work for or even the communities you are a part of. Would fruitfulness look like more income for the business? Would it mean happy customers?

什麼是你有成功的人生？在你的人生中多結果子是什麼樣子？我想知道你所工作的企業，甚至你所在的社群中多結果子會是怎麼樣。有多果子看起來是會為企業帶來更多收入嗎？或意味著滿意的客戶嗎？

Perhaps your Key Performance Indicators look like ensuring procedures are followed, managing a growing team, and having more sales. Maybe DJ Khaled's song captures what fruitfulness and success is like, which I'm sure will lead to some blank faces in the room... but just listen to the lyrics:

也許您的**關鍵績效指標**看起來像是確保遵循程序、管理不斷成長的團隊以及增加銷售。也許 DJ Khaled 的歌曲捕捉到了多結果子和成功的感覺，我相信這會導致這裡一些人面無表情……但請聽聽歌詞：

*All I do is win, win, win, no matter what. Got money on my mind. I can never get enough.*  
我所要做的就是贏，贏，贏，無論如何。我腦子裡滿是錢。我永遠都得不夠。

You see, the human condition has always been chasing the outcome - to make something bigger and better, to add some updates to the software. We are all like that: we are people who want to see success and outcomes in our lives.

你看，人類一直在追求結果——讓東西變得更大更好，為軟體添加一些更新。我們都是這樣的：我們希望在生命中看到成功和成果。

And if we're not the ambitious kind of person, we still want success and outcomes, but it might not sound as grandiose. It might sneak and sound like: "If there was 'one thing or one challenge' in my life was sorted, then I'd be happy."

如果我們不是那種雄心勃勃的人，我們仍然想要成功和成果，但這可能聽起來不那麼宏偉。它可能偷偷摸摸地聽起來像是，「如果我生活中的『一件事或一個挑戰』得到了解決，那麼我會很高興。」

The common human experience is this outcome-shaped hole in our hearts, and we keep trying to fill it. John 15 gives us the grandest vision of fruitfulness and success in life that is all-consuming, glorious, and majestic. But unlike any KPI, any success criteria, the one in this passage is satisfying.

人類的共同經驗就是我們心中有這個以結果為導向的洞，而我們一直在努力填補它。《約翰福音》第 15 章向我們展示了生命中果子多多、光榮而壯麗的成功景象。但與任何關鍵績效指標、任何成功標準不同，本文中的標準是令人滿意的。

Friends, I'm convinced that this passage we've read answers those age-old existential questions that we are either consciously or unconsciously asking ourselves.

朋友們，我相信我們讀過的這段經文回答了我們有意識或無意識地問自己的那些古老的存在主義問題。

So, let's pray. *Father God, we are thankful that we can just gather and praise you. If there are stresses in our life that repeatedly trample over our minds, may your peace and comfort intercede for us right now so we can just hear from you? For we know in 2 Timothy 3:16 that your Word enables us to be teachable, to be corrected and encouraged, and to point us to the life and salvation found in Jesus. So help us listen to your word. Amen*

讓我們祈禱。天父上帝，我們很感謝我們能夠聚集在一起讚美您。如果我們生命中的壓力不斷地壓垮我們的思想，願您的平安和安慰現在立即為我們代求，使我們可以聽到您的信息？因為我們在《提摩太後書》3:16 中知道，你的話語使我們能夠受教、被糾正和鼓勵，並向我們指出在耶穌裡找到的生命和救恩。所以請幫助我們聽聽你的話。阿門

### **The purpose of the Christian: Why are we called to bear fruit?**

#### **作為基督徒的目的：為什麼我們被呼召去結果子？**

We are currently in a series called 'Abundant Life', looking at the gospel of John. And for the last and next few weeks, we are in what Bible teachers often call the 'Farewell Discourse', which is the message Jesus gives to his disciples, preparing them for when he says... well, farewell.

我們正在進行「豐盛生命」系列的講道，探討《約翰福音》。在過去和接下來的幾週裡，我們在看聖經教師通常定名為「告別演講」的段落，是耶穌向門徒傳達的信息，讓他向他們說，「再見」，做好準備。

Last week in John 14, Dan encouraged us in Jesus' promise of future hope and his ongoing presence through his Spirit. And so, this week, Jesus continues in particularly that ongoing presence aspect. It's more of the 'Now what?'

