



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date: 27th February 2022
Series- I AM Sayings part 7

I am the Vine and the Branches!

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. John 15:1-2

1. Jesus is the vine and remaining in him is the key to fruitfulness.
(John 15:1-8)

- Jesus is the true vine. (Ps. 80:8ff, Jer 2:21, Ezek 17:6-8, Ezek 19:10, Hos 10:1-2, Isaiah 5:1-7)
- God disciplines us for our good. (Pruning)
- The Word of Jesus prunes / cleanses.
- Remaining is a condition of fruitfulness.

2. We remain through obedience, love and prayer. (John 15:9-17)

- Remain in my love.
- Obedience is the Key to remaining.
- Jesus commands his disciples to love as they are loved.
- Not just servants- friends.
- Chosen to bear fruit.
- Love one another.

A. Examining the texts.

- Have you had any experience with gardening and fruit trees? How did it go?
- 1. Read Ps. 80:8ff, Jer 2:21, Ezek 17:6-8, Ezek 19:10, Hos 10:1-2, Isaiah 5:1-7, How do these passages form a background to Jesus' words in John 15:1?
- 2. Read John 15:1-4. What metaphor does Jesus utilize to encourage the disciples here? What is his main command in these verses?
- 3. Read John 15:5-8. What does Jesus say they can do apart from him? How is this relevant to a context of "farewell discourse?"
- 4. Read John 15:9-17. What does Jesus say is the key to remaining in his love? What the central command in this section?
- 5. For what purpose are people are chosen according to Jesus here?

B. Meditation & application

- 6. How is the fact that "Jesus is the true vine," good news for Israel?
- 7. What activities are associated with "remaining in the vine?" Why is it not simply a matter of us "doing things," to remain? How does the metaphor reveal a reciprocal relationship between the vine and its branches?
- 8. Do you see yourself as leading a fruitful Christian life? In light of Jesus teaching here- how could you become more fruitful? What do you think Jesus means by fruit?

A Prayer: Heavenly Father- Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to be the true vine. Give us the grace to remain in the vine and to live fruitful Christian lives. In Jesus Name- Amen.