

The Vine and the Branches

Theme

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches.

Object

A picture of a grapevine and a tree branch that is dead.

Scripture

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5 (NLT)

Have you ever noticed that when Jesus was teaching, he often told stories to help his followers understand what he wanted them to learn? Well, he did, and our Bible lesson today is one of those stories. If Jesus had given his stories a title, he might have called this story "The Vine and the Branches." This story was about grapevines. He chose the grapevine for this story because in the land where Jesus lived, there were many grapevines and he knew that his followers would know a lot about grapevines.

I don't know if you have ever seen a grapevine, but there are two parts to the grapevine. There is the vine—and there are the branches growing out of the vine. The grapes grow on the branches. That is pretty much like any fruit tree that you might have seen. They have a trunk and branches with fruit growing on the branches. The only way that a branch can have fruit on it is for it to remain connected.

I found this branch lying on the ground. Look at it! It has no leaves and no sign of life left in it. If it came from a fruit tree, it will never have any fruit on it. That is what Jesus wanted his followers to understand as he told his story about the grapevine. He wanted them to understand how important it was for them to stay connected to him. He told them, "I am the vine and you are the branches. If you remain in me, you will have much fruit, but apart from me, you can do nothing."

Jesus wants you and me to produce fruit in our life. He wants us to be kind, gentle, generous, and loving. Can we do that on our own? No way. Just as the branches must be connected to the vine before they can produce fruit, you and I must stay connected to Jesus to produce the good fruit that God expects of us. If we keep our life connected to Jesus, we will grow. Our life will produce beautiful leaves and delicious fruit. But if we are separated from Jesus, our leaves will wither and die and we will never put forth any fruit.

Let's pray and ask God to help us to remain faithful in following Jesus and his teaching.

Heavenly Father, we ask you to help us to be faithful followers of Jesus and produce much fruit in our life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Interactive Group Activities
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

Sermon Title: "The True Vine" and "The Vine and the Branches"

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-8

LEAVES AND GRAPES: Give the children a piece of construction paper and let them draw the trunk and bare branches of a tree using a brown marker. They can then dip their hands into green finger paint to create the leaves of the tree. After the hand prints are dry, they can dip the tips of their fingers in blue finger paint to create clusters of grapes. When all is finished, write, JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE AND WE ARE THE BRANCHES at the base of the tree.

A BUNCH OF GRAPES: Print out a coloring page of a bunch of grapes. ([click here](#)) Let the children color the leaf and stem. Give the children pieces of purple crepe paper cut in strips about six inches long. The children will roll the pieces of crepe paper into balls and glue them onto the coloring page where the grapes are. When the glue is dry, turn the sheet to landscape orientation and write "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

TREE BRANCHES: [Click here](#) and print out copies of the leaf template on green construction paper. Let the children work together cutting out leaves and writing their names on each leaf and then gluing them onto a large cut out of a tree.

VINE LINE: Give each child a sheet of white or light-colored construction paper and have them draw a long curvy line around their paper using a brown marker to represent a vine. Next, the children will cut out small pieces of green construction paper in the shape of leaves and glue them at several places along the vine. Near the leaves, the children will use their finger tips dipped into purple finger paint to make clusters of grapes. When their picture is finished, they can write, Jesus said, "I am the true vine." at the bottom.

FLASHLIGHT SINGING: If possible, provide a small flashlight for each child. Turn off the lights in the room and have the children shine their light on the ceiling while singing THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE. After singing the song, let the children draw a candle with a yellow flame and write I AM BEARING FRUIT when I let my LIGHT SHINE! If time allows, the children could cut out the candle and the candle holder and glue them onto another sheet of paper.

APPLE-GRAPE CAR SNACK: Cut apples into slices and put a toothpick through each end of the slice. Put large grapes on the ends of the toothpicks to create the wheels. ([Click Here](#)) A simple fruit dip could be provided to make the cars a tasty treat.

Song: "I Am the Vine"

[Music and Lyrics](#)



[PDF](#)

[Piano Accompaniment MPD](#)

Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

[Music and Lyrics](#)



[PDF](#)

[Piano Accompaniment MP3](#)

Song: "I'd Like to Be Found Faithful"

[Music and Lyrics](#)



[PDF](#)

[Piano Accompaniment MP3](#)

About Carol Williams

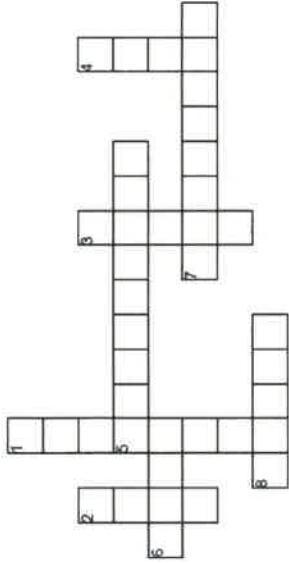
Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles tc (the clown).

