



"I AM... The True Vine"

John 15:1-8

Sunday | June 5th, 2016 | Pastor Patrick Bowler

CONSULT THE SCRIPTURES

John 15:1-8 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. 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. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you.

As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

(See also Is. 5:1-7, 13; Jer. 2:21-23; 5:9-10; Hos. 10:1-2; Ezek. 17:5-6; Ps. 80:7-9; Matt. 26:27-29; Is. 52:13-53:12)

DISCUSS

1. Spend a few moments and reflect on the "I AM" series as a whole. How has it challenged you? How has it encouraged you? Etc...

2. Read Isaiah 5:1-7 and compare to Jesus' words in John 15:1, "I am the true vine..." Identify the gospel implications in the comparison. What does it mean that Jesus is the "true vine?" What does that change for us?

3. What does it mean to "abide" in Jesus; in other words, to "live" or to "remain?" What could this look like practically?
4. What are some "false vines" that we are prone to "abide" in instead of Christ, the "true vine?"
5. Discuss Jesus' words, "Apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5). What are the implications of that statement?
6. What immediate applications can be made in light of this text?

Notes: