

TITLE AND NUMBER: 182. Remain in me



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): John 15:1-4, 7-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.'

LOOKING FURTHER: John 15:1-8, Galatians 5:22-26, Luke 11: 1-13

What does this Bible passage tell us?

In the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible, the vineyard is often a symbol for the people of God.

This is the last time that Jesus says 'I am' in John's Gospel. This is a declaration of His divinity, that He is the Son of God. Jesus says that He is the true vine and that His Father, God, is the gardener.

Jesus urges us to remain close to Him, to continue in a daily relationship of trust, prayer, obedience and joy.

He warns us that we are not able to produce fruit in our own strength. We need the help of God's grace through the work of the Holy Spirit within us.

Then comes an amazing promise. As we remain in Him and as He feeds us with His words through reading the Bible, we should pray knowing that God will hear and there will be a response. It may be yes, no or not yet.

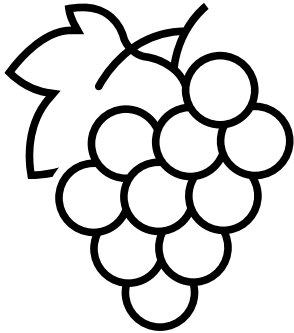
As we grow in our faith, we are encouraged to pray for others as well as ourselves. Situations can be transformed bringing love, peace and joy to the people we pray for. The fruit of the Holy Spirit will be obvious in our lives and will show that we are disciples of Jesus.

To God be the glory.

Reflections:

- Give thanks that Jesus is the Son of God. What does this mean to you?
- Read Galatians 5:22-26 and note down your thoughts on the back of this sheet.
- In prayer, bring your joys and anything you are worried about to God, reassured that Jesus promises that you will be heard (Psalm 16:11).

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