Copyright © 2001-2021 Sermons4Kids, Inc.

All Rights Reserved

Sermons4Kids.com

Crossword Puzzle



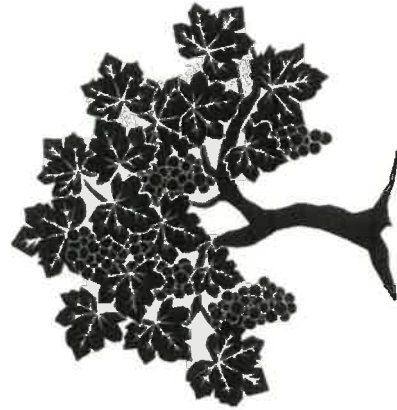
ACROSS

- 5. Those who follow Jesus
- 6. The opposite of false
- 7. Arms that grow out from the trunk of a tree
- 8. The part of a vine or tree which is eaten

DOWN

- 1. A person who works with plants and flowers
- 2. Burning flame
- 3. Praise or honor
- 4. A plant that climbs or creeps along the ground

GARDENER FRUIT FIRE DISCIPLES
 VINE TRUE GLORY BRANCHES



Copyright © Sermons4Kids, Inc.
 May be reproduced for Ministry Use

Children's Worship Bulletin

The Vine and the Branches

John 15:1-8

Word Search Puzzle

R P O W M P N S I O N F J X Z
 S E O G A Z Y M H A P B K G X
 N S M L D R W O E P P V T P W
 X C U A Y R M L X N X S A Y K
 B P P L I A C R T N M F R Z A
 X K R N N A I H W O R D S J
 C S U N L E D A R G J N R K X
 J J N Q B A K E O L G E V Y T
 B E E P W I G J W O U F Y I C
 R B S W N I D Z N R O E U V E
 A U Z N N H T B T Y G R X N J
 N R F D P W H H J Z F N I F H
 C N S I J F M K E G B V Y B G
 H E Q E R H X G A R D E N E R
 U D F V A E W R Z U S S G G E

WORDS
 CLEAN
 FRUIT

GARDENER
 PRUNES
 BRANCH

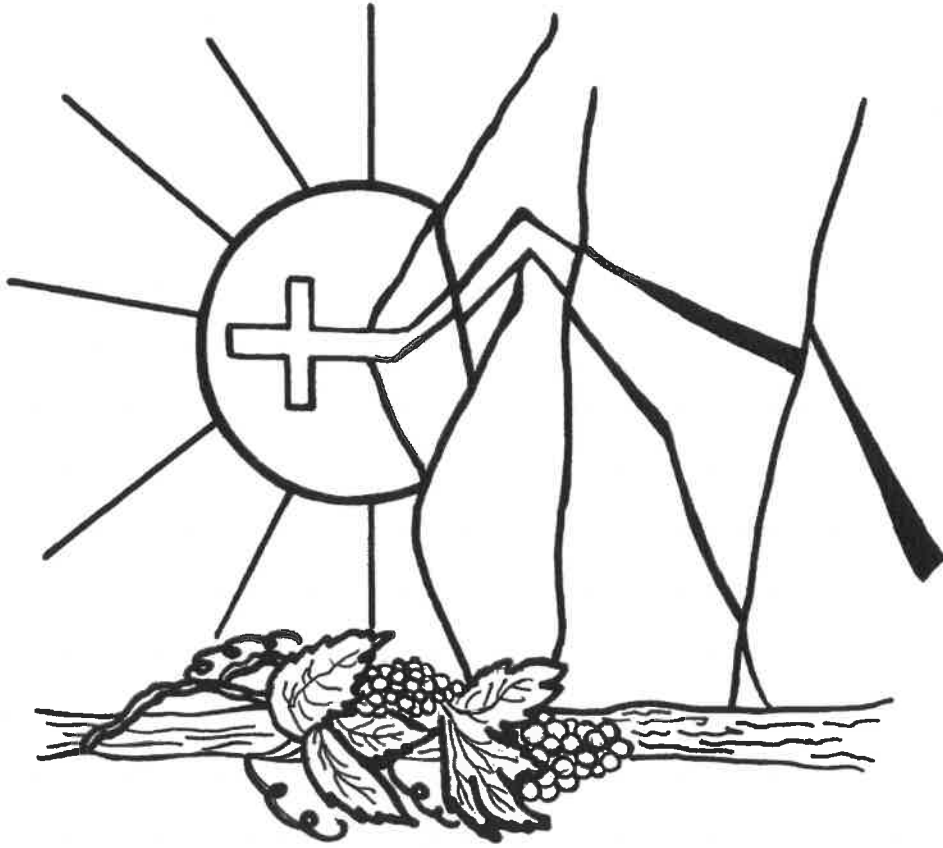
REMAIN
 THROWN
 FIRE

BEAR
 VINE
 WITHERS

GLORY
 TRUE
 BURNED

Your Church Name Here
 Anytown, USA

Color Me!