上週，在《約翰福音》第 14 章中，Dan 以耶穌對未來希望的應許及祂透過聖靈持續存在來鼓勵我們。而本週，耶穌特別繼續在持續存在的方面，像更多的『現在怎麼辦？』

If Jesus goes away, what does that mean day to day? What's our purpose?', which is, in fact, our first point: our purpose. If you are taking notes, or you have the St Paul's App to follow along, I have three points:

如果耶穌離開了，那意味著每天應是怎麼樣呢？我們的目的是什麼？這實際上是我們的第一點：我們的目的。如果你會做筆記，或者你有 St Paul's App，可以跟隨，我有三點：

- The Purpose 目的

- The Attributes 屬性
- The Means 方法

And let's jump into verse 1: "***I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.***"

讓我們看第一節：「***我就是真葡萄樹，我父是栽培的人。2 凡屬我不結果子的枝子，他就剪掉；凡結果子的，他就修剪乾淨，使枝子結果子更多。***」

We are made clear here that Jesus makes an exclusive statement that he is the true vine, that the fruit grows off. Jesus is the true vine.

這裡我們清楚知道，耶穌獨家聲明，祂就是真葡萄樹，果子就是從他結出的。耶穌就是真葡萄樹。

The previous place I was living in had this vine that was all-consuming. It would cover the entire brickwork, to the point that it would even start kind of nestling its way into the house by weaving between the window panelling. It was healthy because it just kept growing.

我以前住的地方有這種吞噬一切的藤蔓。它會覆蓋整個磚砌結構，甚至會開始在窗板之間編織而進入房屋。它很健康，因為它一直在生長。

And there's something unique that we must hear when we look at this image of Jesus being the vine and his branches.

當我們看耶穌為葡萄樹和祂的枝子的形象時，我們必須聽到一些獨特的東西。

Let's keep looking at this extended metaphor – verse 8: ***This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*** Verse 16: ***You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.***

讓我們繼續看這個延伸的比喻，第 8 節：***你們多結果子***，我父就因此得榮耀，你們***也就是我的門徒了***。第 16 節：***不是你們揀選了我，而是我揀選了你們，並且派你們去結果子***

Then again, in verse 2: ***He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.***

然後，在第 2 節中：***凡屬我不結果子的枝子，他就剪掉；凡結果子的，他就修剪乾淨，使枝子結果子更多。***

Fruitfulness is so important for God that he even prunes the branches that are already fruitful because he wants them to abound in even more fruit.

多結果子對神來說是如此重要，以至於他甚至修剪已經結果子的枝子，因為他希望它們結出更多的果子。

It is crystal clear that the purpose we have been made for is to bear fruit. There are no two ways about this. It cannot be that 'I'm connected to Jesus, the vine, but because of the season of life I'm in, I'm taking a break from Jesus and bearing fruit.' You cannot disconnect the follower of Jesus from the bearing of fruit. It was what you were made to be.

很明顯，我們被造的目的就是要多結果子。沒有其他原因。不可能是「我與葡萄樹耶穌相連，但由於我所處的生命季節，我要從耶穌並多結果子這事上休假。」你不能把耶穌的跟隨者與多結果子脫節。這就是你被造出來要成就的樣子。

It makes sense that in verse 6, Jesus says: ***If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.***

所以耶穌在第 6 節說的是有道理的：「人若不常在我裏面，就像枝子被丟在外面，枯乾了，人撿起來，扔進火裏燒了。」

A vine is meant to grow fruit, just as roses need petals. You know that junk drawer that you have collecting all the odd bits and bobs like nails that fall out, miscellaneous furniture, old batteries, items that don't have a home?

枝子是用來多結果子的，就像玫瑰需要花瓣一樣。您知道那個垃圾抽屜裡收集著所有零碎的東西，像是掉下來的釘子、雜七雜八的家具、舊電池、無家可歸的物品嗎？

And you're like, 'Just one day, there'll be a need for it.' But ten years later it's still collecting dust? It's called a junk drawer for a reason. It's junk. It is no longer its purpose. It's useless. If this is the purpose of all people, then you must ask this: Are you living out the purpose of your Creator? Do you know your Creator? Are you fruitful?

你會說，「終有一天，就會需要它。」但十年過去了，它仍然積滿灰塵嗎？它被稱為垃圾抽屜是有原因的。這是垃圾。不再是它的目的。沒用的。如果這是所有人的目的，那麼你必須問這上問題：你活出了造物主的目的了嗎？你認識你的創造主嗎？你有多結果子嗎？

The thing is, we've already established that in all spheres of life, our success measures can be different. And unfortunately, we, as Christians, and even our churches, are impacted by the culture around us rather than responsive to our culture. Sometimes, we say fruitfulness must look like a big building, a large number of resources, etc.

