

The Gospel of John

Chapter 15, Verses 7-11

Review

- **General Introduction**

- *one of the **four gospels**, each of which is a biography of Jesus and an historical narrative of his life*
- one of the **five Johannine books**, all of which are among the last books in the Bible to have been written
- written in Greek, primarily to those who already believed in Christ, including **both Jews and Gentiles**

Review

- **Basic Structure**
 - *Prolog* – First 18 verses of Chapter 1
 - *Jesus Public Ministry* – Until the end of Chapter 12
 - *Private Time With His Disciples* – Chapters 13-17
 - *Trial, Death, and Resurrection* – Chapters 18, 19, 20
 - *Epilog (resurrection appearances in Galilee)* – Chapter 21

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**
 - Prolog: *the Word became flesh* (1:1-18)
 - *Introduced to Israel by John the Baptist*, Jesus performed great signs. His ministry soon surpassed John's. (1:19-3:36)
 - Retreating to Galilee, Jesus *passed through Samaria* where he was recognized as the Savior of the World. (Chapter 4).
 - *In Galilee crowds followed Jesus, but for the wrong reasons,* and they finally could not accept his teaching. All but the 12 disciples turned away from him (Chapter 6).

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**

- *In Judea the Jews persecuted and hated Jesus*, and sought to throw stones at him, because he healed on the Sabbath and called God his father. **(Chapters 5, 7, and 9)**
- *Jesus described himself as the “door of the sheep” and “the good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep.”* He said that the Pharisees did not believe him because they were not his sheep. Once again they picked up stones to throw at him. So Jesus crossed the Jordan to where John had been baptizing at first and many believe in him there. **(Chapter 10)**

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**

- Jesus returned to Judea, *raised Lazarus from the dead*, and many believed. Over the objection of Judas, Mary anointed Jesus with expensive ointment before he *entered Jerusalem on a donkey*. Later his disciples would recognize that these things had been in fulfillment of prophecy. *God spoke from heaven*, yet the Jews questioned how Jesus could be at once the Messiah and the Son of Man who would be lifted up. He urged them to believe in him while they still had the chance. At this point, *Jesus public ministry ended*. (Chapters 11 & 12)

Review

- **Seven Signs in John's Gospel:**
 1. Changing water into wine (2:1-11)
 2. Healing the Capernaum official's son (4:46-54)
 3. Healing the paralytic at Bethesda (5:1-18)
 4. Feeding the 5000 (6:5-14)
 5. Walking on water (6:16-24)
 6. Healing the man blind from birth (9:1-7)
 7. Raising Lazarus from the dead (11:1-45)

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**
 - Meeting privately with them over supper, Jesus surprised his disciples by washing their feet, thus teaching them an important lesson that they would understand later. He told them that one of them would betray him and that he was going someplace where they could not follow. He urged them to love one another. Peter said he would follow Jesus anywhere, even if it cost him his life, but Jesus foretold that Peter would deny him three times. (Chapter 13)

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**

- Seeking to comfort his disciples, Jesus explained that *he was going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house*, that *he himself is the way to the Father and eternal life*, and that *having seen him, they had already seen the Father*. (14:1-10)
- Jesus said that *the work he began while on earth would continue even more powerfully in his disciples* after he had returned to the Father, because *the Holy Spirit would come to live in them, they would keep Jesus' words*, and *whatever they asked in his name would be accomplished*. (14:11-24)
-

Review

- **Flow of the Narrative:**
 - During his earthly ministry, almost none of these things Jesus taught were well understood, not even by his disciples, but Jesus promised that **the Holy Spirit would later help them to remember and understand Jesus' teachings.** (14:25-26)
 - Thus Jesus encouraged them not to fear what was coming. They would have access to the same resources he did while he was on earth, and even greater resources because Jesus goes to the father! **Had they known and loved him, they would have rejoiced that he went to the Father.** (14:27-28)

Review (Last Week's Lesson)

- **Flow of the Narrative:**

- His time on earth nearly finished, Jesus again reminded his disciples that *when he died it would not be because of Satan's power or authority over him*, but rather the opposite. *Jesus would go to his death willingly in order to show the world how much he loves the Father.* (14:29-31)
- *Jesus and his disciples may have moved to a new location at this point in the narrative, or they may have remained in the same room. In either case, their location does not seem to affect our understanding of the lesson that Jesus is teaching.*

