



I Am the Vine

John 15:1-11

The Vinedresser (The Father)

² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

John 15:2 (ESV)

The Father prunes us by:

- Using the Word to convict and cleanse
- Chastening us (Heb 12:1-11)



The Vine (The Son)

³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

John 16:33 (ESV)

- We have a living union – so we bear fruit
- We have a loving union – so we can enjoy Him
- We have a lasting union – so we don't need to be afraid



The Branches (Disciples)

- To 'abide' means 'to remain', 'to be kept and held', 'to endure', 'to live and to be constant'.
- We abide by:
 - Worship – celebrate God
 - Meditation on God's Word – obedience to God's Way
 - Prayer – submission to God's Will
 - Sacrifice – it's not sacrifice unless it costs something
 - Service – the church is a standing army of volunteers
 - ...with joy!



The Branches (Disciples)

- We know we're abiding when:
 - We produce fruit (John 15:2)
 - Experience the Father's pruning (John 15:2)
 - Our prayers are answered (John 15:7)
 - We have a deepening love for other believers (John 15:9)
 - We have a sense of joy (John 15:11)



The Fruit (Holy Spirit)

- Spiritual fruit looks like:
 - When we win others to Christ (Rom 1:13)
 - We ourselves are part of the harvest (John 4:35-38)
 - As we grow in holiness and obedience (Rom 6:22)
 - As we give (Rom 15:28)
 - In the form of 'fruits of the Spirit' (Gal 5:22-23)
 - As evidenced by good works and service (Col 1:10)
 - When we praise and glorify God (Heb 13:5)





Are you abiding in
Jesus?

- Real spiritual fruit has in it the seeds for more fruit
- A counterfeit will not multiply
- A true branch will always bear fruit
- We have the privilege of abiding and the responsibility of bearing fruit