

John 15 and 16 Teaching Notes

Chapter 15 Vine and the Branches

- Our Relationship with Christ John 15:1-11
- Our Relationship with Each Other John 15:12-17
- Our Relationship with the World John 15:18 – 16:4
- Old Testament Reference to Vine – Isaiah 5:1-7
- Vine is the nation of Israel
- Vine portrayed as not bearing good fruit

VS 1-11 – Our Relationship with Jesus

I AM the true vine – as opposed to Israel

- Being a member of the nation of Israel does not connect you to God
- You must be connected to God through ME
- Being Jewish does not save you
- Only an intimate relationship with me can save you

God the Father is the vine dresser

- God removes the branches that do not bear fruit
- God prunes the branches that bear fruit so they can be more productive
- Christian fruit is found in Galatians 5:22 – fruit of the Spirit

We are clean through the Word spoken to us – John 13 – washing of the feet

Abide in Me to bear fruit, no branch can bear fruit unless it is connected to the vine

Without Me you can NOTHING

If you are not abiding in Jesus, you are cut off and thrown into the fire and burned

- Vines as wood are useless – not suitable for building – unlawful to burn on altar

If you abide in Me and My words abide in you – ask whatever you wish and it will be given to you

- Prayer in faith (James 1:6)
- Prayer in accordance with God's Word
- Prayer for His will to be done
- Prayer for God's glory, unselfish (James 4:6)

God is Glorified when we bear fruit

Fruit is a sign of being a disciple

Jesus loves us as the Father loves Jesus

Keeping His commandments is evidence of our Love for Him and His love of the Father

In Him we have fullness of joy.

John 15: 12 – 17 Our Relationship with One Another

- Love one another – His commandment
- The greatest love is to lay down your life for another – Gethsemane is looming in a few hours
- The Cross is the greatest display of sacrificial love
- We are friends with Jesus – Abraham was a “friend of God”
- We are no longer servants; we know can know the mind of Jesus because we are friends
- Jesus has told us all that the Father told Him

John 15:18-16:4 – Our Relationship with the World

- The world will hate us – it hated Jesus (John 3:19-21)
- The world loves its own kind, but you are not of the world
- We are chosen out of the world
- We will be persecuted like He was persecuted (Matt 5:10-12)
- Those who accepted Jesus’s sayings (message) will also receive your sayings
- They persecute Me because they do not know Me or the one who sent Me
- By rejecting My words, they remain in their sin
- They also hate Me and My Father
- My works testify as to who I am, but they rejected all of it – they have no excuse
- This fulfills the scripture – “they hated me without a cause” (Psalm 69:4; Ps 35:19)
- I am sending the comforter
- He is the Spirit of Truth
- He will testify of Me
- I tell you all this so you will not stumble
- They will cast you out of the synagogue
- They will seek to kill you and think they are serving God (St. Paul)
- I tell you this so you will not be surprised

John 16:4- The Role and Work of the Holy Spirit

- Sorrow has filled your hearts
- It is to your advantage that I go so that I can send you the helper

NOTE – the Holy Spirit should not be here at all. Jesus should be here. The Father send Jesus, but the world would not have Him. God chose not to leave us as orphans.

- The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and Judgment
- Sin – because they do not believe in Me
- Righteousness – because I go to the Father
- Judgment – because the ruler of this world has been judged

I have must more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now.

- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth
- The Holy Spirit guides us to all Truth
- The Holy Spirit speaks only what He hears
- The Holy Spirit reveals the things to come
- The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus

I a little while you will not see me because I go to the Father
You will weep but the world will rejoice
You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy.
I will see you again and you will have fullness of joy

The Father

- Ask in My name and He will respond
- The Father loves you because you love Me
- I came from the Father to the world; I am leaving the world and going back to the Father

The hour has now come

- You will all be scattered
- You will leave Me alone
- But I will not be alone
- The Father is with me
- I have told you so you will have peace
- In the world you have tribulation
- I have overcome the world