事實是，我們已經確定，在生活的各個領域，我們的成功衡量標準都可能有所不同。不幸的是，我們身為基督徒，甚至我們的教會，都受到周遭文化的影響，而不是對我們的文化做出反應。有時，我們會說多結果子必須看起來像一棟大建築、大量的資源等等。

But even worse, we can have really dangerous thoughts creep into our community, like I'm being a fruitful Christian if God is blessing me with lots of money, happy kids, and a smooth sailing life.

但更糟的是，我們的社群可能會出現非常危險的想法，例如如果上帝賜福給我很多錢、快樂的孩子和一帆風順的生活，我就是一個多結果子的基督徒。

To that I want to say firstly, God does not promise those things, nor is that the reality of humanity. Suffering at all levels is a common experience. So, to say that, 'that is what fruitfulness is,' would be a lie. We will all have different opinions on being fruitful. And so, we need to really pull apart what Jesus, the true vine, means by fruitfulness.

對此我首先想說的是，神並沒有應許這些，也不是人類的現實。各個層面的痛苦是一種常見的經驗。因此，如果說這就是多結果子，那是個謊言。對於多結果子，我們都會有不同的看法。因此，我們需要真正理解耶穌，真葡萄樹，所說的結果子是什麼意思。

### **The Attributes of Fruit 果子的屬性：**

What is fruit according to John 15? What are the attributes of fruit? Well, check out verse 8 again with me: *This is to my Father's glory that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

根據《約翰福音》15章，果子是什麼？果子有什麼屬性？好，請跟我一起再看一次第8節：**你們多結果子，我父就因此得榮耀，你們也就是我的門徒了。**

By bearing much fruit, glory is given to the Father. The purpose of fruit is to give glory to God. Fruitfulness is when God is being made big in your life. It's when he is made supreme. If Jesus is the vine, the fruit that you bear is so all-consuming, majestic and glorious – because it points to him.

藉著多結果子，榮耀就歸給父。果子的目的是榮耀上帝。結果子就是神在你的生命中變得偉大。當他成為至高無上的時候。如果耶穌是葡萄樹，那麼你所結的果子就是如此全能、莊嚴和榮耀——因為它指向祂。

It might be different to what our world might expect God's fruitfulness to look like. In fact, I think this reality is comforting. It's a comfort because you can glorify God and be fruitful even when your child is screaming at you.

這可能與我們的世界所期望的神的多結果子不同。事實上，我認為這個現實令人欣慰。這是一種安慰，因為即使你的孩子在對你大喊大叫，你也可以榮耀神並且多結果子。

You can be fruitful when the trials come because fruitfulness is not on the account of your measure but the glorification of God. So, you can rest easy. It's to make him great, not to make you look good. And in the process of trials, he is refining you to make you more like Jesus.

當考驗來臨時，你仍可多結果子，因為結果子不是因為你的度量，而是因為上帝的榮耀。所以，你可以高枕無憂了。是為了讓他變得偉大，而不是為了讓你看起來很好。在考驗的過程中，祂正在精煉你，使你更像耶穌。

It was great that our BOOM! Holiday Kids Program more than doubled our numbers last year. But I had to ask myself, would I be alright if we didn't grow or even had less? Would we still be fruitful? The answer is yes because we got to present lives that heard the gospel and responded. The number and the success is up to God, not up to me.

很高興我們的 BOOM! 兒童假日活動的人數比去年增加了一倍以上。但我必須問自己，如果我們沒有增長，甚至減少了，我會好嗎？我們還會多結果子嗎？答案是肯定的，因為我們可呈現聽到福音並做出回應的生命。數量和成功取決於上帝，而不取決於我。

In fact, the Bible uses the term 'fruit' in a range of ways, all leading to the glory of God. There are three I'd like to mention:

事實上，聖經以多種方式使用「果子」這個詞，所有都是為了榮耀上帝。我想提一下三點：

The first one is in God's very first call to humanity in Genesis 1:27-28: ***So God created man in his own image, in the image of God, he created him; male and female, he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply***

第一個是在《創世記》1: 27-28 中神對人類的第一次呼召：上帝就照著他的形像創造人，照著上帝的形像創造他們；他創造了他們，有男有女。28 上帝賜福給他們，上帝對他們說：「要生養眾多，

This is the *fruit of resemblance*. You glorify God when you live out your purpose of resembling God, who created you in his image. You are an image bearer. You are his representative on earth.

