

# *Light and Life:* Jesus in the Gospel of John

## Today's message: **Union with Christ**

**Jesus:** The True Vine of God

**John 15:1(ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser."

*Israel as God's Vineyard: Isaiah 5, Psalm 80*

*Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Israel as the focus of God's plan of salvation.*

**The Church** (you and me): Branches of the Vine (root)

**John 15:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> **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.

*Purpose of a vine:*

*Two types of branches:*

*Abiding is our primary means of \_\_\_\_\_ and our only means of \_\_\_\_\_.*

**The Father:** Divine Owner/Caretaker

**John 15:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> 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.

*2 primary tasks of the vinedresser:*

*1) Remove ...*

*2) Prune ...*

**John 15:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> Already **you are clean** because of the word that I have spoken to you.

*"Clean" =*

**Hebrews 12:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later **it yields the peaceful fruit** of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

# Abiding: Principles and Practice

## John 15:4-10 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> **By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.** <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

### Principles:

Abiding means that we are actively cultivating a dynamic relationship with God so that the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' life will be seen in us.

Abiding is the mark of the \_\_\_\_\_ (and each member)

Abiding is both \_\_\_\_\_ work and the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ within us. (v. 5)

Abiding's ultimate goal is \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8)

### Practices:

Abiding means \_\_\_\_\_ (v.4)

Abiding means \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5)

Abiding means giving \_\_\_\_\_ (v.7)

Abiding means \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10)

The benefit of abiding? \_\_\_\_\_!

## John 15:11 (ESV)

<sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that **your joy may be full.**