

The True Vine

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OUR PURPOSE: To be a community of believers where, no matter who you are, you can experience life change through Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the **TRUE** Vine

Jesus truly **REPRESENTS** God and he makes it **POSSIBLE** for us to do the same.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

—John 15:1 (ESV)

For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

—Isaiah 5:7 (ESV)

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.

—John 15:2 (ESV)

1. As followers of Jesus, we are God's **REPRESENTATIVES** to the world

Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

—John 15:3 (ESV)

2. Jesus' word **PREPARES** us to exhibit God's character

If we are to bear FRUIT, the Word of God has to take ROOT in us.

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 15:4-6 (ESV)

3. To bear fruit we must ABIDE in Jesus

To abide in Jesus, He must become our “THING.”

7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

—John 15:7 (ESV)

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

—John 15:8 (ESV)

4. Bearing fruit...

a. PROVES you are a disciple of Jesus

b. GLORIFIES God

c. Increases your experience of His LOVE & His JOY

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.

—John 15:9-11 (ESV)