這就是結相似的果子。當你照著創造你的上帝的形像和目的生活時，你就榮耀了上帝，上帝按照祂的形象創造了你。你是一個形象的承載者。你是他在地球上的代表。

But resembling God from just the knowledge of God is like when you read a book like Harry Potter, that's turned into a movie. You watch and see Hermione Granger, one of the characters, and you think, 'That's not quite what I had in mind when I first read the book. I was thinking more of this... instead of this... The director tried their best, but not quite...' 但僅僅從對上帝的認識來模仿上帝，就像你讀了一本像《哈利波特》這樣的書，它被改編成了一部電影。當你看到角色之一妙麗·格蘭傑時，你會想，『這與我第一次讀這本書時的想法不一樣。我想的更多是這樣……而不是取而代之的這個……導演盡力了，但還不夠……』

In the same way, we can't get it right on our own merit. Our view of him is like looking through a sheer curtain; it's obscured. But there is a perfect image of God, whom we are called to become more like.

同樣的道理，我們也不能靠自己的力量把事情做好。我們對他的看法就像透過窗簾去看；它被遮蔽了。但上帝有一個完美的形象，是我們被呼召要變得更像祂。

Colossians 1:15 describes Jesus as *the image of the invisible God*. The '*I am the true vine*' that '*I am*' is his declaration that he is the same God who was, who is, and always will be. Fruit is when we start becoming more like Jesus – his character, his obedience, his way of being.

《歌羅西書》1:15 將耶穌描述為那看不見的上帝之像。「我是真葡萄樹」「我是」是祂宣告祂是過去、現在、將來永遠是同一位神。果子就是我們開始變得更像耶穌——祂的品格、祂的順服、祂的存在方式。

The second one is on that same arm of what God commands and created man for in the beginning, which is to multiply. Multiply. And it's not just an 'Alright, let's have five more kids.' There is a shift for multiplication in Jesus' commissioning of his followers in Matthew 28, which is to '*Go, and make disciples of all nations.*'

第二個也是在上帝命令和創造人類的最初目的同段經文中，就是眾多。生養眾多。這不僅僅是「好吧，我們再要五個孩子吧」。在《馬太福音》28 章中，「眾多」在耶穌對他的追隨者的委託中發生了一個的轉變，那就是「去，使萬民作我的門徒」。

Fruitfulness is when more disciples are made for Christ; it's the fruit of the harvest. Think of that wonderful verse Jesus says to his disciples in Matthew 9 - "*The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; 38, therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.*"

多結果子是指為基督培育更多的門徒；這是要收的莊稼。想想耶穌在《馬太福音》第 9 章中對門徒所說的那句奇妙的經文：「要收的莊稼多，做工的人少。38 所以，你們要求莊稼的主差遣做工的人出去收他的莊稼。」

Does your fruitfulness look like seeing new followers of Jesus? Are you a prayer warrior for the harvest? Are you one of the harvest workers? At St Paul's, one way we encourage you to do this is by praying 1+1+1. Pray for one person, for one minute, each day, that God might transform their life to be able to hear God's good news and follow Christ.

你的多結果子是看到耶穌有新的跟隨者嗎？你是一位為莊稼禱告的勇士嗎？您是收莊稼的工人之一嗎？在聖保羅堂，我們鼓勵您這樣做的一種方法是 1+1+1 的祈禱。每天為一個人禱告一分鐘，求神改變他們的生命，使他們能聽到神的好消息並跟隨基督。

The final one is *the fruit of the Spirit* in Galatians 5, which captures a renovation and transformation of the inner heart by the Spirit. It's the character of love, joy, peace, forbearance. It's a heart that is becoming more like the heart of Christ. And that's what we want to see in our community.

最後一個是《加拉太書》第 5 章中的屬靈的果子，捕捉了聖靈對內在心靈的更新和轉化。這是愛、喜樂、和平、忍耐的品格。這是一顆變得越來越像基督的心的心。這就是我們希望在社群中看到的。

You can see those characteristics are not private, they are not solely for the self, but they are deeply relationally. If we all grow in fruitfulness, what a mutually loving community that we would have.

你可以看到這些特徵不是私人的，它們不僅僅是為了自我，而是有著深刻的關係。如果我們都在多結果子中成長，我們將會擁有一個多麼互愛的社群。

That's the picture back in John 15:17. *These things I command you so that you will love one another.*

這就是《約翰福音》15:17的畫面。*我這樣命令你們，是要你們彼此相愛。*

Growing in fruitfulness leads to a wonderful, others-centred community. But it's also mutual, as in verse 11, that this fruitfulness should lead to our joy as well. Fruitfulness has always been about God's glory, and the glorification of God leads to our joy.

