

I AM THE VINE

John 15:1-11 (ESV)

Jesus alone provides the strength needed for the Christian life.

Why _____ and _____?

The vinedresser's goal is to produce the most fruit possible:

- The process of pruning
 - Unfruitful branches are cut away
 - Healthy pruning increases overall fruitfulness
- Our common misunderstanding
 - We often focus more on avoiding being cut away than on bearing fruit.
- Christ's invitation
 - Jesus calls us to abide in Him.

What Does It Mean to _____ in Jesus?

Any growth that happens in the Christian life requires surrender to Jesus. (John 15:3)

- Salvation and sanctification-being clean (salvation) does not remove us from moments of refreshing (sanctification).
- Abiding in Jesus is not a one-time deal. It means total dependence on Him.
 - We cannot produce spiritual fruit on our own. (*John 15:4, 6*)
- Purposeful dependence
 - Our lives and effectiveness flow from Him. (*John 15:5, 7-8*)

I AM THE VINE

What Does _____ Look Like?

- Obedience: Keeping God's commandments-being shaped into the image of Jesus.
- Joy: A life lived confident of the gospel.
- Love: A life lived reflecting the gospel.

William Barclay: "Christian love springs to life when Christ is incarnated again in a person who has given themselves completely to Him."

What Does Fruit Look Like In Real Life?

- Your greatest desires.
- The focus and direction of your life.
- How you use your discretionary time.

CBC
Connection Cards
members & guests



CBC
Giving online
tithes & offerings