Review

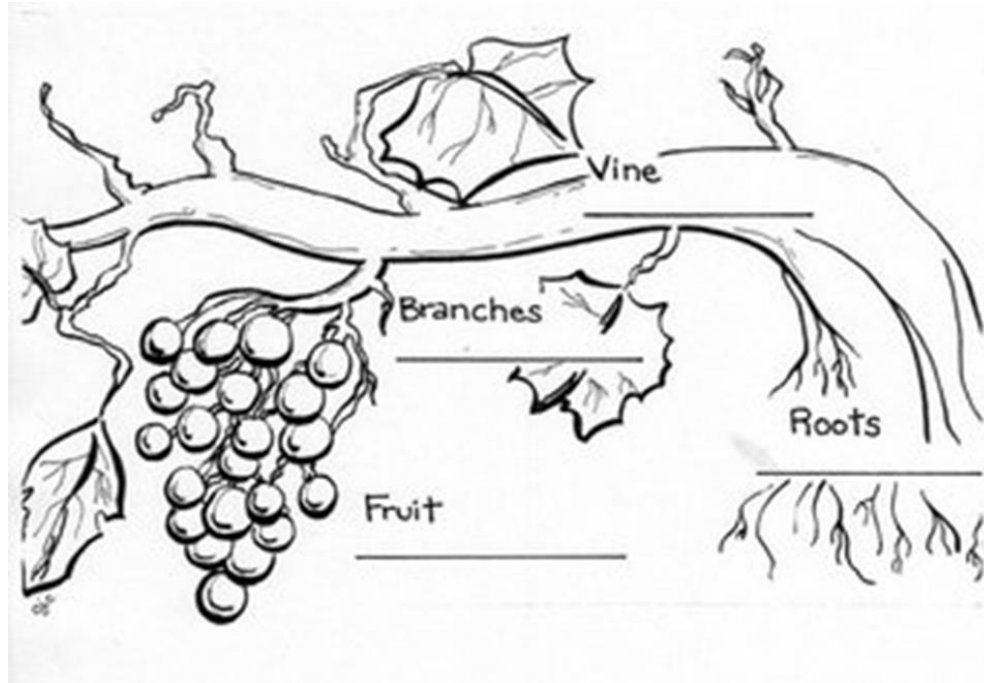
- **Seven “I am” Statements in John’s Gospel:**
 1. The bread of life (6:35)
 2. The light of the world (8:12)
 3. The gate of the sheep (10:9)
 4. The good shepherd (10:11)
 5. The resurrection and the life (11:25-26)
 6. The way, the truth, and the life (14:6)
 7. The true vine (15:1) - *Tonight’s lesson continued from last week.*

Review (Last Week's Lesson)

- The Vine and the Branches: John 15:1-6

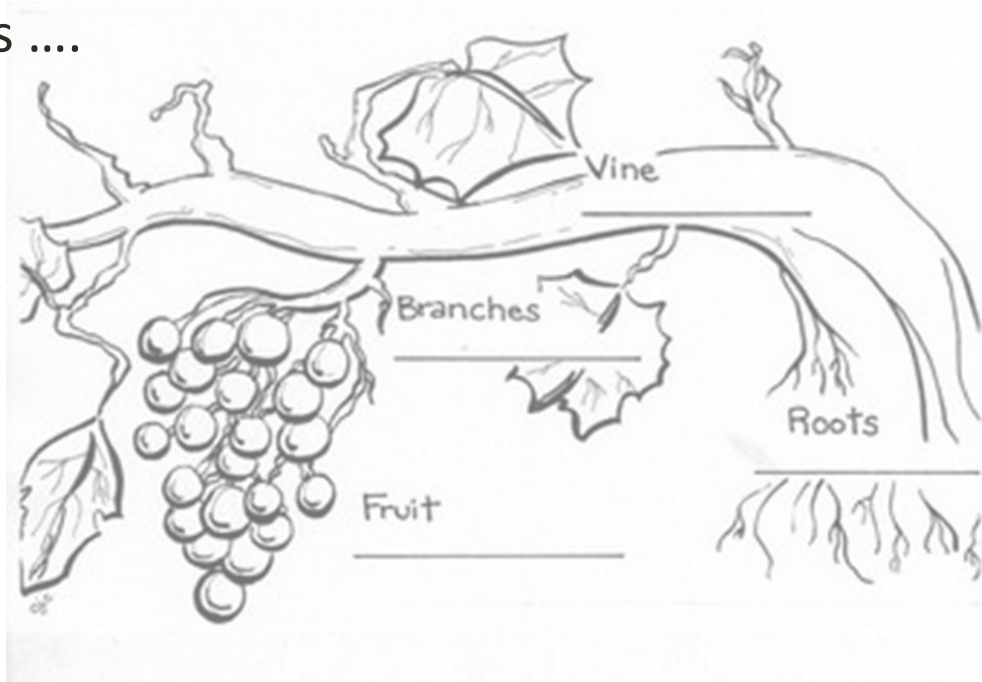
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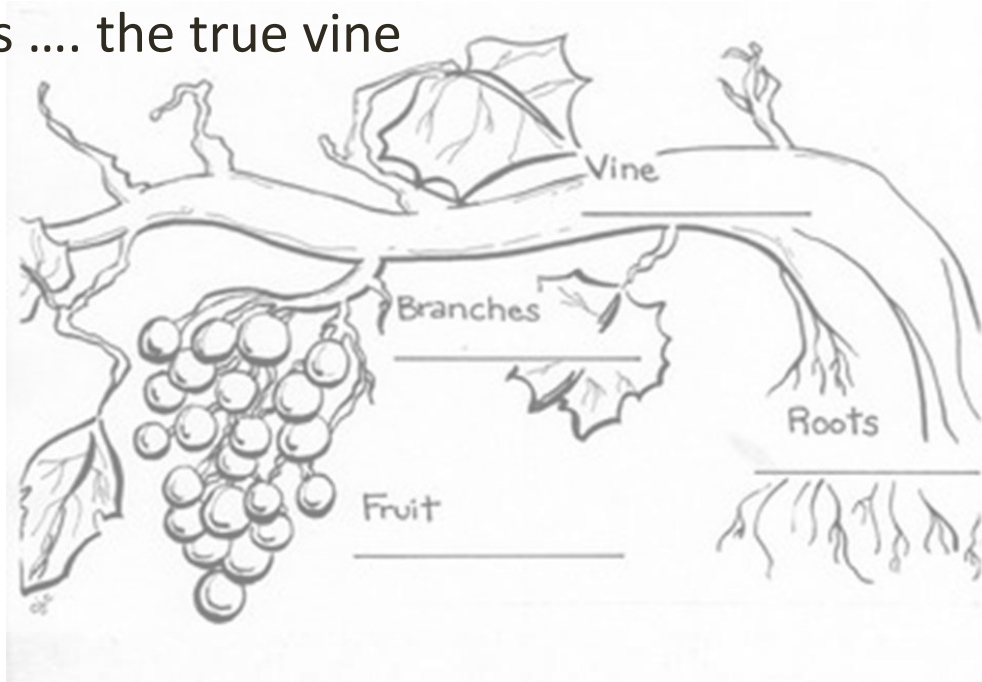
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 - Jesus is



