Sermon Title: **“Jesus the True Vine”**

3-Fold Purpose: ***Love God, Love Others, Serve the World***

One Mission: ***Make Disciples***

4 Commitments:

***Shaped by the Word***

1. Share something that God taught you this week from your Bible reading, prayer time, or Sunday’s sermon.
2. Read John 15:1-17. As you read, count up the number of times the word, *abide,* is used.
   1. *Abide* is taken from the Greek word, *meno* which can also be translated *remain, stay,* or *wait*. What do you learn about the importance of *meno* from this passage?
   2. As you look at the context for the word, *abide,* in this passage, what is actually (practically) involved in abiding in Christ?
   3. How much of your time (both formally and informally) is spent interacting with God, reading his word, remembering and reflecting on his word, waiting and listening for his voice, etc?

***Surrendered to His Will***

1. Jesus states in vs. 4: “Abide in me and I in you.”
   1. Can you abide in Jesus without fully surrendering to his will? Discuss.
   2. What is required for someone to completely surrender to Jesus’ will?
   3. What are the consequences of disobedience, according to this passage?

***Connected to His Spirit***

1. Abiding in Christ is all about being connected to (or filled with) his Spirit.
   1. Did you spend time today confessing your sins and asking God’s Spirit to fill you? How important is this practice?
   2. Jesus states in vs. 11 that the reason for his commands is so that his “joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” Are you full of joy? If not, what do you think is impeding overflowing joy?
   3. Pause for a time of individual confession and group prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to work unhindered in and among you, and fill you to overflowing?

***Building His Kingdom***

1. Vs. 12 appropriately follows Jesus’ repeated insistence to ‘abide’. How does abiding make Christ-like love possible?
2. As ‘friends’, Jesus bids us to “go and bear fruit” (vv. 14-16). Where and to whom is God asking you to go and bear fruit?
3. Write down one practical act of obedience you will commit to this week in response to what you have learned? Share it with your group. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Weekly Scripture Memory

*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.**I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.* John 15:4-5 (ESV)