



Talk it Over

PASTOR LYLE EPHESIANS 1 – 10/26/25

KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:7, 11, 13

7 **In Him** we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

11 **In Him**, also we have obtained an inheritance...

13 **In Him**, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed **in Him** with the Holy Spirit of promise,

John 15:1–5

1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.

3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Galatians 5:22–23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

START TALKING

Pastor Lyle began a five-week sermon series in the book of Ephesians. What is your favorite book of the Bible? And why?

START DISCUSSING

IN HIM

The emphasis of the message and the series is that the Christlike life begins with us being “In Him.” This is our union with Christ.

The opening verses of Ephesians begin with our position in Christ.

Discuss each “In Him” in verses 7, 11, and 13. What do they state about our position in Christ, and what difference does each truth make in our lives?

THE VINEDRESSER, THE VINE AND THE BRANCH

Read John 15:1-5

Pastor Lyle said it is important to understand each metaphor and the ramifications of each. The Father is the Vinedresser, the Vine is Christ, and we are the branch.

The goal is growth: Bearing Fruit.

Discuss the statement: The Fruit is Supernatural Fueled Character Change.

A CHRIST BRANCH PRODUCES CHRIST FRUIT

Read Galatians 5:22-23

Consider the connection of John 15 and Galatians 5. Just as a grapevine delivers water and nutrients to the branch to produce fruit, the Spirit delivers to the branch the life of the “Christ-vine.”

Discuss how Christ demonstrates each description of the Fruit of the Spirit.

Discuss the fact that Christ-fruit is all of the list. We can maybe work to manufacture a specific aspect of this fruit at various times, but the person walking in the Spirit will grow in consistently demonstrating the entire list.

PRUNING IS NECESSARY FOR MORE FRUIT

A significant part of the message was the fact that pruning is necessary to increase the fruitfulness of the branch. “Pruning is after organic change through a new inner dynamic, not mechanical compliance through external force.” -Tim Keller. Pastor Lyle reminded us that pruning is not punishment.

Take some time and discuss how we can easily confuse pruning with punishment.

How does God’s pruning change us to allow the “Christ-life” to be manifest in our life? And how can we persevere in allowing God to do his work of pruning and trusting him through the process?