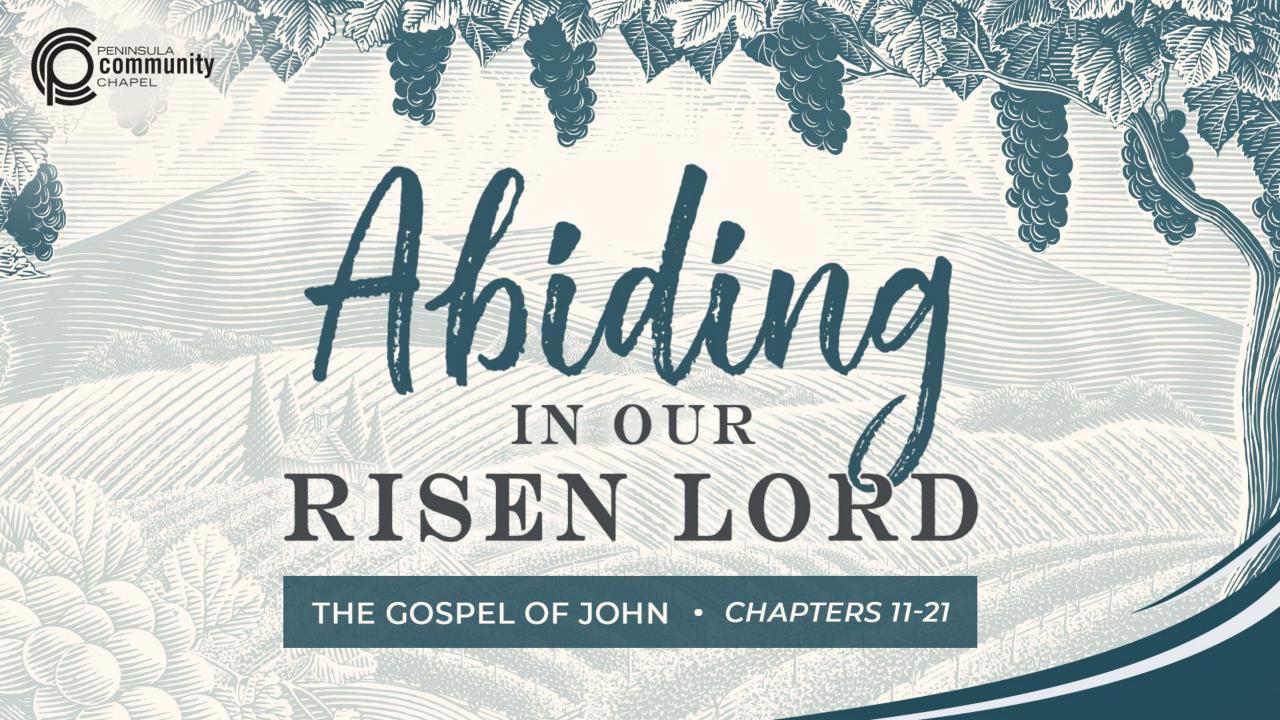


I'm starting with the man in the mirror I'm asking him to change his ways And no message could have been any clearer If you wanna make the world a better place Take a look at yourself and then make a change "Man in the Mirror"



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 does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.

John 15:1-17 (ESV)

⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:1-17 (ESV)



¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. 17 These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

John 15:1-17 (ESV)



I Am The True Vine

Because Jesus is the true vine, we who abide in him can experience real change

- 1) Real Change is Possible
- 2) Real Change is Necessary
- 3) Real Change is Organic



Real Change is Possible

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser... I am the vine; you are the branches."
John 15:1,5a





Real Change is Possible

"Yet I planted you a choice vine, wholly of pure seed. How then have you turned degenerate and become a wild vine?"

Jeremiah 2:21

Fruit = Good Works





Real Change is Possible

"Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you..." John 15:3,16a

Jesus Christ

The Righteous and Justified One
The Perfect Man & Son of God
The Pure and Sanctified One
The Victorious & Glorified One

Believer in Christ

Chosen...

Justified...

Adopted...

Sanctified

Glorified...



As a sign of our salvation

Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away... 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.

John 15:2a,6





By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

John 15:8







Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away... John 15:2a







In order to make an eternal impact

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*. John 15:4b-5a



"Only one life,' twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last."

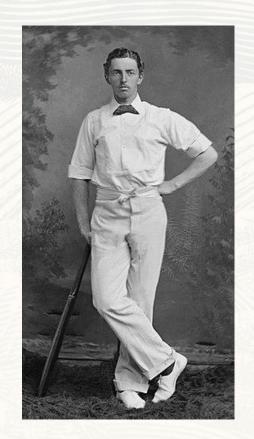




C.T. Studd



"Only one life,' twill soon be past, Only what's done for <u>in</u> Christ will last."





C.T. Studd



Fruit Nailing vs. Real Growth









I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit John 15:5a

Abide (μένω): To remain, continue, dwell







I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit John 15:5a

Abide (μένω): To remain, continue, dwell

Three imperfect metaphors
Grade school crush
Influencer/Hero/Mentor
Loving spouse



God's Knife

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser...and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. John 15:1-2





Hebrews

12:6-11

James

1:2-3



God's Word

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you...

John 15:7a





God's Love

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. John 15:9-10

Where do you go when you're feeling stressed, alone, overwhelmed, or afraid?



God's Love

You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

John 15:14-15





"Who can say if I've been changed for the better?

But because I knew you I have been changed for good."



An Experience of Abiding



