

Text: John 15:1-17

I. Relationship with Him (vs. 1-3)

A. True Vine – Christ

The Old Testament often refers to Israel as the vine and God wanted them to obey His Law, the ten commandments. Notice here that Jesus is the “true vine”, for only He has fulfilled the Law and by doing so, He took our place and punishment that we deserved.

B. Husbandman – God the Father

What does He do? He cuts out the bad branches and cuts back the good ones.

Where? When? During our time on Earth.

How? By testing us, seeing if we will turn to Him for help or nourishment and when we do that, we receive the answer to the next question.

Why? He prunes us so we can become more fruitful.

C. Branches – Both Saved and Unsaved

Anyone can be a branch, but good branches will bring forth fruit. Being a Christian is more than selecting it as your religious view on Facebook. If you are a good branch in the vine, Jesus Christ, you will bear fruit.

II. Duty to Him (vs. 4-8)

A. Abide

1. Believe – believe who He is, what He has done, and what He will do.
2. Depend – depend on Him daily for strength to live for Him.
3. Endure – If you believe and depend on Him, you must continue to do so.

B. Abide and Bear “Much” Fruit

What is this fruit? Winning souls for Christ!? **(Read Galatians 5:22-23)**

(Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self Control)

When we abide in Him we bear much fruit and fulfill our purpose...to glorify God.

C. Do Not Abide and Be Cut Off

It is a sad reality, but reality nonetheless **(Read John 3:18)**.

III. His love and ours (vs. 9-17)

A. Obey His commandment to love

A man will say he loves a woman so much, he would die for her, but what about washing the dishes and taking out the trash?

B. We are blessed because of His love

1. He chose us (16a)
2. He will do what we ask because of love (16b)