International Fellowship of Christians
For Christ and His Kingdom · Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Home Fellowship Outline
WEEK 3 · 2026

2026 THEME
Transformed to Bear Much Fruit

THIS WEEK'S STUDY

Transformed to Bear Much Fruit

Part 2

John 15:1–8

I Introduction

Jesus declares, "I am the True Vine," revealing that He alone is the source of spiritual life and nourishment. Just as certain parasitic vines choke and drain their host, there are false sources, spiritual and worldly, that seek to draw life away from believers. Apart from Christ we can do nothing; the Christian life cannot be lived by human strength alone.

II Connected to the Vine

1 Abiding Means Holding Tightly to Christ

The condition for fruitfulness is abiding. Even this is not achieved by effort but by dependence. A daily prayer for the believer is, "Lord, hold me tight," acknowledging that only His power enables obedience, holiness, and endurance.

2 Israel, the Vine That Fell Short

Israel was once described as God's vine, planted and nurtured to bear fruit for His glory (Psalm 80:8–11). Though Israel prospered, they produced fruit for themselves rather than for God (Hosea 10:1–2). This failure pointed to the need for Christ, the True Vine, who fulfils what Israel could not.

3 Sent Outward into the World

Through Christ's death and resurrection, God's mission shifted from people coming toward a central place to hear God's Word, to believers being sent outward into the world. As a royal priesthood and holy nation, Christians are entrusted with bearing fruit that serves God's purposes everywhere.

4 Fruitfulness and Pruning

Fruitfulness has been God's intention from creation itself (Genesis 1:11–12, 22). Pruning may be painful, but it is necessary. God the Gardener lovingly cuts away sin and self-will so that lasting fruit, especially the fruit of souls, can remain. True fruit flows from a loving relationship with God and overflows into love for others.

CENTRIPETAL TO CENTRIFUGAL

Israel was originally established to be a centripetal force, to which the nations could come to know God. After Jesus' finished work on earth, God established His church as a centrifugal force, one that would take Christ's life and gospel to all people.

Today we shall discuss further how we can connect to Jesus the Vine and bear much fruit.

III Discussion Questions

1. What does Jesus mean when He says He is the True Vine, and what are some "false vines" believers must guard against today?
2. How does the example of Israel as a vine (Hosea 10:1–2) help us understand God's expectations for fruitfulness?
3. In what ways does God's pruning (John 15:1–2; Hebrews 12:6) work in a believer's life, and why is it necessary?
4. Does your life currently show evidence of being connected to Christ and bearing fruit for God's purposes?

MEMORY VERSE

This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.

JOHN 15:8

✷ ACTION POINT

Commit to intentional abiding this week by setting aside a daily quiet time for Bible reading and prayer. Ask God to strengthen your dependence on Him and to prune anything that hinders fruitfulness. Be deliberate about sharing your faith or serving someone as an expression of bearing fruit.

Conclusion

God's desire has always been fruitfulness that brings Him glory. We cannot produce this fruit by our own strength, but only by remaining deeply connected to Christ, the True Vine. As we abide, accept His pruning, and walk in love toward God and others, our lives will bear fruit that lasts and fulfils God's mission in the world.