

I Am the True Vine Notes

John 15:1-6

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Main Point: Jesus' desire is that you produce spiritual fruit, but you can only do so through abiding in Him.

Background

1. The setting for John 15 actually begins two chapters back in John 13 in what's often called "the Farewell Discourse."
2. These chapters take place the _____ before His death.
3. In John 15, the Passover meal they gathered for is over, they've left the upper room, and it is now deep into the _____.

Jesus is the Only True Vine (vs. 1)

1. In the Old Testament, the vine was a common symbol for _____.
2. When Israel is mentioned as a vine, it's _____ a flattering or complimentary sense.
3. It highlighted the nation's _____ to produce good fruit followed by the threat of God's judgment.
4. Jesus was the true vine in the sense of being genuine as compared with Israel which had not acted in harmony with its _____.
5. When Jesus says, "My Father," He is saying "I am an _____ of His."
6. If that's not a true statement, Jesus is committing _____ and the penalty for that crime back then was death by stoning.
7. Jesus wasn't committing blasphemy; He is telling His disciples (and us) the _____.

We are the Branches (vs. 2)

1. If a vine is not kept under control, it will grow wherever it _____.
2. Pruning at the right time was _____.
3. Pruning takes place both for the current harvest and for next season's _____.
4. Pruning ensures that the fruit is of good _____.

Pruning the Fruit Bearing Branch (vs. 2)

1. The vinedresser prunes or trims _____ branch that bears fruit.
2. His goal is _____ fruit.
3. The procedure may be _____.
4. Each and every cut has the same purpose: more fruit.

Cutting Away the Non-Fruit Bearing Branch (vs. 2)

1. The vinedresser cuts _____ every branch that bears no fruit.
2. They claim to be Christian, but they have no fruit...they're _____.

3. They're going to be cut off.
4. This is a statement about eternal _____.
5. Any individual who claims to be a follower of Christ but does not bear fruit is not really a Christian.
6. That person doesn't one day get pruned by God, they get completely cutoff from Him.

The Fruit of a Fruit Bearing Branch

1. A true branch, a true Christian, cannot _____ to produce fruit.
2. The Christ-follower lives a life marked by...
 - The fruit of the _____ (Galatians 5:22-23).
 - _____ offered to God (Hebrews 13:15).
 - Sacrificial _____ in meeting the needs of others (Romans 15:28).
 - Holy, righteous, God-honoring _____ (Colossians 1:10, Ephesians 2:10).
 - People who come to _____ in Christ.
3. This fruit is not...
 - Outward _____.
 - It isn't to be externally religious or _____ righteous.
4. You will have moments where you do not _____ the fruit Christ produces in believers.
5. The goal of a good harvest is _____, not perfection.
 - You might still _____ with impatience but compared to last year you're gentler.

Obtaining the Fruit – Abiding in Me (vs. 4-5)

1. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
2. The key to seeing spiritual fruit produced in your life is to _____ in Christ.
3. To abide is "to _____," or "stay," or "remain" somewhere, and ordinarily implies a continuing relationship, one in which a person is already involved.
4. To abide in Christ is to be utterly _____ on Jesus for life and fruitfulness.
5. The starting place for abiding is _____ God's Word.
6. Self-_____ is the enemy of abiding.
7. There is the importance of _____ in God's Word. God's Word makes the branches clean (vs. 3).
 - The word used for "clean" is close to the word for _____.
8. God's Word, applied by God's Spirit, activated by humble faith and dependence, sends the life-giving _____ of Jesus Christ coursing through us.