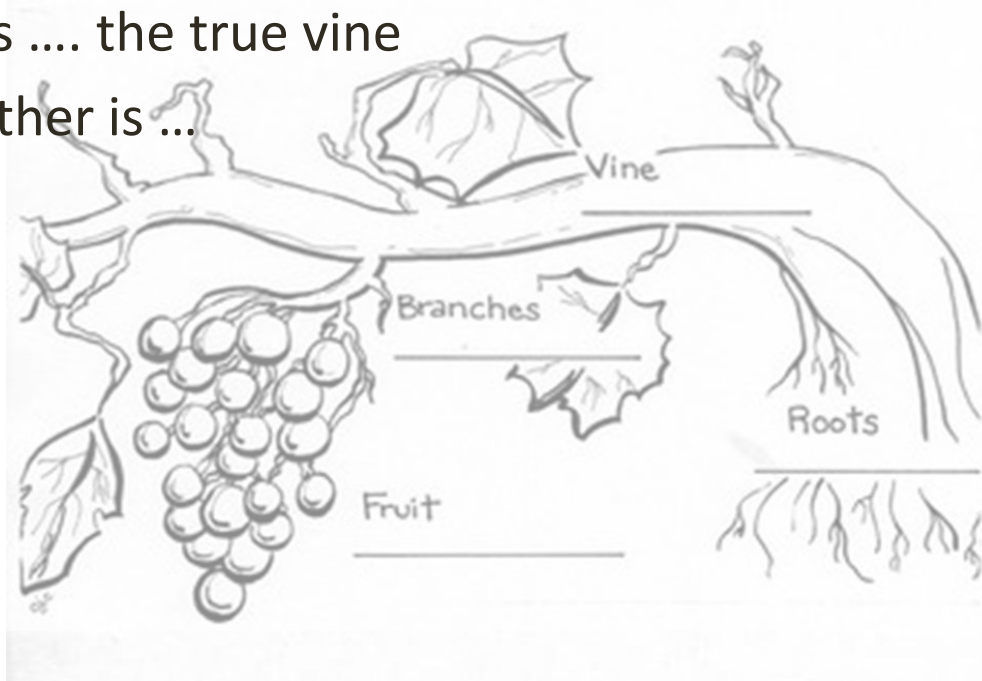
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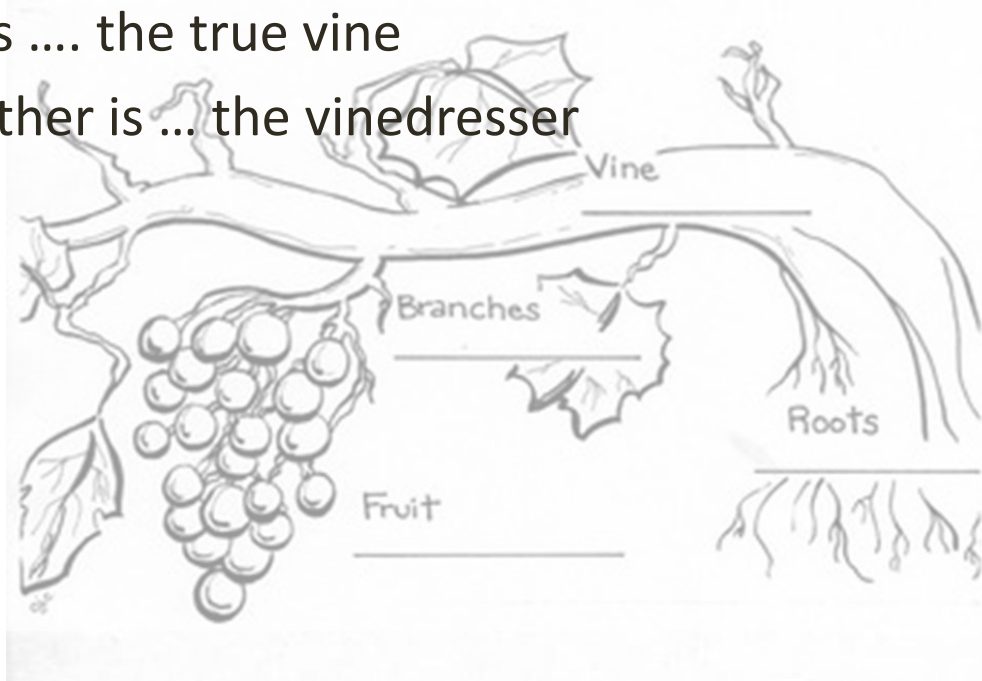
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- The Vine and the Branches: John 15:1-6
 - Jesus is the true vine
 - The Father is ...



