

Jesus, the True Vine

Background of John 15:1-17

Isaiah 5:1-7/ John 15:1-17

Implications of John 15:1-17

1. The believer in Christ is already attached to Christ – John 15:3
2. Our goal then is to make sure we don't disconnect ourselves from Christ, either intentionally or unintentionally - John 15:4
3. If we stay connected, we will produce fruit - John 15:5
4. Christ tells us to remain (abide) 11 times because we are always tempted to leave - John 15:4-10, 13

Important Questions from the Text

1. What does it mean to remain or abide?
Greek: "Meno" hang out or stay, continue, don't leave.
2. Why is remaining or abiding so important?
 - a. *When we are disconnected from Jesus, we become No Fruit branches – John 15:5*
 - b. *When we stay connected to Jesus, we become ...Fruit...More Fruit...Much More Fruit...Lasting Fruit bearing branches– John 15:1-16*
3. How do we stay connected to Jesus?
Obey, obey, obey, obey what we already Know - John 15:10/ John 14:23/ 1 John 2:3-5

Questions for Further Study

For the week of December 17, 2023

1. Pastor Neil mentioned this weekend that when Jesus says, “remain (abide) in me,” He is revealing the fact that we are already attached to Him. Our goal then is to make sure we don’t disconnect ourselves, either intentionally or unintentionally, because when we remain, we will produce fruit. Let’s look to Scripture to see things that remind us of where we are in Christ and help keep us from disconnecting from Him. Read the following verses and write down what they are encouraging us to do.
 - a. Hebrews 10:23-25
 - b. Romans 12:2
 - c. 2 Timothy 3:14-17
2. Can you make a list of any other things that help keep us from getting disconnected? (For example, praying, exploring creation, or eating tasty food.)
3. Now look back over what you wrote above and write down one or two practical ways you could apply what we are being encouraged to do.
4. We learned that the goal is to remain (abide) in Christ and the fruit will follow. Which of the above verses is particularly encouraging to you, and how could focusing on it this week help you remain more firmly connected to Christ?