

Observations In John 15:1-11

Verse 1:

As Jesus is not literally a 'true vine', Jesus is using a literary device to convey an idea.

In this literary device:

Jesus IS the true vine

Jesus' Father IS the vinedresser

Verse 2:

Father takes away () branches that *do not* bear fruit

Father prunes () branches that *do* bear fruit

Verse 3:

Some group () Jesus is addressing is already pruned () because of the word which he has spoken to them.

Verse 4:

Jesus commands this group to abide () in Jesus and Jesus in them.

Jesus compares the purpose of this abiding to a branch abiding in a vine being the only way for it to bear fruit, and if it does, it will bear fruit. (cf. v. 5)

Verse 5:

Jesus confirms that this group who he is addressing are the branches in this literary device.

Verse 6:

A one which doesn't abide, as a branch, is thrown out (), is withered () (observe passive), and some group gathers () them and throws them () into the fire.

Verse 7:

If Jesus' words abide in the abiding ones of this group who He is addressing, they may ask what they will and it will be done for them.

Verse 8:

When abiding ones bear much fruit, the Father is glorified, abiding ones will be Jesus' disciples.

Verse 9:

Jesus compares the Father's relationship with Him with Jesus' relationship with this group He is addressing:

Father Loves Jesus : Jesus Loves addressed group.

Jesus commands this group to abide in his love.

Verse 10:

Jesus keeps the Father's commandments and abides in His Love : If this group keeps Jesus' commandments they will abide in Jesus' Love.

If this group keeps Jesus' commandments, they will abide in His love

Verse 11:

Jesus has spoken these things to the purpose that His joy will remain in this group, and that their joy may be full.

Vine metaphor v.1-6	Explanation, application v.7-11
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Verses	Metaphor Atom	Reality Atom
1;5	True Vine	Jesus
1	Vinedresser	Father
5	Branch	Individual in Jesus' addressed group (hereafter PERSON)
7;8	Fruit	Jesus' desire realized
7;8;11	Bear fruit	Jesus' words producing good requests to God and God working to fulfill requests; Jesus' joy in person and person's joy made full.
7;8;9;10;12	Branch abide in vine	Jesus' words abide in person. Prove to be disciple. Person abides in Jesus' Love by keeping Jesus' commandments. Commandment = Love one another.
7;8	Abiding branches	Jesus' disciples.
	Non-Abiding branches	Not Jesus' disciples.
2	Fruitless branches vinedresser takes away	
2	Fruitful branches vinedresser prunes	Jesus' word has something to do with this
2	Pruned so that more fruit they will bear	
4;5	Branches that don' abide in vine cannot bear fruit	Person must abide in Jesus or cannot bear fruit
5;7	Branches that abide in vine will bear fruit	Person abiding in Jesus will bear much fruit. Ask what they wish and it will be done. Prove to be Jesus' disciple.
6	Branches that don' abide in the vine are thrown away	
6	Branches that are thown away dry up	
6	Branches that dry up are gathered and thrown into the fire	

In the immediate context, some elements of the metaphor that Jesus presents are **explicitly** defined, others are fairly clear from the metaphor, though not necessarily specific:

- o **Vine** - **Jesus**
- o **Vinedresser** - **Jesus' Father**
- o **Branches** - **People Jesus is addressing who are ' inHim**
- o **' Youall'** - **People Jesus is addressing**
- o **They** - **Ones who gather and burn branches**
- o **Them** - **People 'in' Jesus who do not abide in Him**

This passage is found among Jesus' last address to his disciple. In John 13, Jesus demonstrates an example of a humble servant to His disciples during his last Passover meal. After this, He delivers the troubling news that one of them will betray Him. Jesus summarizes His relationship with the Father

Throughout this entire section of Scripture, Jesus impresses the imperative for His disciples to *love one another*.