

Week of November 8th, 2026 - I AM The Vine | Small Group Lesson 7

Connect

Have you ever enjoyed an all-you-can-pick fruit experience, such as picking grapes or strawberries? How did the fruit taste, and what did you enjoy most about it? What do you think helped the vines produce such an abundant harvest?

Verses - John 15:1–8 (CSB)

1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 Every branch in me that does not produce
fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more
fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I in
you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can
you unless you remain in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me
and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. 6 If anyone does not
remain in me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them
into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask
whatever you want and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this: that you produce
much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

Discuss & Apply

1. Jesus uses a metaphor to help his disciples understand what it means to remain in the vine—himself. Why do you think he chose this figure of speech? What can we learn from him about sharing spiritual truths with others?
   Definition: A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between them (https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/metaphor).

2. Identify the four characters, what they represent, and their roles in the story. Why is it important for each character to play its role in relation to the other characters? What might happen if one of them stops fulfilling its role? What will happen if you, as a believer—a branch—do not carry out your role?

3. The sermon mentions these spiritual principles: (1) Your fruitfulness completely depends on your relationship with Jesus; (2) Your fruitfulness requires loving pruning from the Father; and (3) Your fruitfulness brings glory to the Father. Which of these resonates most with you? Is there a particular area of your life you would like to change? If so, feel free to share it with your group and ask them to pray for you and support you as you make this change.

4. What ways can you and your small group use to share with non-believers that Jesus is “the vine”? Exchange outreach ideas within your group, then pray about trying at least one.

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.

Lesson PDF: gotbc.org/sg4526p Lesson verses: gotbc.org/sg4526