

I Am The Vine, You Are The Branches
John 15:1-8

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1. Do grapes have any significance to you?
2. The grapevine had more significance to Israel than just making jelly. (**Isaiah 5:1-2; Jeremiah 2:21**)
3. Jesus Christ came to enable God's people to bear the right type of fruit and He spent His life teaching them how to do this.
4. The vine was a powerful symbol, and one with which Jesus' disciples would immediately identify.

I. Jesus Gives Us A Description Of Our Relationship.

- A. Our relationship is defined in terms of a Vine. (**15:1-3**)
- B. Jesus describes our responsibilities in the Vine. (**15:4-8**)
- C. The principle behind the command of our Lord to abide is stated both negatively and positively. (**15:4-5**)
 1. **"If anyone does not remain in me and I in him, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."** (John 15:6)

II. Jesus Gives Us An Illustration About Our Fruitfulness.

- A. Jesus is the Vine.
 1. **Isaiah 53:2 "He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him."**
- B. God the Father is the Gardener.
- C. We are the branches.

III. Jesus Gives Us Instruction About Our Fruitfulness.

- A. His instruction is a command. **"Remain in me."** (**15:4**)
- B. His instruction is a concept. **"No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine."** (**15:4b**)
- C. His instruction is a concern. **"He will bear much fruit."** (**15:5**)
- D. His instruction has consequences. **"If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."** (**15:6**)