True Vine - John 15:5-7

**5 I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are 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 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.**

Working out your salvation with fear and trembling is one of the hardest tasks we are given. Many times we feel as though we fail and that we cannot do anything right. We, as Christians, feel that even though we know it won't happen that Christ will turn His back on us. A leaf can not remove itself from the vine but the vine will shed those leaves which do not produce fruit. Just as a leaf cannot produce fruit apart from the vine. Christians know that without Christ we cannot do any good works or produce fruit. We are aware of the fact that it is the vine that truly nourishes us.

Jesus when He was speaking these words never meant this to the true disciples hearing it, He was referring to the thousands that were following Him because they got something in return. Jesus knew just as we know that no matter how much we try we cannot work for Salvation, we can only work it out through Him. Through that logic God gets all the glory and we receive none, which is the way it should be.

People who try to get close to Jesus but never commit to Him are found out eventually. It may take days, months, years or even decades but eventually they are found out. Jesus stated in Matthew 7:21-23 “21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

Remember this week to be Thankful that we Christians cannot remove ourselves from the true vine and that we have an everlasting Salvation from a loving, merciful Savior. Continue in your Bibles and continue praying to your Father in Heaven.

Classes May Take Their Place