

I AM THE VINE: CHECK YOUR CONNECTION

November 22, 2020

I. CHECK YOUR CONNECTION

A. Action for Jesus is not the same as Connection.

John 15:1-11 (ESV) I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.

B. How do you know if you are connected to Jesus? Check your fruit.

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

II. HOW DO YOU CREATE A BETTER CONNECTION

1. SEEK

Matthew 6:33 (ESV) But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. OPEN

Ephesians 1:18 (GNT) I ask that your minds may be opened to see His light, so that you will know what is the hope to which He has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings He promises His people,

3. UNSELFISH

Acts 20:35 (ESV) In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

4. REMEMBER

Galatians 5:1 (ESV) For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

5. CONSISTENT

1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV) Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

6. ENGAGE

James 1:22 (ESV) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves

John 15:12-15 (ESV) This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.