



Pastor Kris Beckert
September 10, 2017

Vision of the Vine
John 15:1-8, Gal 5:22-23

Vine Church's Mission:

To **connect** people to **Jesus Christ** so that their **lives** may bear God's eternal **fruit**.

In John 15:5, Jesus says: "I am the **vine**; you are the **branches**..."

The Vine in a 1st Century Context:

- Familiar to --
- Important to --
- Vine in Old Testament:
 - Represented --
 - Undertone --
 - Gardener --

Why is it important to be connected?

1. Being connected produces _____

John 15:1-3 *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 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. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you."*

- Healthy branches are _____
- Unhealthy branches are _____

2. Being connected produces _____

John 15:4 *Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

- **What kind of fruit?**

Galatians 5:22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*

Greek *pherei* –

Greek *menō* –

3. Being disconnected produces _____

John 15:5-8 *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."*

- **How to remain connected:**

1. Assessment: Notice when you're disconnected
2. Church community: Connect with other branches
3. Intentionality: Spend time with the Source of life daily

Point: _____

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Have you ever asked yourself "what is God's vision for my life?"
2. What seasons in your life can you identify as times of pruning? What might God be pruning in your life today?
3. In what false vines have you been attempting to find life?
4. Is there something in your life you are trying to do on your own?
5. What fruit have you (or someone you know who follows Christ) produced by being connected to Jesus?
6. What steps could you take to develop a deeper connection with Christ? What steps could you take to connect deeper in Christian community?
7. Who would Christ want you to make it a point to connect with and invite to the Fall Kickoff service on September 24?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email krisbeckert@thevineva.org or call 215.237.4959 to set up an appointment.