

Exit Plan John 15:1-11

The True Vine and the Gardener

Jesus is the true Vine.: I can't sustain myself.

- John 15:1
- Israel was not the true vine.
 - Jeremiah 2:21 God planted Israel, but you turned into a wild vine.
- God the Father is the Gardener.
 - John 15:2
 - When do we get pruned and why? _____
 - What always cleanses and prunes us in vs 3? _____
- Jesus' disciples, including us, are the branches.
 - John 15:5
- The Vine provides life for the branches: through the Holy Spirit.
- If there's no fruit, the problem is the branch not the Vine.
- List some good fruit and bad fruit in your life:
- **Have you been pruned lately or in the past? If so in what area and what was the result in your life?**
- _____

The fruit of the True Vine

Fruitful branches bring glory to God and show that they are disciples.

- John 15:8 **Fruitful branches do what?**
- The Vine determines the fruit, not the branch. It's Jesus' fruit.

Fruit produced by remaining in the true Vine includes:

- A transformed heart that results in Christ-like prayers that are powerful and answered by God.
 - John 15:7
- Love produces obedience.
 - John 15:9-10 Lisa Harper's ex. "You are my favorite"
- Joy
 - John 15:11
 - Jesus' joy given to us doesn't depend on our circumstances.

- Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always and again I _____
- 2 Corinthians 6:10: even in grieving we can rejoice.
- 2 Corinthians 7:4: regardless of circumstances overflowing with joy.

- Our joy is in knowing that our circumstances don't change our relationship with God or who we are in Christ.
- We have the joy of Jesus when we focus on His grace=Charis.
- Jesus is the best example of joy=Chara.
 - Hebrews 12:2 READ Jesus in loving obedience to His Father set His eyes on the c _____ for the joy of obtaining the prize: _____
- If I have low joy, I **have to raise my GAZE. What you are looking at determines your joy level: Give an example:**
- _____

- Fruit of the Spirit
 - Galatians 5:22-23
- Good works
 - Ephesians 2:10 God's workmanship
- Leading others to Christ
 - Romans 1:13 some fruit in my labors among you

How do we bear fruit as Christians in Vs 4-5? _____

Where are you experiencing Jesus's joy in your life? vs 6-11 Clue: look at your good fruit: if you don't know ask a trusted friend.

Are you letting yourself experience Jesus's joy in you even in your pruning process?

LORD COMPLETE YOUR JOY IN ME DAILY

How do we produce fruit?

We produce fruit by remaining/abide/live in Christ. **11x in the 1-11vs**

- John 15:5
- To remain in Christ is to stay connected to Him, to reside with Him, and to live life with Him.
- We stay connected to Jesus through a lifestyle of spiritual discipline:
 - obedience and repentance

- Bible study
- prayer
- worship
- The Gardener sometimes lifts the branch to produce fruit.
- The Gardener sometimes **prune=training= Lifting the vine off the ground the branch to produce fruit.**
 - Seasons of **great growth** require seasons of dormant pruning.
 - Ex: _____
- The Gardener will burn branches that don't produce fruit.
 - John 15:6

Action Steps

- Examine yourself for fruit of the Vine and ask God to grow the fruit in you.
- Practice the disciplines of remaining in Christ: Obedience and repentance, Bible study, prayer, and worship.

Memory vs. John 15:5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

JOHN 15 1-11 AMPC

I am the True Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser.

² Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanses *and* repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more *and* richer *and* more excellent fruit.

³ You are cleansed *and* pruned already, because of the word which I have given you [the teachings I have discussed with you].

⁴ Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me, and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me.

⁵ I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him bears much (abundant) fruit. However, apart from Me [cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.

⁶ If a person does not dwell in Me, he is thrown out like a [broken-off] branch, and withers; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and they are burned.

⁷ If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you *and* continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

⁸ When you bear (produce) much fruit, My Father is honored *and* glorified, and you show *and* prove yourselves to be true followers of Mine.

⁹ I have loved you, [just] as the Father has loved Me; abide in My love [and] continue in His love with Me].

¹⁰ If you keep My commandments [if you continue to obey My instructions], you will abide in My love *and* live on in it, just as I have obeyed My Father's commandments and live on in His love.

¹¹ I have told you these things, that My joy *and* delight may be in you, and that your joy *and* gladness may be of full measure *and* complete *and* overflowing.



