

## Tara Williamson

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**From:** Patty Connie [cpatty@josiahventure.com]

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**Subject:** All about the fruit

**Attachments:** image004.jpg; image002.jpg; image007.jpg; image006.jpg; image008.jpg; image009.jpg; image002.jpg; image004.jpg; image006.jpg; image001.jpg; image007.jpg; image008.jpg; image009.jpg; image010.jpg; image011.jpg



Dear Friends,

While in Italy recently for our annual JV Ladies retreat, I was captivated by the outdoor fruit and vegetable markets. The sights in Rome were spectacular, but I also couldn't get enough of seeing the variety of fruit that they displayed outside every day in the markets. Luscious strawberries, pears, plums, peaches, melons, berries, oranges, tangerines, papayas, pineapple, kiwis, dates, figs, kumquats, pomegranates, and of course, grapes – all displayed in **abundant** supply. It was such a gorgeous site to see...you just don't see that here in Czech!

In fact, when I got home I was passing by the one little outdoor market that we have here in Frydlant and had to laugh when I saw what was being highlighted for the day, as well as in greatest abundance at the market...radishes! And they were alongside cabbage, also available in great quantity that day...I guess we're more of a "vegetable nation", and a rather dull one at that!

**“If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing...this is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”**

I think Jesus liked fruit too. Not just the literal kind that He and His father had created (though he must've taken special delight in all the varieties they'd thought up, don't you think?!), but more so: Spiritual Fruit. John 15 is a great passage about fruit. Jesus makes it very clear that it's **“all about the fruit”**. We can produce no real fruit outside of Him. He's so concerned about there being fruit that he will even prune and cut off branches in order to make way for more fruit. He is definitely interested in the fruit!

Because He's watching it, so are we! In fact, I get a lot of delight out of watching God's "fruit market" in JV! Here's a sample of some of the fruit He has been producing here:

- Yesterday was the beginning of KPM, a conference for youth workers organized by Kompas, JV's partner organization in Slovakia which draws over 500 youth workers to Zilina each year – this year there are 600! This is also their 14th conference! Through innovative teaching and creative seminars the team seeks to minister to specific needs facing youth workers - as well as encourage and motivate volunteer student leaders to

continue touching the lives of their peers. Dave is the main speaker this year, speaking on being “Rooted in Christ”. We pray there will be much fruit for the Kingdom that will come from this conference.



- On Sunday at our church here in Frydlant, three new believers were introduced! These students have been attending the small group for EXIT 316, the television show our team has been producing this year. Through the viewing of episodes, the Bible study and the faithful witness of youth leaders and young people, they came to faith in Jesus Christ! This is some of the most beautiful fruit!
- This past Wednesday, Dave was in Prague for the largest press conference yet for Exit 316. Major magazines, newspapers and television personalities were there for it. The Exit 316 team had a fabulous opportunity to once again speak clearly about the goals of the show being to give viewers an opportunity to see biblical truth presented in a contemporary manner. The show is being viewed by between 150,000 – 200,000 people each week. We continue to ask God for even greater fruit from this historic opportunity.

- Two weeks ago I lead a retreat in Rome for 34 JV women. Each year I seek the Lord in prayer as to what He wants to speak to the ladies about, and where He wants to do it. This year His heart for them was to “tend their vineyards” in Rome. He did that in so many unique and creative ways! My prayer was that they would experience his love and care in such a way that would allow them to go home and be more fruitful.



next year’s conference in Jerusalem. Designed for people who are involved in youth building movements, the theme of the conference will be: **Jesus: On Location – Life and Ministry Meet the Master**. Next March over 230 people will gather for this event from around the world. We pray much fruit comes from this!

Dave just returned from Israel after attending a Global Youth Initiative planning session for

- In the past year we have had five new JV babies born within our team (little Emma Grace Saar was born in Estonia just yesterday!), and several more are on the way! That’s one way to produce more fruit!!

As you think of us, please continue to pray for more fruit in our lives and in the lives of those around us. We desire more love, more joy, more peace...more of the fruits of the Spirit. We long for transformation in the lives of believers who will multiply and be fruitful. We pray for the fruitfulness of salvation in the lives of many more young people. And as it says in Luke 8, we want to be people who have “heard the word with an honest and good heart, who hold fast to the truth, and who bear **much fruit** with perseverance”.

Fruit tending is often a slow business. It takes time to tend a vineyard until the fruit is ripe. But in due time, you can be sure that God will reap a harvest! It is His heart's desire to see fruit in my life and in your life. He longs for nothing more than an abundance of fruit! When we submit ourselves to His tending and care, we too will see and experience that fruit. God is **all about the fruit!!**

Under the Fruit Master's care,

Connie

*"We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good **fruit**." Colossians 1:10*

**Dave & Connie Patty**

*"Equipping young leaders in Eastern Europe to fulfill Christ's Commission"*

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