

SERMON OUTLINE John 15:1-11

I Am the True Vine - Part 4

REVIEW

DISCIPLES AS BRANCHES – THE BLESSINGS OF BEING UNITED TO JESUS

1. *God protects us. Fruitless branches are cut off, protecting God's people from harm (2, 6).*
2. *God prunes us for greater fruitfulness (2).*
3. *We have received the Word of Jesus (3).*
4. *We have been made clean by the Word of Jesus (3).*
5. *We abide in Jesus, and Jesus abides in us (4).*
6. *We bear good fruit (4).*
7. *We bear much good fruit (5).*
8. *We can do things. This is a blessing because apart from Jesus we can do nothing (5).*
9. *Jesus will answer our prayers (7).*

10. *We glorify God (8).*

11. *We will bear much fruit and therein prove ourselves true disciples of Jesus (8).*

12. *We get to abide in Jesus' love (9-10).*

13. *We get Jesus' joy (11).*

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this passage is that the Christian life is about being united to and abiding in Jesus in such a way that His mind, heart, and actions flow freely out of us, and all according to the superintending grace of God. The main takeaways are to pray in faith, actively abide in God's Word and love, and to seek fullness of joy in Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Of the Father as vinedresser, Jesus as the vine, and Jesus' disciples as the branches, what stands out to you the most?
3. Which of the thirteen blessings of John 15:1-11 has been the biggest blessing to you and why?
4. What steps are you consciously taking to abide in Jesus, His Word, and His love? How does it show up in your life?
5. How have you experienced the truthfulness of Jesus' promise in v.7—answered prayers for those abiding in Him?
6. How would you describe your appetite for the glory of God?
7. How confident in your salvation are you? Where does that confidence or lack of confidence come from (v8)?
8. As you consider your love for your spouse, your kids, your neighbors, and God, how tied to commandment keeping is it?
9. On a normal day, what is your primary source of joy? How long do your experiences with joy usually last? Now consider v.11.
10. In what ways did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. Spend some time praying through the blessings of John 15:1-11. Pick one to focus on living more in light of.
12. Parents, help your kids develop the discipline of reading their Bibles and teach them to understand it so they might abide in it.
13. Kids, make it easy for your parents to teach you the Word. Listen carefully, sit still, ask questions, remind them if they forget.
14. Adults, come to Berea and bring your kids to Sunday school. Listen carefully to the sermon each week, and teach your kids to do the same. Take notes. Focus on application. Be ready to discuss it in DG. Make decisions out of an understanding of the biblical principles God has given to guide you in it. Admonish and encourage one another with the Word of Jesus. Talk regularly about what you are learning and how it is turning you to God in worship and obedience and to the world in love.
15. Carve out an uninterrupted hour to consider the Bible's description of the glory of God. Praise God for it.
16. Find, praise, and prayerfully pursue one specific aspect of Jesus' character this week.
17. Repent of your pursuit of a lesser joy than the full joy of Jesus.
18. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
19. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

20. Adoration. Praise God for being mighty to answer every prayer. Praise God for being glorious beyond measure and perfect in all His attributes. Praise God for being full of love and joy. Praise God that He is a god of limitless blessings.
21. Confess. Confess your failure to abide in Jesus, His Word, and His love, but in other things. Confess your lack of trust in God's promises. Confess any ways you are seeking your joy in something other than the glory of God.
22. Thanksgiving. Thank God for answering a specific prayer, revealing specific glory, granting assurance of salvation through fruit bearing, setting His love upon you in Jesus, and making the path to fullness of joy..
23. Supplication. Ask God to fill Grace church with His blessings, genuine joy in them, and much fruit from them.