

Life Group Homework

JOHN 15:1-8 – Jesus the True Vine

Getting Started:

1. What are the most common sources of strength and motivation in your life?

2. What are the most common sources of wisdom and advice in your life?

Digging In:

1. In what way is Jesus the ‘true vine’? Do the following passages help us: *Psalm 80*, *Jeremiah 2:20-21*, and *Hosea 10:1*?

2. In what way is the Father the ‘vine dresser’? See *John 6:44* and *65*, and *10:28-29*.

3. Many of the modern versions use the word ‘pruned’ in verse two and the word ‘clean’ in verse three even though this is the same word in the original language. Does this have any effect on how we understand this passage?

4. How does a branch abide in the vine? Does it work hard to do so?

5. What does it mean for someone to 'abide' or 'remain' in Christ? (See verse 7 and *Romans 8:5-8, Galatians 5:25* and *1 Peter 4:10-11* to inform your discussion.)

6. What would it mean for someone to NOT abide or remain in Christ?

7. Why is it necessary for a branch to abide in the vine in order to bear fruit?

8. Why is it necessary for us to abide in Christ in order to bear fruit?

9. According to verse five, how much fruit can we bear apart from Christ? What about all those efforts we make in the strength of our flesh? (See *Romans 8:8* and *Hebrews 9:14*.)

10. How does abiding in Christ affect our prayers (remember especially the *Romans 8:5-8* passage)?

Living It Out:

1. If God came to your branch looking for fruit, how much would he find?

2. How important is it to you to bear true fruit that brings glory to God?

3. Spend time as a group asking God to work in you so that you will bear much fruit.