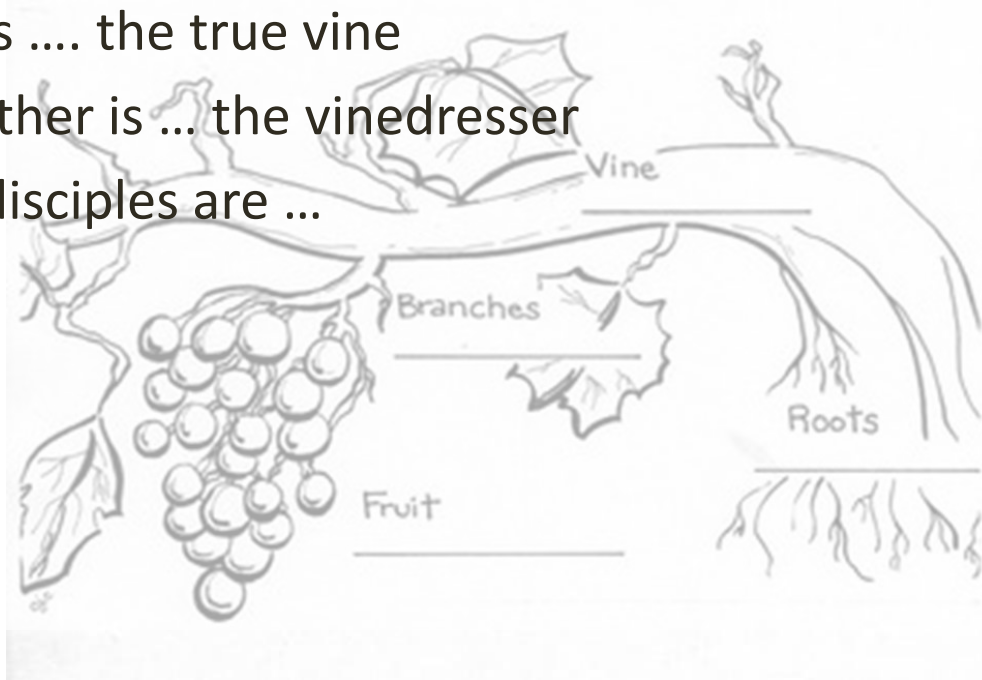
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 - Jesus is the true vine
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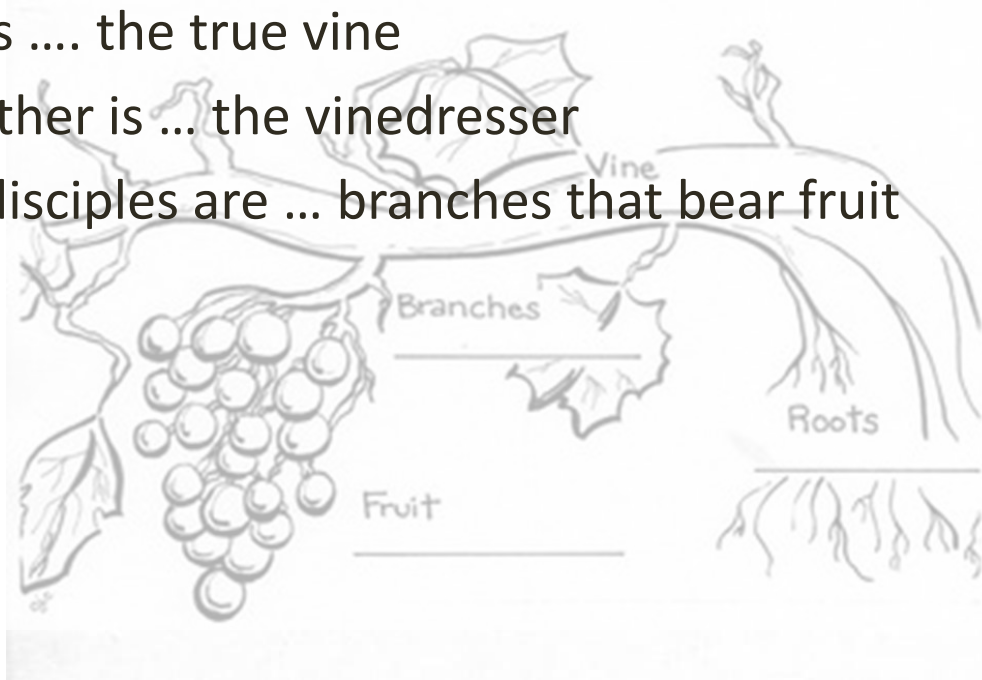
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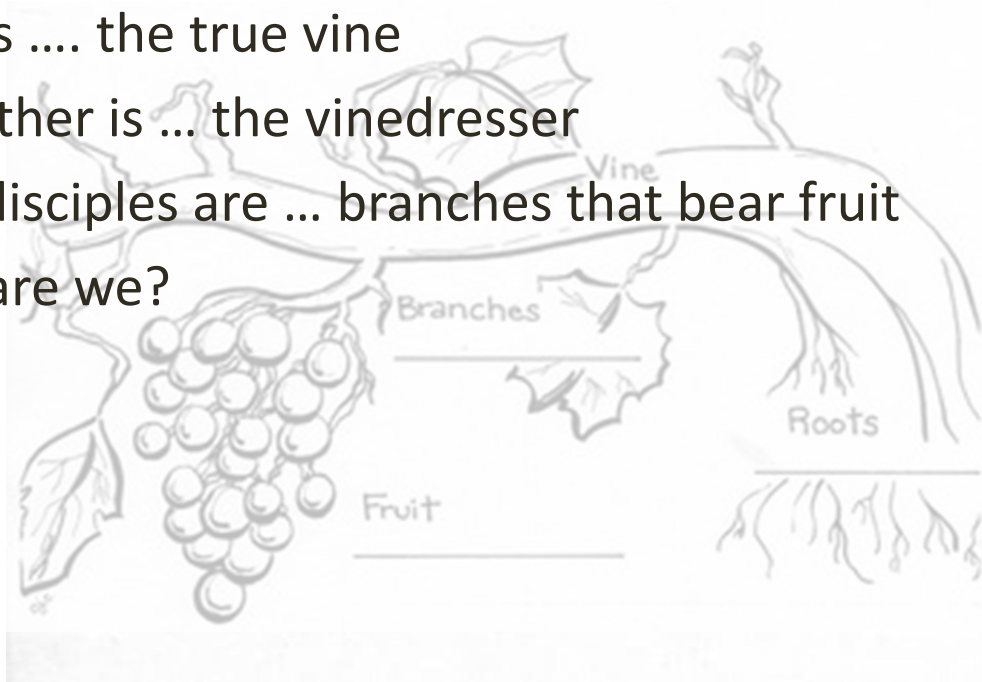
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 - Jesus disciples are ... branches that bear fruit



