

John 15:1-17

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.



Discussion questions

‘We should make it our ambition not to be successful but to be fruitful’. Do you agree / disagree? What do you make of the claim that only through Jesus can we live fruitful lives?

I AM The true vine John 15:1-17

- What is a successful life?

A fruitful life is God’s will for us

- the fruitful life ¹

- the wasted life ²

A fruitful life comes through Jesus

- to be fruitful we need to be in him ³

- to be fruitful we need to remain in him

- o remain

- o obey

- o pray

- o joy ⁴

- o pruning ⁵

¹ Isaiah 5; Colossians 1:10,6; Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 3:8

² Galatians 5:19-21

³ 2 Corinthians 12:2; Romans 16:8; Galatians 2:16; Hebrews 11:6

⁴ Numbers 13:23

⁵ Hebrews 12:11