在多結果子中成長會帶來一個美好的、以他人為中心的社群。但如第11節所述，這種結果子也應該帶給我們喜樂，這是相互的。多結果子總是關乎上帝的榮耀，而神的榮耀會帶來我們的喜樂。

If you are in the room, and you're uncertain about whether Jesus and his fruit are worth living for, I really would love to know a success marker that is as joyful, glorifying and eternal. Like genuinely, please come chat with me after the service because if you're looking for efficiency, in terms of more bang for your buck.

如果你在這裡，並且不確定耶穌和他的果子是否值得為之而活，我真的很想知道一個同樣快樂、榮耀和永恆的成功標誌。真誠地說，請在崇拜結束後與我聊天，因為如果您正在尋找效率，即更物有所值。

If you are striving for earthly and financial security in this world, you put in 80 hours of work each week, and that ceases to be eventually. It's fleeting. You can't take it with you beyond the grave. But if we can take Jesus at his Word, if he is trustworthy, his fruitfulness will be like no other, like in verse 16 – fruit that will last.

如果你在這個世界爭取塵世和經濟上的安全，你每週要投入80小時的工作，但最終這種情況將不再存在。它轉瞬即逝。你無法帶它超越墳墓。但如果我們能相信耶穌的話，如果他是值得信賴的，他的果子將是無與倫比的，就像第16節所說的那樣——你們的果子會得以長存。

But it is a fruitless exercise for you and me to try to be fruitful on our own merit. As much as I have encouraged you to pray for the harvest and desire to see transformation, we need to listen carefully to Jesus' words in verse 5:

但對你我來說，試圖靠自己的力量取得成果是徒勞無功的。儘管我鼓勵你們祈求豐收並渴望看到轉變，但我們需要仔細聆聽耶穌在第5節中的話：

**5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**



5 我就是葡萄樹，你們是枝子。常在我裏面的，我也常在他裏面，這人就多結果子，因為離了我，你們就不能做甚麼。

Jesus is the agent of bearing much fruit. Verse 1 – The Father is the vinedresser. He is the one who prunes, not us. Remaining in Jesus produces much fruit. That's our role, and that's our key responsibility.

耶穌是多結果子的因素。第 1 節 - 天父是栽培的人。修剪的人是他，不是我們。常在耶穌裡會結出許多果子。這是我們的角色，也是我們的主要責任。

### **The Means of Fruit 多結果子的方法**

So, How does someone bear fruit? And it starts in remaining. Have a look at verse 4: *Remain in me, as I also 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.*

那麼，一個人如何結果子呢？是從常在祂裏面開始。請看第 4 節：*你們要常在我裏面，我也常在你們裏面。枝子若不常在葡萄樹上，自己就不能結果子；你們若不常在我裏面，也是這樣。*

If you want to bear fruit, it starts with remaining in Christ. It's this image of being rooted in the true vine, unmoving, steadfast in the beauty and ever-growing nature that comes from being a part of a vine that produces fruit.

如果你想結出果子，就從常在基督裏面開始。正是這種紮根於真正的葡萄樹中的形象，一動不動，堅定不移地忠於美麗和不斷生長的自然中，這是由於成為結出果實的葡萄樹的一部分而產生的。

John's usage of remain here is a relational sense of remain. The remaining 'IN' him. When you engage with someone relationally, and you really get to know them. You know their heart, their will and their mind. You really want to listen to them. That's what it is to remain in Jesus. To know his heart and love for you, to know his will over your life, to know his mind.

約翰在這裡使用的「常在」是一種關係意義上的「常在」。常在祂裏面。當你與某人建立關係時，你就會真正了解他們。你知道他們的心、他們的意志和他們的想法。你真的很想聽聽他們的意見。這就是常在耶穌裏面的意思。了解他的心和對你的愛，了解他對你一生的意願，了解他的想法。

I wonder if you've ever been in a pattern where there is a sin or idolatry. You are just trying to stop defining yourself. There is a character trait that just isn't growing – and instead, you are growing in bitterness and envy. It's all well and good to know that we're called to bear fruit, but you feel like you are conforming to the image of this world rather than the image of Christ.

