

/// REMEMBER THIS

Intro: This week, we explore what it means to live a **Vine Life**—a life fully connected to Jesus, the True Vine. Just as branches draw life from the vine, our spiritual vitality, joy, and fruitfulness come from abiding in Christ. Without Him, we can accomplish nothing that truly matters; with Him, our lives bear lasting fruit.

The passage in John 15 paints a vivid picture: God is the Gardener, Jesus is the Vine, and we are the branches. Some branches are pruned—not as punishment, but as preparation. Pruning removes what distracts, drains, or blocks growth so we can thrive and produce more fruit. The fruit Jesus grows in us always expresses itself through love.

Life Group Helps: Please take a few moments to read through the instructions below in preparation for the following group discussions and the use of the provided material.

Before the group meeting:

1. Spend time engaging the “Passages for Study/Discussion” with prayer.
2. Read through all the material.
 - + As you look through it, you will find helpful tips that will allow you to better facilitate the discussion.
 - + At times, sermon notes may be provided by CBC, and in the meantime, your sermon notes would be beneficial.
3. Think through ways you can help your group to apply what is being taught instead of “knowing” what’s been taught.

At the Group Meeting:

1. Summarize/Read the “Intro”
2. Use the leader guide to facilitate the discussion.
3. Share your thoughts on how you and your group can begin to apply what was learned in this lesson. Help them formulate ideas for reading, studying, and

meditating on the scriptures.

Bottom Line: Abiding in Christ gives our hearts the perfect soil to love sacrificially, just as He loved us.

Main Passages for Study: John 15:1-17

Leader's tip: Reading the main passage is vital every week. Some folks in your Life Group (LG) may have missed Sunday, and they need a deeper understanding to follow the discussion. We prefer that our LG's get into the Bible for themselves, too. Finally, don't think you need to get through all the questions. This is a guide, and the Holy Spirit and people's needs may dictate more time on one question or another. Therefore, you cannot discuss all the questions, and that is perfectly fine! Enjoy!

I. Discussion Questions

- 1. What does it mean to “abide” in Jesus? How is it different from trying harder or performing religiously?**
 - + John 15:4–5, Philippians 2:13
- 2. What kinds of fruit should we expect from a life that abides in Christ? Are there areas in your life where you see fruit growing, or not growing?**
 - + Galatians 5:22–23, Matthew 7:20
- 3. How do we know if our “fruit” is coming from our own efforts versus abiding in Christ?**
 - + John 15:5, John 14:13–14
- 4. Share a time God pruned or removed something from your life. How did it feel, and what fruit came afterward?**
 - + John 15:2, Hebrews 12:10, Romans 5:3–5
- 5. Jesus calls us friends, not just servants. How does viewing God as a friend change your relationship with Him and with others?**
 - + John 15:15, James 2:23
- 6. What areas of your life might be “dead branches” that need pruning? What are your “fruitful branches” that need nurturing?**
 - + John 15:2, Ephesians 2:10

- 7. How can you practically abide in Christ during a busy week? What rhythms, habits, or practices help keep you connected to the Vine?**
+ John 15:4–5, Colossians 1:10
- 8. What are you committing to think differently, do differently, or believe differently because of this week's discussion?**
- 9. How can others pray for you this week?**