

The Heart of the Matter

13. As a branch on Christ's vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life: Grade A-1? Juicy? Green? Wormy? Why?

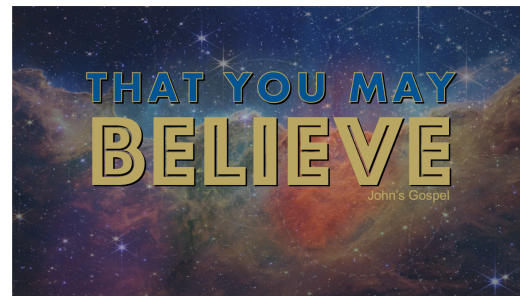
14. Do you believe you are more like Jesus' servant or His friend? What do you need to do to further develop your friendship with Jesus?

15. When have you found that speaking truth and showing love can lead to hostility from others?

16. How do you deal with people who are religious but not godly?

17. What branches need to be pruned in your life? What needs to take place for this to happen?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



Life Group Study Guide

Abiding In Him John 15:1-16:4 For the Week of February 25, 2024

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. What plant best describes you now: Towering oak? Weeping Willow? Tumbleweed? Crab Apple Tree? Explain.
3. Have you ever been to a large group or reunion of someone else's family? How did you feel?

Digging Deeper

4. Verse 1 contains the seventh “I Am” statement from Jesus in the Gospel of John. In His allegory about cultivating grapes, what four elements must we understand?

5. What does Jesus mean when He says that He is the vine? What does the vinedresser do? What is our responsibility as branches?

6. If vine branches were human lives, what pain would be associated with pruning? What tools? What fruit?

7. The key word “abide” is used 11 times in verses 1-11. (Can you find them all?) What does abide mean? How can we tell when we are abiding in Christ?

8. It takes time and patience to produce good fruit. It does not happen overnight. Discuss how we can grow in Christian maturity by developing the character traits in Galatians 5:22-23. What is the process for doing this? (Also see the “put off—put on” Scripture of Ephesians 4:22-24)

9. What does Jesus mean when He says, “We are His friends” in verse 14? What is required to make this happen? What does keeping His commandments show about our spiritual condition?

10. Genesis 18:19 says that Abraham was the friend of God. What a high privilege. How did this relationship take place? What privileges did it bring Abraham? What obligations do we have as friends of God?

11. Why does God choose some to be His friends and not others? To the worldly mind, this does not seem fair. How does Scripture explain this? (See Ephesians 1:4-6; Romans 8:29; 9:20)

12. On the battlefield of life where we will experience the hatred from the lost world, why is it important that we abide in Christ, obey as His friends, love one another and march together in God’s army?