



I AM

5/24/20 - I AM - The Vine

John 15:1-11 study notes/questions

Questions of then/there...

When Jesus says that he is the vine, what is he claiming about himself?

Why does the gardener prune the branches? Why would a gardener prune branches that are already bearing fruit?

What does Jesus say it means to "remain in my love"?

What would be the result of remaining in Jesus/his love?

Meditation

Meditate on John 15:5

Questions of here/now...

What warning/caution does Jesus give in this passage?

What is the connection between keeping commandments and abiding in Jesus' love?

What are some ways you are keeping company with Jesus?

What gets in the way of your abiding in the love of Jesus?



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Object Lesson: A Dry Sponge in Water

What you need:

1. Bowl of water
2. Cup
3. Sponge

If you put a sponge in water, you expect it to come out wet, right? When we go through troubles, we oftentimes come out affected. However, when we remain in Jesus, we're able to go through difficulties and come out untouched. We're demonstrating this with a sponge (us), in a cup (Jesus), placed in water (the trials of this world).

Instructions:

1. Place paper towel or sponge in the bottom of your cup so that it stays there while turning the cup upside down. If you don't have a sponge, a paper towel will do.
2. Hold the cup upside down with the paper towel/sponge in the bottom of the cup and submerge it into the bowl of water.
3. Hold it there as long as you wish, then pull it out and see if your paper towel/sponge is dry.



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Community Project

Find a plant this week to add to your sacred space, maybe a small branch from a bush, to remind you to stay connected to Jesus.