

LG | Leader

[John 15:1-11]

WARM-UP (5 mins)

Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- How was your week? How has your prayer life been in these 28 days of prayer?
- When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Read our primary text. Now read Isaiah 5:1-7. What is Isaiah explaining here?

The vineyard is the people of God (Israel and Judah). God made all the provisions for His people to be a blessing to the world as he had promised in the Abrahamic Covenant (Where in the Bible is this covenant? What does it say? - Gen 12:1-3), but their fruit was wild and sour grapes; disobedience.

2. This passage in Isaiah alludes to accommodations that God made for His people. What were these accommodations? What do these provisions say about God?

- He planted them on a fertile hill
- He planted them with choice vines
- He built a watchtower, hedge, and wall for protection
- He dug it and cleared it of stones
- He hewed out a wine vat

Like a good Father, God very much desires that His people are cared for and protected.

Commentary Reference:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary (Crossway)
- Life Application Bible Commentary for John (Tyndale)

3. John 15:1 is the last of Jesus's seven "I am" statements in the book of John. Can you recall any of the others?

- I am the bread of life
- I am the light of the world
- I am the door of the sheep
- I am the good shepherd
- I am the resurrection and the life
- I am the way, the truth, and the life
- I am the true vine

4. What are some of the implications of verse John 15, verse 1?

- That Jesus is the source of life
- Jesus is the true vine; in contrast to Old Testament Israel who did not enter God's rest
- Like in Isaiah, God is the vinedresser

5. What are the two things the vinedresser does to ensure the best yield of fruit?

- He removes the unfruitful branches
- He prunes all the others to prepare them for greater growth

6. What do you think abiding in Jesus looks like in the life of a believer?

A daily pursuit of Jesus, namely, trust, prayer, obedience, and joy.

7. Obedience does not mean living a miserable life. Jesus describes something quite different in verse 10. What does he say to us there?

"These things I have said to you so that your joy may be full."

8. If you were to summarize this passage into one sentence what would it be?

[Example: If we abide in the love of Jesus, we will glorify God, escape judgement and our joy will be full.]

PRAY (10 mins)

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.

Commentary Reference:

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- Life Application Bible Commentary for John (Tyndale)