

## Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

## Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

## ABIDING IN CHRIST

John 15:1-17

**Main Thought:** In John 15:1-17, Jesus refers to Himself as the true vine and emphasizes the importance of His followers abiding in Him.

### 1. THE \_\_\_\_\_ METAPHOR (vv 1-8)

- 1) Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ vine.
- 2) The purpose of the branches is to bear \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The branches bear fruit by \_\_\_\_\_ in the vine.
- 4) The Father is the \_\_\_\_\_, who tends the vine.

### 2. FURTHER \_\_\_\_\_ ON ABIDING (vv 9-17)

When we abide in \_\_\_\_\_...

- 1) We abide in His \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) We keep His \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) We have great \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) We \_\_\_\_\_ other believers.
- 5) We are His \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) We pray in His \_\_\_\_\_.

### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS**

1. Read John 15:1-17 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. What does it mean that Jesus is "the true vine"? (Isaiah 5:3-4; Jeremiah 2:21; Psalm 80:7-8, 14-17)

8. What would you say is God's purpose for you based on verses 2, 5-8, 16?

9. What is the fruit Jesus is talking about? What type of fruit is that which "will last"?

10. What does it look like to remain or abide in Jesus?

11. Jesus repeats "remain in me", "love", and "bear fruit". How are these related?

12. What does Jesus mean when he says, "you are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you" (v 3)?

13. God the Father is described as the gardener or vinedresser. What does His work entail? What does that look like in your life?

14. Who are the branches that are cutoff and burned?