



The Vine of John 15

Scripture Reference:

The Vine of John 15:

- Please read John 15:1-John 16:8 in preparation for teaching.
- On a white board draw a vine. Notably a vine has a few branches & leaves & some fruit like grapes or berries or such.
- Use The Vine of John 15_ Worksheet as a teaching aid.

The Lesson:

Read from Text John 15: 1-8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

I am the vine, ye are the branches, He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

I. Here we have a vine.

- Vine is like the stem or the trunk of the plant. Jesus likens himself in vs. 1 to the TRUE VINE.
- In verse one he likens the Heavenly Father to the “farmer” or the “gardener” [that’s the definition of a husbandman, an old English term used during the 1611 translation days]
- So right away we see TWO parts of the Trinity of God; we see the third part on later down in verses John 15:26-John 16:8 and beyond.

II. Now let’s look at the branches of the vine.

- To be a branch you must first be part of the vine.
- Draw a branch out in the air unattached to the vine.....is this branch part of the vine?
- Now pass out the worksheets and look at the first question only.....**ARE YOU A BRANCH?**

- That is a simple yes or no. You are either a part of the Vine [Christ] or you are not.
- So if you are a born-again/saved person, then you are a branch; otherwise you aren't even in this picture-story Jesus is telling about here.
- Next Question.....**WHAT MAKES YOU A BRANCH?**
- Answer.....being saved, that is, born again makes you a branch in the Vine.
- Conclusion: so this Lesson that Jesus is telling is to born-again people.

III. **Two types of Branches on this Vine.**

- Two Types of Branches are mentioned in this illustration from Jesus;
- Branches that bear Fruit and....
- Branches that do not bear fruit.

IV. Now to the next question on the worksheet: **WHAT FRUIT ACCORDING TO JOHN 15?**

- The Fruit of the Christian and the Fruit of the Spirit are NOT the same thing in Scripture. Do not confuse the two. The Fruits of the Spirit are in Galatians 5:22-23 and are NOT the fruit referred to here.
- The Fruit of the Christian is NOT love, joy, peace, etc...those are fruits of the Spirit [the HOLY SPIRIT]. We will manifest those fruits as a Christian but this is not what Jesus is talking about here.
- The Fruit in John 15 is SOULS and answered prayer. Christians bringing others to Christ; Proverbs 11:30 *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.*

V. **The Branches Fates:**

- **Branches that do not bear fruit are just branches.**
- Fruitless branches have nothing to offer the Father at the Judgment Seat of Christ. When Christians are judged during the 7 years in Heaven [after the Rapture of the Church] only good works remain [gold, silver, & precious stones] and wood, hay, stubble are burned up. That is another Bible Lesson in and of itself, but backup for this truth nonetheless.
- Fruitless branches miss out on lots of answered prayer [vs.7]
- **Fruit Bearing Branches don't get off easy either: they are pruned and cleansed.**
- Fruit comes on a branch; it gets "purged" or "pruned" just like our rose bushes. A rose bush will put on tons more flowers if you prune it back each winter. Otherwise all you get is leaves, lots of leaves, and very little flowers.
- Fruit bearing Branches get all their power, their juices, their ability to bear fruit from the VINE. [vs. 4-5]
- Prayers of Fruit Bearing Christians get heard [vs 7] especially if the prayer is to win more souls to the Vine.

VI. **Next Question: IS YOUR BRANCH BEARING FRUIT?**

- **Yes or No.**
- **What can you do to bear fruit of John 15 while you are a child?**
 - First you must be IN THE VINE.**
 - Second to bear fruit you must have the VINE in control. [reading the rest of the original text you can see how you must be walking in Holiness to receive the power needed to bear the fruit]. THAT IS Holy Living.**
 - Third to bear fruit you can pray for souls, invite people to church to hear the Gospel, be willing to read the Bible yourself and Study the Bible so you can lead people to Christ.**