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
John 15:5 (NIV)

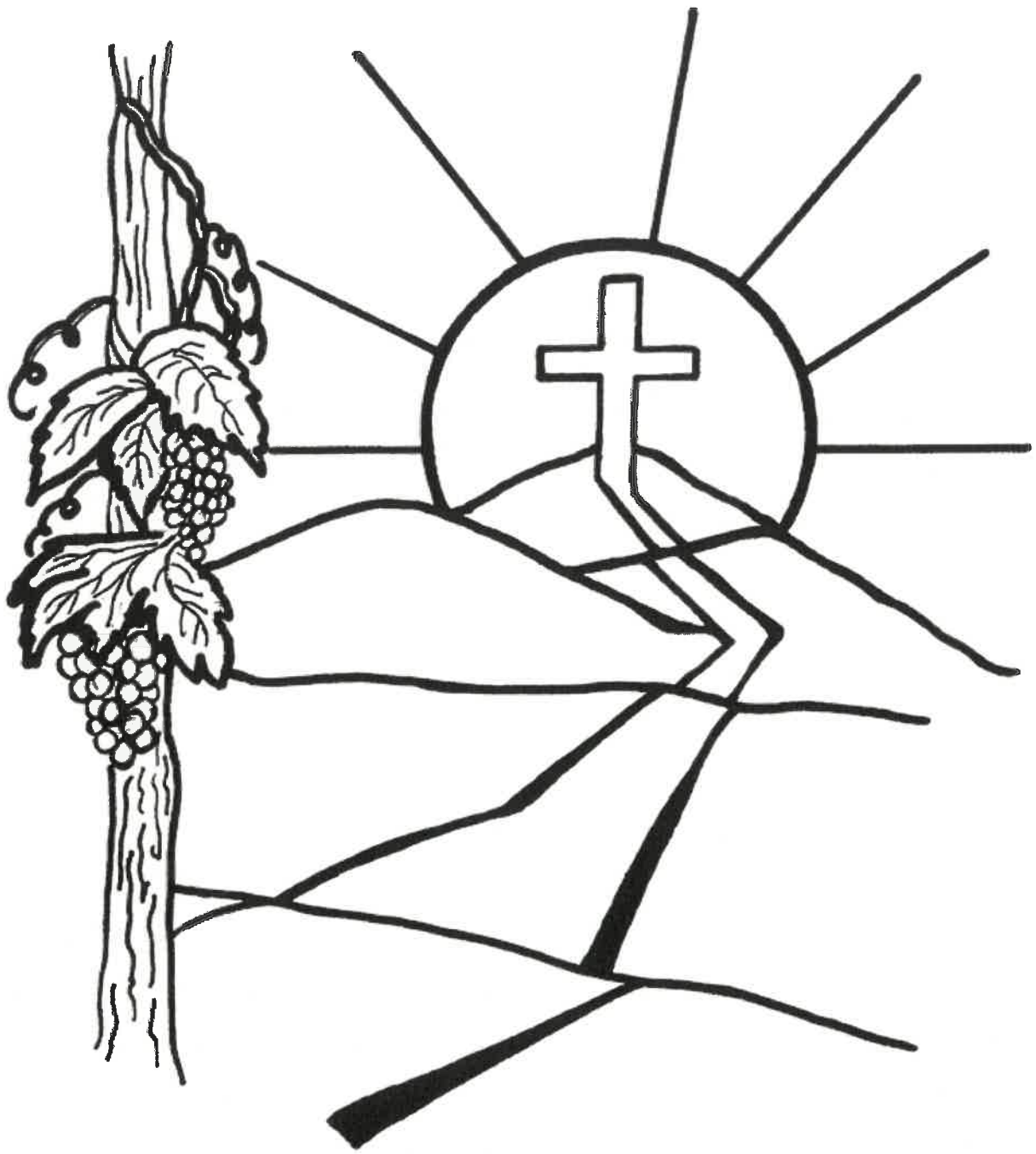
Decoder Puzzle

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 16-18-21-14-5-19 _____
- 22-9-14-5 _____
- 20-18-21-5 _____
- 7-1-18-4-5-14-5-18 _____
- 6-18-21-9-20 _____
- 2-5-1-18 _____
- 18-5-13-1-9-14 _____
- 2-18-1-14-3-8-5-19 _____

PRUNES FRUIT	VINE BEAR	TRUE REMAIN	GARDENER BRANCHES
-----------------	--------------	----------------	----------------------





"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5 (NIV)

Copyright © CalvaryCurriculum.com

Used by permission.

Sermons4Kids.com