



MESSAGE NOTES

I Am the True Vine

John 15:1-17
James Brown

John 15:5 *"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."*

1. Fruitfulness by obedience

John 15:10 *"If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love."*

These commands can all be summed up in one sentence - love God, love other people.

John 14:21 *"Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."*

Our greatest purpose for living and the reason why we were created was to glorify God. Through loving God and serving other people Jesus shows Himself to us and we are then able to reflect this glory in our lives.

2. The joy of obeying Jesus

Our obedience isn't a duty, it's a joy.

John 15:11 *"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."*

As we choose to spend our time and energy on loving God more and more and on loving other people more and more, we become more and more full of this joy of Jesus in our hearts.

3. Distinguished by our fruit

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

This is the character of Jesus. When we obey Jesus, this is the kind of fruit we will bear. This fruit is the evidence of God's eternal life in our hearts.

Matthew 7:16 *"By their fruit you will recognize them."*