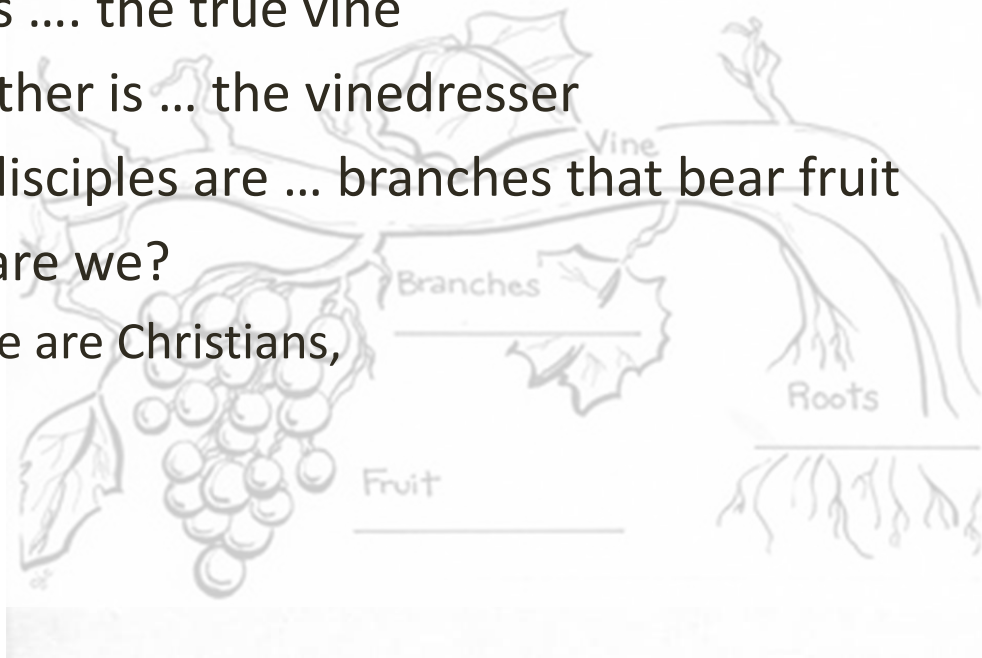
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 - What are we?



