**Depend/Trust God**

**The Vine- Stay connected to Jesus, trust Him when He’s helping you grow, show your love through obedience, and love others the way He loves you.**

**Choose Jesus every day.**

**John 15:1-17**

*“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.****2****He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%2015&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26702a)*] so that it will be even more fruitful.****3****You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.****4****Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

***5****“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.****6****If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.****7****If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.****8****This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

***9****“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.****10****If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.****11****I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.****12****My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.****13****Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.****14****You are my friends if you do what I command.****15****I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.****16****You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.****17****This is my command: Love each other.*

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| **TOPIC/SCRIPTURE** | **What do we learn?** | **What is the application?** |
| **I am the True Vine**  **Stay Connected to Jesus** | Just like a branch cannot survive without being connected to the vine, we cannot truly live a spiritual life apart from Christ. We need to stay connected to Jesus to be our best selves. We can do this by praying, reading the Bible, and being kind to others.  This is union with Christ — not just believing in Him once, but living in ongoing dependence and relationship with Him.  All spiritual growth flows from His life in us. | Think of a tv that needs to stay plugged in. Without power, it can’t do anything. Jesus is like our “spiritual charger” — if we unplug from Him, we lose the strength to do what’s right. |
| **God Prunes to Help Us Grow** | God’s pruning means removing things in our lives that slow down our spiritual growth — this can be sin, selfish habits, or even distractions.  In Greek, the word for “prune” also means “clean.” This is sanctification — the process where God makes us more like Christ.  Parents correct us  Just like a gardener prunes branches to help them grow better, God might "prune" things from our lives to help us grow closer to Him. He loves us and wants us to be our best selves. | Imagine a gardener cutting off the dry leaves on a plant so it grows better. Sometimes God lets us go through challenges or changes to make us stronger, even if it’s uncomfortable. |
| **Be Fruitful** | Jesus wants us to be fruitful branches, which means being kind, helpful, and loving to others. When we're connected to Jesus, we can make good choices and be a blessing to those around us. | There’s a reward for staying connected to Jesus and allowing to be pruned. |