

# Gathering Time - Grow

Once a week, on a day of your choosing, we're asking you to make a discussion about priorities a priority. Use this as a guide for your time together with your family or friends. Perhaps the words on this paper will only be the beginning of your priority conversation. Blessings on your Gathering Time.

## Read John 15:1-9

What's your favorite kind of fruit to eat? Talk about a time that you ate fruit that didn't taste like you were expecting. Maybe it had gone bad. Or maybe it wasn't ripe yet. Maybe it wasn't connected to the vine long enough and it wasn't ready to be picked.

Jesus called himself the true vine in this passage. If he's the vine and God is the gardener, what does that make us?

We have an opportunity to bear fruit (actions and attitudes that come out of our relationship with Christ) in order to point people to Jesus. To bear this fruit, we have to stay connected to him. We don't want to be like the bad tasting fruit that got disconnected from the vine at the wrong time. By staying connected to Jesus, we will naturally bear all the best fruit. There's no getting around it! If we're really nurturing a daily relationship with Jesus, we will become more and more like him!

Check out verse 9. Remain in my love. Staying connected to Jesus isn't just about doing this big checklist of spiritual things. Sure, those disciplines are important, but he specifically calls us here, in this conversation about growing fruit, to his love. How can you remain in his love this week? What kind of fruit do you think that will produce in you?

