



# THE THREAD

*weaving Sunday's message through the week*

**Date:** August 9, 2020

**Theme:** Glory and grace through union with Christ

**Passage:** John 15:1–17

Jesus provides us with three commands to describe our union with him:

1. Remain in Jesus (1–8).
  - a. He is the true vine from which we experience life (1–3).
  - b. He nourishes us to bear fruit (4–6).
  - c. In him, we experience answered prayer (7).
  - d. In him, God receives glory by the fruit we bear (8).
2. Remain in Jesus' love (9–11).
  - a. We remain in Jesus' love by keeping his commands (10).
  - b. We remain in Jesus' love to experience his complete joy (11).
3. Love one another (12–17).
  - a. We love one another by laying down our lives for our "friends" (13).
  - b. We love one another because we are friends with Jesus (14–15).
  - c. We love one another because we are called by Jesus (16).

**Main Idea:** We are united to Jesus so that God can display his love, mission, and glory in us.

## Application Questions:

- How does Jesus's illustration of the vine depict well the life of the Christian in relationship to him and his Father?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What could Jesus mean by "bearing fruit?" What is the fruit? What is the consequence of the branch does not bear fruit (v. 6)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- How are the three commands (remain in Jesus; remain in Jesus's love; love one another) related in this passage? What differentiates them?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What does Jesus mean when he says that we can experience complete joy in v. 11? Are you experiencing this joy? Is there something that we can do to experience it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What does laying down your life for your "friends" look like in your life (13–15)?

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