



Weekend Resources

March 15, 2026

"I Am the True Vine"

Use these questions and resources during your study time or with your group.

RECAP: Every culture is telling a story - about who we are, why we're here, and what really matters. We take our questions to the culture around us, and listen for answers. But who is telling you the truth? Where do your deepest beliefs come from? In a world full of noise and competing voices, Jesus makes bold, clear claims about who He is—and what real life looks like.

MAIN POINTS

- Jesus is the True Vine and our only Source. Culture tells us to be self-sustaining, but Jesus confronts this lie by declaring that apart from Him, we can do nothing. We cannot manufacture our own spiritual life, joy, or purpose; we can only receive it.
- God the Father is the Gardener. To help us reach our full potential, God removes toxic "deadwood" (habits or sins that hurt us) and "prunes" even the good branches so we can bear more fruit.
- Connection, not effort, produces fruit. In Jesus' kingdom, fruit is the natural byproduct of abiding, not the result of striving or grinding. Disconnecting from Jesus and from community inevitably leads to isolation and spiritual dryness.

GETTING STARTED

- What is the last thing that you tried to fix yourself that went really, really wrong?

SCRIPTURE

- [John 15:1-8](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Jesus refers to Himself as the "true vine," implying there are "false vines" out there. What are some false vines (such as a career, bank account, reputation, or relationships) that you are most tempted to draw your life and security from?
- The message draws a distinction between removing "deadwood" (getting rid of toxic things) and "pruning" (cutting back things that are good so you can focus on what is best). Have you ever experienced a season of pruning, where you had less influence, energy, or stuff, so God could help you grow?
- We often treat the "fruit of the Spirit" (love, joy, peace, patience) as things we have to produce through sheer willpower and hard work. How does it relieve your pressure to know that your only job is to remain connected to Jesus, and that the fruit will appear naturally?

APPLICATION

- Spiritual dryness doesn't happen overnight; we drift there slowly when we replace dependence with distraction. Are you experiencing any signs of withering or dryness right now?
- A vine is made up of many branches all working together. Are you currently connected to a community with other believers, or are you trying to follow Jesus in isolation? What is one step you can take to get more connected this week?
- What is one exercise you want to try this week to help you 'remain' with Jesus?