我想知道你曾否陷入過犯罪或偶像崇拜的模式。你只是想停止定義自己。有一種不長進的性格特質，相反，你的苦毒和嫉妒不斷增長。知道我們被呼召去結果子，這一切都很好，但你感覺自己正在效仿這個世界的形象，而不是基督的形象。

What we must reconcile here is in verse 10: ***If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.***

我們在這裡必須和解的是第 10 節：**你們若遵守我的命令，就常在我的愛裡，正如我遵守了我父的命令，常在他的愛裡一樣。**

The way to understand his verse is in that extended metaphor of Jesus being the true vine. He is not the vine of a former glory that failed to grow and bear fruit. He is the vine that grows unstoppably on that brick wall.

去理解他這段經文的方法是透過耶穌就是真葡萄樹的延伸比喻。他不是昔日榮耀的，未能生長、不結果子的葡萄樹。他是那在磚牆上不可阻擋地生長的枝子。

Remaining is not behaviour or sin management. It's a total transformation of your being. Because if you remain in the true vine, your obedience and fruitfulness are purely the natural result of a heart that loves and remains in Jesus.

常在祂裏面不是行為或罪惡管理。這是徹底轉變你的存在。因為如果你留在真葡萄樹上，你的順服和結果子純粹是一顆愛耶穌並留在耶穌裡的心的自然結果。

And you see, Jesus doesn't call us to something to which he has not modelled himself. He's calling us to keep his commands in the same way he has kept his Father's. And he calls us to remain in his love.

你看，耶穌並沒有呼召我們去做祂自己沒有效法的事。祂呼召我們遵守祂的命令，就像祂遵守祂父的命令一樣。祂呼召我們常在祂的愛裡。

And he describes this love, doesn't he? Verse 13: ***Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 1 You are my friends if you do what I command.***

他描述了這種愛，不是嗎？第 13 節：**人為朋友捨命，人的愛心沒有比這個更大的了。14 你們若遵行我所命令的，就是我的朋友。**

Jesus is saying that out of all the experiences of love, all the greatest love stories and songs ever written. Better than anything Taylor Swift or Shakespeare can write, it is a love story of someone who remains and obeys his Father's will.

耶穌是說，在所有的愛的經驗中，有史以來最偉大的愛情故事和歌曲中。這是一個關於堅守並服從天父旨意的人的愛情故事，比泰勒·斯威夫特或莎士比亞寫的任何作品都要好。

When Jesus obeys his Father in laying down his life, he literally does it for God's glory and your joy. It's because you are the friend he died for. Jesus' pure, unwavering commitment to you and God the Father led to the restoration of what would have been a broken branch from the vine.

當耶穌服從祂的天父而獻出自己的生命時，祂確實是為了神的榮耀和你的喜樂而這樣做。因為你是他為之而死的朋友。耶穌對你和天父上帝純潔、堅定的承諾，使原本折斷的葡萄枝得以恢復。

Remaining in his love looks like the constant retelling of this story to yourself again and again. It's having the wonder of a child who wants to read the same story over and over again because it brings them so much joy. It's in every moment, sorrow or praise, that you remember the gospel story to remind yourself that you remain in Jesus as he has already remained.

常在他的愛裡，看起來就像不斷地一次又一次地向自己複述這個故事。這是一個想要一遍又一遍地閱讀同一個故事的孩子的好奇，因為它給他們帶來了很多快樂。在每時每刻，無論悲傷或讚美，你都會記得福音故事，提醒自己你仍然常在耶穌裏面，就像耶穌他已經常在你裏面一樣。

### Application 應用

So, what exactly does remaining look like?

那麼，常在裏面到底是什麼樣子的呢？

Self-help books, ministry strategies, knowing your star sign or personality type, a diary, productivity tools (although some are more helpful than others), none of those are the start of fruitfulness. Fruitfulness starts in remaining in his story and his love.

自助書籍、事工策略、了解你的星座或人格類型、日記、生產力工具（儘管有些工具比其他工具更有幫助），這些都不是多結果子的開始。多結果子始於常在他的故事和他的愛中。

Sometimes, we do a disservice to ourselves when we think we need to move past the story of the gospel and start some self-improvement to be better people in our lives. But this passage is clear: we don't move on. We just abide in the gospel even deeper.

有時，當我們認為我們需要超越福音故事，並開始自我提升以成為生命中更好的人時，我們就會對自己不利。但這段經文很明確：我們不要離開。我們要更深地在福音裏面。

If you've come away from this talk thinking you need to be more successful or you need to try hard at being fruitful, I have really done a disservice, and I apologise profusely.

