



Date 11/28/2021

## **LESSONS FROM THE VINEYARD**

15 “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 bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. John 15:1,2

### **Job of the Vinedresser:**

- 1. Take away or “lift up” branches**
- 2. Prune or clean branches**

3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. John 15:3-6

### **Job of the Branches (Disciples):**

- 1. Abide (Stand firm) in the vine (Jesus)**
  - a. We can do nothing if we do not abide in Him.**
  - b. Our aim should be to abide in Him. Fruit will grow out of our relationship to Jesus.**

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. 9 Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also 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 so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

John 15:7-11

### **Results of Abiding in Jesus**

- 1. Bear much fruit**
- 2. God answers our prayers**
- 3. God is glorified**

#### **4. We have the joy of the Lord**

12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things 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 would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. 17 This I command you, that you love one another.

John 15:12-17

#### **The Commandments to obey:**

- 1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength. (Abide in Jesus)**
  - a. Jesus considers us friends. He makes His plans known to us through His Word.**
- 2. Love your neighbor as yourself. (Love one another)**
  - a. We should love one another as Jesus loved us...sacrificially.**

*Disobeying one or both of these commandments hinders our ability to produce fruit.*

**The lesson is about God’s love for us!**

**He pulls us out of the mud and corrects us!**

**He prunes or cuts away the things in our lives that keep us from fulfilling our God-given purposes!**

**He knows we cannot bear fruit without Him so He nurtures a close relationship with Jesus by encouraging us to abide in Him!**

**He wants us to love one another sacrificially so we can truly know God’s love!**

**He wants us to bear the fruit that results from our relationship with Him so we can know the joy of the Lord!**