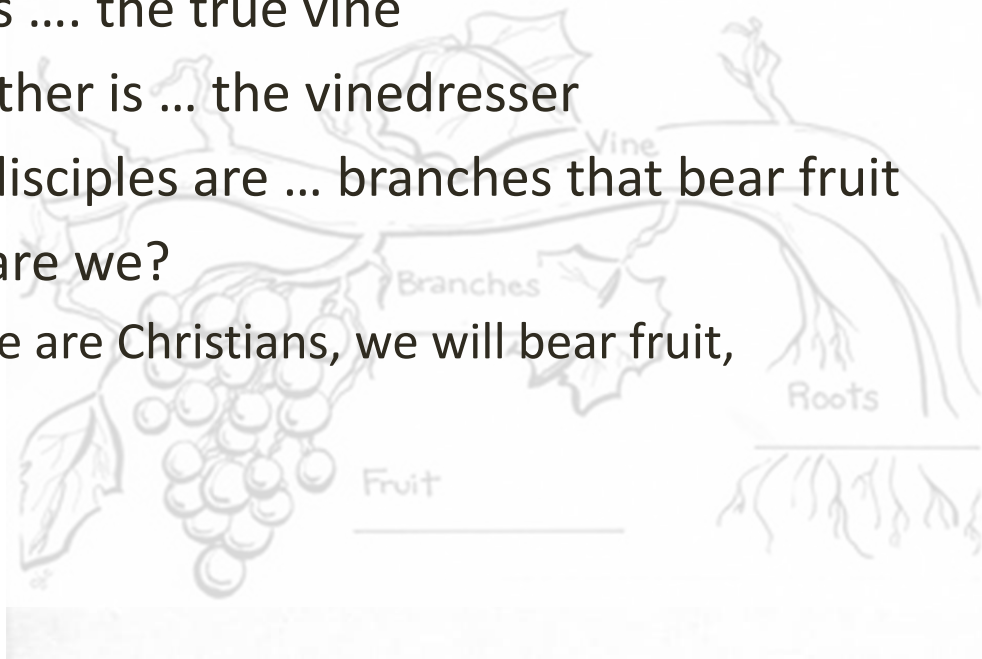
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 - If we are Christians,



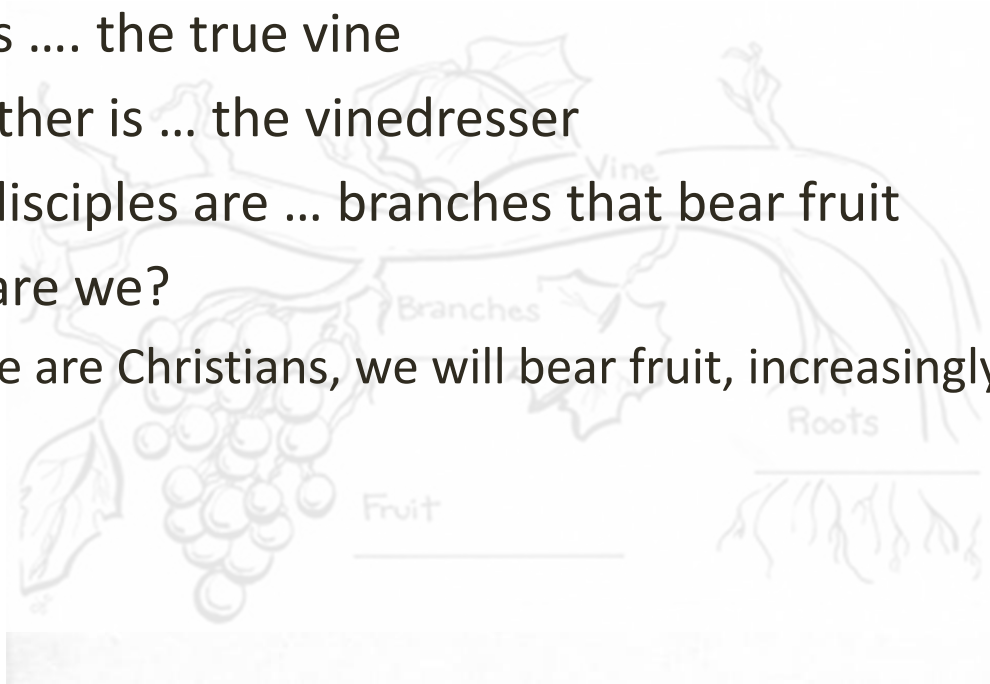
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 - If we are Christians, we will bear fruit,



