

# **Reedy Fork Baptist Church**

***Wednesday, May 6, 2026***

## **BIBLE STUDY**

**Theme: " Chosen & Appointed"**

**SCRIPTURE IN RESPONSE: John 15:9-17, NIV**

**<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.**

**<sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.**

**<sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.**

**<sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.**

**<sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

**<sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command.**

**<sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.**

**<sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.**

**<sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.**

### **I. Key Words:**

- Chosen
- Appointed
- Anointed

- Servant
- Friend

## **II. People, Places, & Times:**

- God
- Jesus
- Holy Spirit
- The Disciples
- The World
- Jerusalem
- The Vineyard

## **III. Background:**

John 15 takes place during the "Upper Room Discourse" on the night before Jesus's crucifixion. Jesus is preparing his disciples for his impending death, departure, and the persecution they will face. He uses the metaphor of the vine and branches to explain that staying in him is essential for spiritual life, fruitfulness, and navigating a hostile world. This discourse occurs just after the Last Supper and before Jesus goes to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus calls himself the "true vine" and God the "gardener" (or vinedresser). In the Old Testament, Israel was often looked at, as a failed vine or vineyard that did not produce fruit (see Isaiah 5:1–7, Psalm 80:8–16). By calling himself the "true" vine, Jesus is the perfect, faithful embodiment of God's people. The audience understood viticulture—that branches must remain connected to the vine to live and that the gardener prunes vines to increase yield. Jesus emphasizes that as he leaves, the disciples must "abide" (or remain) in Him to have spiritual life, as branches cannot survive alone.

## **IV. In Depth:**

### **1. Lesson Emphasis: 1. Divine Initiative & Grace**

- A.** It lets us know that it was God who took the first step to save, love and restore humanity, offering unmerited favor to transform lives.
1. To be chosen by Jesus is not based on anything you or I did or could ever do.
  2. To be chosen by Jesus means that your relationship with God and your mission in life are initiated simply by His grace and mercy.
  3. To be chosen means that your relationship with God and your mission in life are initiated simply by His grace and mercy.

4. You are special in the eyes of God; He loved you before you even thought about Him.
5. The World, Family & Friends might overlook you, but Jesus chose you.

## **2. Lesson Emphasis #2: Appointed for a Specific Task**

**A.** When Jesus walked this earth, He was on a mission to save the lost by revealing God's love, teaching the kingdom of God, and dying for the sins of humanity, ultimately restoring broken communion between God and humanity.

1. Therefore every saved person should be mission oriented.
2. You are not saved to just sit, God has a plan for you and me.
3. None of us should sit around and wait until someone asks us to do, but we should be willing to jump in wherever we are needed.
4. Friends don't wait for friends to ask for help, but a true friend sees the need and does what needs to be done.
5. Servants follow the orders of the Master, not because they want to but out of obligation.
6. If we consider ourselves to be friends of God, then we should always be willing to use the gifts and talents that God gave us to upbuild the Kingdom of God.

**B.** The 20/80 rule

1. Would be turned around to 80% working, especially when one believes that they've been chosen by Christ.
2. Everybody in this room is appointed to do something in God's kingdom, some sing, some play an instrument, some teach, some preach, some clean, some usher etc. (1 Cor. 12:8-11)
3. Your appointment is to produce lasting fruit.

## **3. Lesson Emphasis #3: Authority & Provision**

**A.** Being appointed by the "King" means you carry His authority. Just as an ambassador represents their home country, you and I are appointed to represent Christ on Earth.

1. Being chosen by Jesus, also means you are appointed and anointed.
2. Our text tells us that Jesus chose us to be His friends.
3. Servants are told what to do, and they do it out of obligation.

