

Sermon Outline

I AM Series, part 7: I Am the True Vine

John 15:1-11

Robin Boisvert

March 13, 2016

Main Idea: Who is Jesus? In this series we will take seven weeks to look at Jesus' seven metaphorical "I Am" statements recorded in the Gospel of John. Here in week 7, Robin closes out the series teaching that Jesus is the **True Vine** and that **We bear fruit for God's glory by abiding in Christ**.

Sermon Outline:

- I. How the Father as vinedresser treats the branches
 - i. Branches that do not bear fruit
 - ii. Branches that do bear fruit
- II. We bear fruit for God's glory by abiding in Christ
 - i. What does it mean to abide?
 - ii. What does it mean to bear fruit?
 - iii. What does it mean that Jesus is the true vine?

Key Quotes:

"The things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." John 15:11

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2.8-10

"When Jesus is talking about joy, he is talking about a deep abiding sense of fulfillment and contentment, lacking nothing. All is well. Having complete satisfaction with a big smile on your face." -Robin Boisvert

Fellowship Starters:

1. Read John 15:1-11 and open in prayer.
2. Discuss the metaphor of the vine and branches. What is it about this imagery that Jesus is wanting us to comprehend and live by?
3. Discuss what it means to "abide" (also understood as "remain" or "dwell"). How does Jesus' teaching in John 14:15 and 21 help?
4. Discuss what it means to "bear fruit" in our lives?
5. Considering that Jesus teaches that we are to "abide," "bear fruit" and also "suffer" as his disciples, discuss how and why it is often in the difficulties of life that God is most at work in making us into the image of Christ?



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6. In light of the truth of God using the difficulties and realities of this fallen world to mature us, bear fruit in our lives and bring glory to his name, close the meeting praying for one another to abide in Christ wherever he is currently at work in our lives.