

THE I AM STATEMENTS OF JESUS: "I AM THE VINE" John 15:5

Getting Started

1. Describe a personal experience when you needed to completely rely on someone else. How did it play out for you? What thoughts and emotions did you attach to that experience?

2. In what ways do we really have no other choice but to rely entirely on the provision of God through Christ? How is Jesus our only hope?

Digging Deeper

1. Read our main passage in context: John 15:1-17. If you highlight in your Bible, what parts did you highlight or take note of? Share one or two with the group.

2. How do we bear fruit? What will happen if we do not? What does this tell us about the importance of abiding?

3. Read verse 8 again. How does abiding in Christ make us "true disciples?"

4. Considering the notion that continuing in Christ serves as evidence of our salvation, how do we reconcile the biblical requirement of that evidence with the assurance of salvation?

- 5. Below are the five characteristics of a fruitful life in Jesus. Take a few moments to think through each characteristic and share with the group how they relate to your life:
 - Fruitfulness is character
 - Fruitfulness is conduct
 - Fruitfulness is contributions
 - Fruitfulness is communication
 - Fruitfulness is converts

Applying the Message

1. How do you feel you are doing regarding staying connected to Jesus? Do you see a corresponding - and growing - level of "fruitfulness" in your life? What can you do better to "remain" in Him?

2. We are not meant to do life alone. Growth happens best with others. How can you ask for help in this area of your life? In what way will you share your needs with those who know you best?