

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

Jesus is the vine we are his branches





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Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. What is your favourite fruit? Why?
- 2. Jesus says that we show that we are his followers by producing fruit. What do you think Jesus means by 'fruit'?
- 3. Jesus tells us that if we are to produce fruit, we need to remain with him. Other translations use the word 'stay' or 'abide'. What do these words mean for you?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine
M	Acts 8:26-40	Philip and the eunuch
Т	1 John 4:7-21	God is love
W	Deuteronomy 10:12-19	What the Lord wants
Т	Mark 12:28-34	The first commandment
F	Galatians 3:23-29	Purpose of the law
S	Psalm 22:25-31	A vow of thanksgiving

VERSE OF THE WEEK

I am the vine, and you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me.

JOHN 15:5





CREATIVE RESPONSE

This is a great week to creatively represent what John 15:5 says. Use pipe cleaners, construction paper etc to create a vine, branches, leaves and fruit. Discuss what the 'fruit' is and note times this week when you see it displayed in one another's lives. Pray God will use you as you love each other. Keep the verse close to your heart by learning the actions below.

"I am the vine" - Move arms around in the air.

"you are the branches" - Stand as still as a tree with your hands up.

"If you remain in me and I in him," – Hug your arms around your body.

"You will bear much fruit." – Act like you are picking fruit off of a tree.

"Apart from me you can do nothing." – Hold your arms apart with your palms out.



ACTION RESPONSE

The Easter joy began with women at the empty tomb being sent out with a message that Jesus has been raised (Mark 16:6).

We, like the women, are sent out into the world with the good news of Jesus Christ's victory over sin and death. It was the same for Philip who met the Ethiopian eunuch on a wilderness road (Acts 8:26). As you meet people in your daily activities, find ways through your words and actions to communicate God's love to them.

Whose life can you touch today with the freedom of the gospel that has conquered sin and death? Pray for Christian outreach throughout the world.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Risen Lord Jesus, you give us food for the body and peace for the soul. May faith be our way and love be our goal. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures and our mouths to speak of you. Amen.



BLESSING

May the light of God's face shine on you and be gracious to you and fill your heart with joy.