如果您在聽完本次講道後，認為自己需要更加成功或需要努力取得成果，那麼我確實幫倒了忙，我深表歉意。

If there is anything as a church that we are to focus on, it is the heartbeat of remaining and abiding in Christ. For example, the reason why you don't see the mission urgency of the gospel is because you aren't in Christ's love and his story regularly.

作為一個教會，如果我們要專注於什麼，那就是常在基督裏面的心跳。例如，你之所以看不到福音使命的迫切性，是因為你沒有經常活在基督的愛和祂的故事裡。

If you think of the monthly calendar and each month having 360 waking hours, I'm going to be honest: I don't know if nearly 2 hours each Sunday is helping us remain. That's just 2% of a month if we came for every single week. And if that's the little that we are remaining, we must wonder if that gives us an unwavering and steadfast devotion to Jesus.

如果你考慮月曆，每個月有 360 個醒著的時間，我要說實話：我不知道每個週日的只近 2 小時是否有助於我們保持在祂裏面。如果我們每週都會來的話，那只是一個月的 2%。如果這就是我們的常在祂裏面，我們必須懷疑這是否能使我們對耶穌堅定不移地奉獻。

Every action, every rhythm of life, every practice builds a heart and will that remains in something. Whether consciously or unknowingly, you are building a heart that remains in something. It's just whether it remains in Jesus' vine or a fake vine.

每一個行動、每一個生活節奏、每一次實踐，都會建立出一顆常在某些事物裏面的心靈和意志。無論有意識或無意識地，你都在建立一顆常在某些事物中的心。唯一的不同是，是常在耶穌這真葡萄樹上，還是一些假葡萄樹上。

I am going to say, that I have admitted to many people that I do my best work and strategic planning in the setting of late nights of Maccas. But I wonder if I have trained myself in those ways with years and years of practice.

我要說的是，我已經向很多人承認，在深夜在麥當勞裏面的背景下我會做出最好的工作和策略規劃。但我想知道我是否透過多年的練習以這些方式訓練了自己。

Now, I'm not saying that is bad. I'm just saying regular practices can shift where your heart chooses to remain. Maybe we're remaining in something else, and I don't want us as a church to remain in fake vines. In fake stories. In fruit that will never satisfy.

現在，我並不是說這不好。我只是說定期練習可以改變你的心選擇停留的地方。也許我們留在了別的東西裡，我不希望我們作為一個教會留在假的枝子上，或在假的故事裡。在永遠不會滿足的果子中。

The best way to grow in this sense of remaining and abiding is to set up our lives in a way that helps us remain in the true vine. Just even increasing in small ways.

在這種常在的意義上，成長的最好方法，就是以一種幫助我們留在真葡萄樹上的方式來安排我們的生活。甚至只是以小幅度的漸漸增加。

Where in our life do we need to start remaining, so we can be fruitful? Where can we redeem moments of our day for the Lord Jesus? Submit those wills and times to Jesus so that we can remain steadfast in hearing his Words and his Story.

在我們的生命中，需要從哪裡開始去常在祂裏面，好使我們多結果子？我們可以在一天中為主耶穌贖回哪些時刻？將這些意願和時間提交給耶穌，以便我們能常在堅定地聆聽祂的話語和故事裏面。

I wanted to capture this clearly and memorably. And so all I could think about was maths: three simple operations. Subtract. Add. Multiply. I'm convinced that the transformation of the head, heart and hands is equally as valuable and fruitful, whether they are small, or if they are big.

我想清晰地、令人難忘地捕捉這一點。所以我所能想到的就是數學：三個簡單的運算。減去。添加。乘以。我堅信，頭腦、心靈和雙手的轉變同樣有價值和富有成果，無論它們是小還是大。

**Firstly, subtract.** Maybe there is something that you do that is not helping you remain in Jesus. Something that is taking your time and attention from remaining. Cut it out. Do this with someone who can mentor you and help you grow in godliness. Chat with someone with a lanyard.

首先，減去。也許你所做的某些事情並不能幫助你常在耶穌裏面。有些事情在佔用你的時間和注意力。把它剪掉。與能夠引導你，並幫助你在敬虔中成長的人一起做這件事。與我們的教牧同工聊聊。

**Number two, add.** However, there are other things that you may have never considered. Have you thought about curating your media intake – reading, podcasts, music, TV, YouTube, social media. I'm not saying subtract all these things completely from your life. But instead, let's add value. Why don't you add and follow social media sites that help you see Jesus' love and his story?