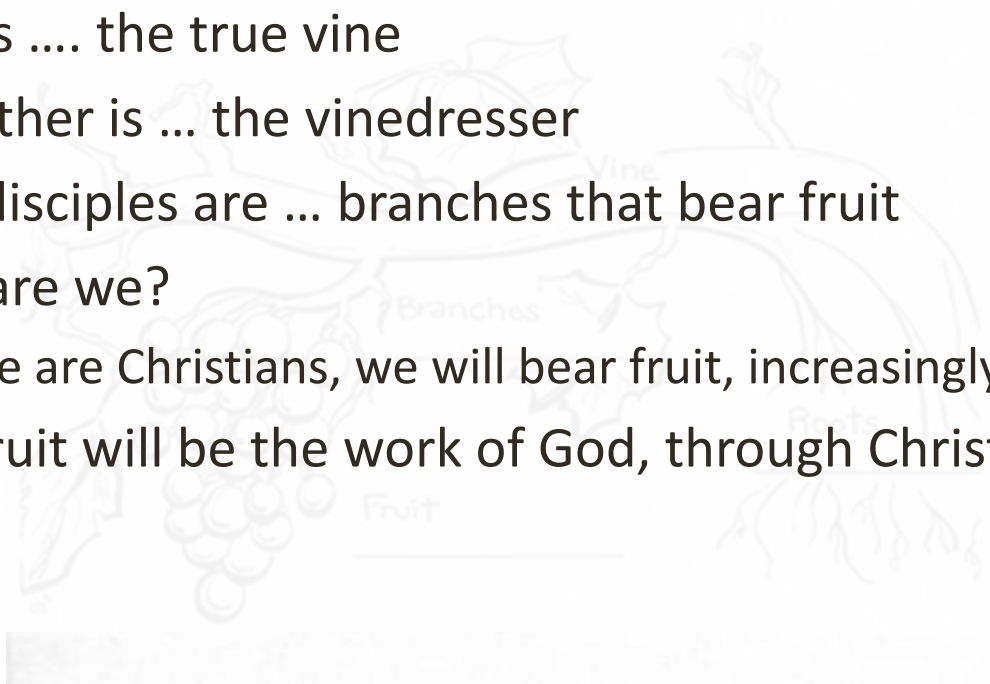
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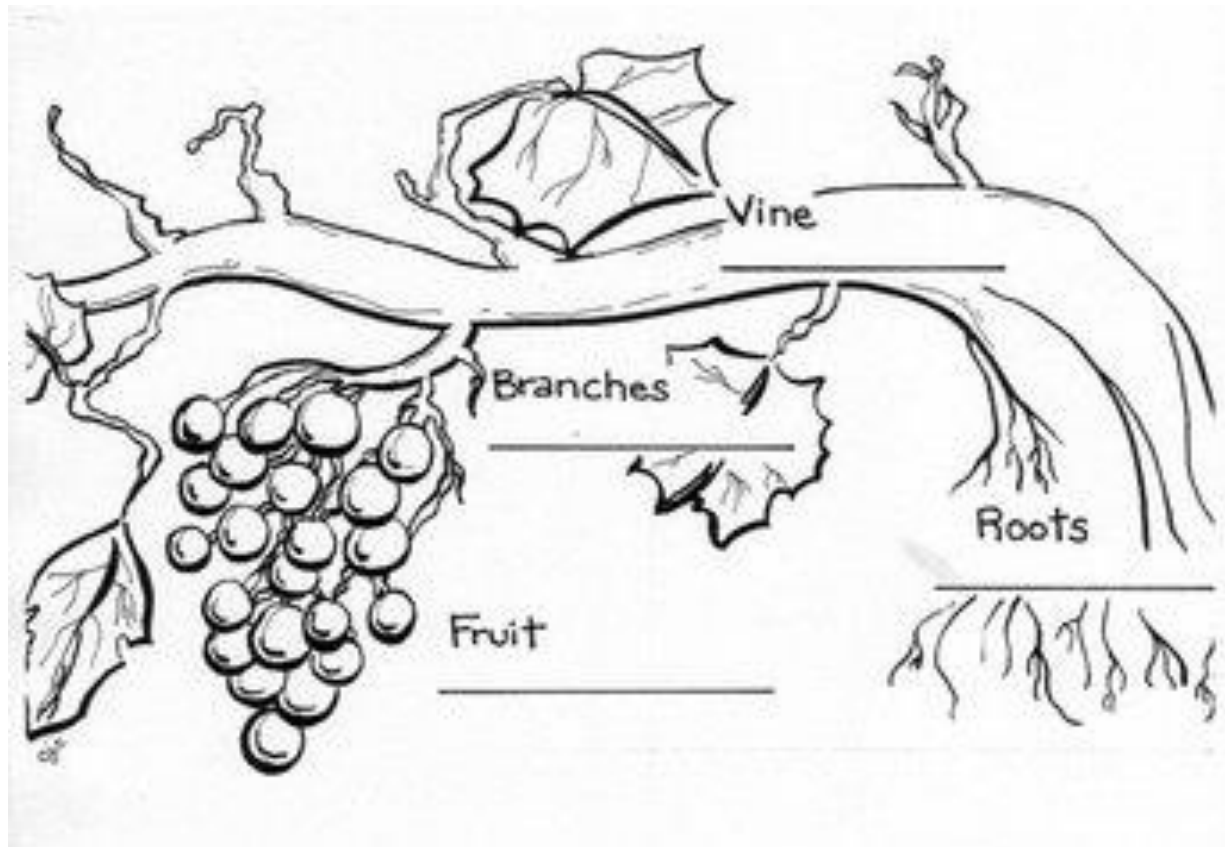
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 - What are we?
 - If we are Christians, we will bear fruit, increasingly
 - Such fruit will be the work of God, through Christ, in us



Review (Last Week's Lesson)

