



I AM JESUS: the True Vine

Pastor Scott Michel

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Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit [love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control]. Ask members of the group to share how they see the fruit in the lives of others.

Scripture:

Read [John 15:1-11](#)

- The imagery of vine and branches may not immediately resonate with everyone. What other imagery could you use to describe Jesus as the True Vine and His followers as branches that bear good fruit?
- What does *abiding* mean? (come up with some synonyms) How can a branch *abide*? What is the difference between *trying* and *abiding*?

Read [John 15:12-17](#)

- How does this passage connect to Jesus' teaching on the vine and branches?
- What does your "friendship" with Jesus look like?
- What does "friendship" with other believers look like?

Prayer: Leader, read this quote from Andrew Murray and let it lead you into prayer:

"During the life of Jesus on earth, the word He chiefly used when speaking of the relationship of the disciples to Himself was: 'Follow me.' When about to leave for heaven, He gave them a new word, in which their more intimate and spiritual union with Himself in glory should be expressed. That chosen word was: 'Abide in me.' It is to be feared that there are many earnest followers of Jesus from whom the meaning of this word, with the blessed experience it promises, is very much hidden. While trusting in their Saviour for pardon and for help, and seeking to some extent to obey Him, they have hardly realized to what closeness of union, to what intimacy of fellowship, to what wondrous oneness of life and interest, He invited them to when He said, 'Abide in me.'"

Next Steps:

How does the Spirit want to "prune" you? How will you surrender to His correction and teaching this week?