第二，添加。但是，還有其他一些您可能從未考慮過的事情。您是否考慮過策劃控制媒體攝取量——閱讀、播客、音樂、電視、YouTube、社交媒體。我並不是說把所有這些事情都從你的生活中完全剔除。但相反，讓我們增加價值。為什麼不添加並關注那些幫助您了解耶穌的愛和祂的故事的社交媒體網站呢？

Have you thought about listening to podcasts that make you chase Christ rather than chase what the world offers? Instead of just listening to music like All I Do is Win, when you're going for a run, play some pump-up worship tunes. How can you add moments that help you embrace the gospel in your existing structures? I wonder if half the battle here isn't this striving to do more and more but rather just redeeming what we are already doing and adding eternal value.

您是否考慮過收聽播客，讓您追逐基督而不是追逐世界提供的東西？當你要跑步時，不要只聽《All I Do is Win》這樣的音樂，而是播放一些振奮人心的敬拜曲。如何在現有結構中添加幫助您擁抱福音的時刻？我想知道這裡的一半戰鬥是否不是努力做得越來越多，而只是贖回我們已經在做的事情並增加永恆的價值。

**Lastly, multiply.** Maybe we need to multiply rhythms that God has graciously given us that we know are tools to experience his presence and work in our lives.

最後，乘以。也許我們需要乘以上帝恩慈地賜給我們的節奏，我們知道這些節奏是體驗祂的臨在和在我們生命中工作的工具。

That looks like abiding in His Word, in prayer and community. We keep talking about personal devotional life, because we're convinced that is part of you embracing the love and story of Christ in your life. It's a part of remaining in him. Maybe instead of once a month, to become once a week, and slowly daily.

這看起來就像遵守祂的話語、祈禱和社群。我們一直在談論個人的靈修生活，因為我們相信這是在生命中擁抱基督的愛和故事的一部分。這是常在祂裏面的一部分。也許不再是每月一次，而是每週一次，慢慢地每天一次。

Read the Bible with your spouse/housemate/best bud. Increase your church attendance, not so you tick a box, but to genuinely hang out with other people who are encouraging you to abide in Jesus.

和你的配偶/室友/最好的朋友一起閱讀聖經。增加你的教會出席率，不是為了你可勾選一個方框，而是為了真誠地與其他鼓勵你住在耶穌裡的人一起出去共處。

Maybe there's someone you love chatting to at morning tea or in your community group. Why don't you grab their number and call them during the week and see how they are going and growing, and how you can be praying for them?

也許您喜歡在早茶時或社群小組中與某個人聊天。為什麼不記下他們的電話號碼，在週日的時間給他們打電話，看看他們進展如何，成長如何，以及你可如何為他們祈禱？

Imagine just if we all just choose one thing, not all. Taking one little step. I'm imagining a church that is genuinely shaping her life to remain in the goodness of Christ's words and his commands. The overflow of that, is a community that deeply loves, cares and is sacrificial like the image of Christ who remains with his Church. I can see that God would use this to stand out community in Chatswood for his glory and our joy. I really want to pray that this is the trajectory of our journey, of us as individuals but as a community.

想像一下，如果我們都只選擇一件事，而不是全部。邁出一小步。我想像一個正在真正塑造她生命的教會，以保持基督的良善話語和命令中。其溢出是一個深深地愛、關心和犧牲的社群，就像常在祂的教會中的基督的形像一樣。我可以看到上帝會利用這個來使車士活的社群為祂的榮耀和我們的喜樂脫穎而出。我真的很想祈禱，這就是我們作為個人和社群的旅程的軌跡。

Let me pray: *Father God, Unite us as brothers and sisters in Christ who delight in hearing, obeying and embracing your Word. We thank you that your words contain the sweetest voice of Christ, who remains on the Cross for your glory and our joy. . So we, too, pray that we might remain in Christ. May you convict us of the reality that we must remain in his love and story. To be unwaveringly devoted to our Lord and Saviour. Grant us the will and desire to take one little step that helps us choose to remain rooted in your love and your saving story for us. Amen*

讓我祈禱：天父上帝，求祢將我們聯合起來，使我們成為基督裡的兄弟姐妹，樂意聆聽、服從和擁抱祢的話語。我們感謝你，因為你的話語包含了基督最甜美的聲音，為了你的榮耀和我們的喜樂，基督留在了十字架上。因此，我們也祈求能夠常在基督裏面。願你讓我們確實認識到我們必須要常在祂的愛和故事中的現實。堅定不移地獻身於我們的主和救主。請賜給我們意願和渴望，踏出一小步，幫助我們選擇繼續紮根於您的愛和您拯救我們的故事中。阿門。