- The Vine and the Branches: John 15:1-6
 - Jesus is the true vine
 - The Father is ... the vinedresser
 - Jesus disciples are ... branches that bear fruit
 - What are we?
 - If we are Christians, we will bear fruit, increasingly
 - Such fruit will be the work of God, through Christ, in us
 - A branch cannot produce fruit by itself



John 15:7-11

15:7あなたがたがわたしにつながっており、わたしの言葉があなたがたにとどまっているならば、なんでも望むものを求めるがよい。そうすれば、与えられるであろう。

15:8あなたがたが実を豊かに結び、そしてわたしの弟子となるならば、それによって、わたしの父は栄光をお受けになるであろう。

15:9父がわたしを愛されたように、わたしもあなたがたを愛したのである。わたしの愛のうちになさい。

John 15:7-11

15:10もしわたしのいましめを守るならば、あなたがたはわたしの愛のうちにおるのである。それはわたしがわたしの父のいましめを守ったので、その愛のうちにおるのと同じである。

15:11わたしがこれらのことを話したのは、わたしの喜びがあなたがたのうちにも宿るため、また、あなたがたの喜びが満ちあふれるためである。

John 15:7-11

⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

John 15:7-11

¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

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If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask *whatever you wish*, and it will be done for you.

- Within the human heart are many desires contrary to the will of God and we can only hope that whenever we wish for such things, God does not grant our wish.

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- Within the human heart are many desires contrary to the will of God and we can only hope that whenever we wish for such things, God does not grant our wish.
- May God give us desires that he finds pleasing! (Ps. 51:10)

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If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

- And our desires will be pleasing to God to the extent that we abide in Christ and his words abide in us!

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If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

- And our desires will be pleasing to God to the extent that we abide in Christ and his words abide in us!
- Then will everything that we ask will be done for us.!

Discussion

- If we truly abide in Christ and his words abide in us, then what will we wish (ask) for?

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- If we truly abide in Christ and his words abide in us, then what will we wish (ask) for?
 - See Matthew 6:5-13
 - That we would love God and man perfectly
 - That we would be like Jesus

John 15:8

あなたがたが実を豊かに結び、そしてわたしの弟子となるならば、それによって、わたしの父は栄光をお受けになるであろう。

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

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- God himself is glorified as Christians become like Christ.

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- As we noted last week (Hebrews 2:10) even Christ was made perfect through obedience and suffering

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- God himself is glorified as Christians become like Christ.
- As we noted last week (Hebrews 2:10) even Christ was made perfect through obedience and suffering, and Christ suffered that we might become perfect with him.

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By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

- So it is seen that Christians also exhibit obedience and suffering, that they may become perfect like Christ.

John 15:9

父がわたしを愛されたように、わたしもあなたがたを愛したのである。わたしの愛のうちにいなさい。

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

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- God's love flows to Man only through Christ, and it is only in Christ that Man can find eternal life and blessedness.

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- God's love flows to Man only through Christ, and it is only in Christ that Man can find eternal life and blessedness.
- It was in obedience to the Father, out of love for us, that Christ went to the cross, as an atonement for our sins.

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- Abiding in the love of Christ requires of us the same sort of obedience that Christ showed to the Father.

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As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **Abide in my love.**

- Abiding in the love of Christ requires of us the same sort of obedience that Christ showed to the Father, and offers the same sort of blessedness (the peace which Christ gives, which passes all understanding)

John 15:10

もしわたしのいましめを守るならば、あなたがたはわたしの愛のうちにおるのである。それはわたしがわたしの父のいましめを守ったので、その愛のうちにおるのと同じである。

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

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- Jesus has, indeed, set them a perfect example.

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- Jesus' steadfast obedience to the commandments of the Father and the Father's abiding love for Jesus are of a piece.

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- Jesus has, indeed, set them a perfect example.
- Jesus' steadfast obedience to the commandments of the Father and the Father's abiding love for Jesus are of a piece.
- We cannot imagine one without the other.

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If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

- Does this mean that Jesus' disciples must lead perfect sinless lives, as Jesus did, in order to abide in Jesus' love?

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- Certainly not! That would be to overturn the gospel.

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- But they will come to desire such perfection.

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- And desiring such perfection, they will pray for it.

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If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

- And desiring such perfection, they will pray for it.
- And praying for it, it shall done for them.

Comment

- To the extent that Jesus' disciples understand and desire to keep his commandments, their prayers for same will be granted by God, and they will become more like Jesus.

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- Just as Jesus own life was difficult, the process whereby his followers become like him, is often quite difficult.
- However it leads to great joy --- perfect and eternal.

John 15:11

わたしがこれらのことを話したのは、わたしの喜びがあなたがたのうちにも宿るため、また、あなたがたの喜びが満ちあふれるためである。

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

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- It is a matter of hours until Jesus will be crucified.

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- It is a matter of hours until Jesus will be crucified.
- He is not looking forward to that experience, of course, but he is nevertheless filled with great joy (c.f. 14:28) and he wishes to share his joy with them.

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These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

- These are, I believe, words of Jesus which the Holy Spirit will later bring to the memory and understanding of the disciples, so that such joy will be theirs as they follow the sometimes difficult path on which Jesus has gone ahead.