

# The Gospel of John: That You Might Believe

## *“I Am The True Vine”*

(John 15:1-8)

### Introduction:

1. This lesson will bring to a close our series on the book of John and in particular the seven “I Am” statements of Jesus.
2. From this metaphor taken from John 15, there are several lessons we can learn about Jesus as well as our relationship with him.

### I. Misconceptions About This Illustration

- A. Denominationalism is not authorized.
  1. The Vine and the branches are not Christ and denominations.
  2. The Vine and the branches are Christ and his individual disciples.
  3. (John 17:20-21; 1 Corinthians 1:10).
- B. Fruit Bearing Is Not Restricted To Soul Winning.
  1. Disciples are identified as the branches.
  2. But in this illustration, the branches (disciples) bear fruit - not more branches.
  3. Holiness (Rom. 6:20-22); praise (Hebrews 13:15); good works (Col. 1:10); soul winning (Romans 1:13).

### II. Bearing Fruit, Demands Connection To The Vine

- A. (John 15:5).
- B. Connection is necessary, but more is required - “abiding in Christ.”

### III. If We Do Not Bear Fruit, We Will Be Removed And Burned

- A. (John 15:2,6).
- B. There is a possibility of apostasy.
- C. (Galatians 5:4).

### Conclusion:

1. God wants us to bear much fruit (John 15:8).
2. In fact, it is through fruit bearing that we glorify the Father.
3. But now, how do we do this? Note the progression:
  - a. The key to bearing fruit is abiding in Jesus.
  - b. The key to abiding in Jesus is obeying him.
  - c. The key to obeying him is to love him.
  - d. The key to loving him is to know him.
4. To summarize, in order to be a productive Christian, we must first get to know Jesus.
5. And that brings us full circle to the reason John wrote this gospel account (John 20:30-31).

## The Gospel Of John

“These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name”

(John 20:31).

### Responses To

#### The Identity of Jesus

- The Identity of Jesus
- The Woman at the Well
- The Believing Nobleman
- The Jews
- The Five Thousand
- The Adulterous Woman
- The Blind Man
- Lazarus
- Pilate
- Thomas
- Peter

#### The Fourfold Witness

- John The Baptist
- The Works of Jesus
- The Father
- The Scriptures

#### The Claims of Jesus

- I Am The Bread of Life
- I Am The Light of the World
- I Am The Door
- I Am The Good Shepherd
- I Am The Resurrection and Life
- I Am The Way, Truth, & Life
- I Am The True Vine

#### Today’s Lessons:

- A.M. - *Peter*
- P.M. - *I Am The True Vine*