

Questions to Consider—With the Master in the Upper Room—Lesson 12—The Vine and the Branches—(Are You Producing Fruit?)—John 15:1-6

1. (a) Read John 15 making note of the characteristics that should be evident in the life of a believer. (b) How do you see believers manifesting these things?

2. Memorize John 15:5.

3. Read John 15:1-6 in order to answer the following questions. (a) Who is the Vine? (b) What is the purpose of the Vine? (c) What happens to those who abide in the Vine? (d) What happens to those who do not abide in the Vine? (e) What does Jesus mean in verse 2, when He says, “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away?” Prove your answer from the Bible.

4. (a) Read the following passages to understand the connection between the vine and Israel, and also to answer the following questions. Psalm 80:8-16; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 2:21; Ezekiel 15 and Hosea 10:1. (b) What was God’s desire for the nation of Israel? (c) What happened instead? (d) How does this help you understand why Christ refers to Himself as the true vine in John 15? (e) What do you notice that is similar with each passage?

5. (a) According to the following verses, what is the fruit we should be producing as Christians? Proverbs 11:30; 18:21; 31:31; Isaiah 3:10; Jeremiah 17:10; Matthew 3:8; Romans 6:22; Galatians 5:22, 23; Ephesians 5:9, 10; Philippians 4:17; Hebrews 12:11; 13:15; James 3:18. (b) Which of these fruits are you producing? (Personal question.)

6. (a) What is God’s will for the believer according to Matthew 25:14-30, John 15:16 and Ephesians 2:10? (b) Do you think it is possible for a believer not to bear fruit? Why or why not? Prove your answer from the Word of God.

7. What evidence is there in your life that you are abiding in the Vine?

8. Share a time in your life when you knew the Vinedresser (The Father) pruned you. (a) What did you learn? (b) What were the results?

9. (a) What counsel would you give to someone who claims attachment to Christ (the Vine), and yet bears no fruit? (b) Are you willing to share your concern with them? (See Ezekiel 33:8.)

10. What changes need to be made in your life so that you might bear more fruit for our Lord? Please write your need in the form of a prayer request.