

## ABIDE IN THE WORD

John 15.1-11

### THE TRUE VINE, VINEDRESSER AND BRANCHES

#### **The True Vine.**

- Jesus is the True Vine. (Verse 1)
- Jesus cleans us with His Word. (Verse 3)

#### **The Vinedresser**

- God the Father is the Divine Vinedresser and does two things to ensure maximum fruit production in us; He removes unfruitful branches and prunes all the others.

#### **The Branches**

- This is us.
- In the New American Commentary it says... "A branch is not a self-contained entity, and neither is the Christian disciple."

John 15.1-3 // John 1:1

### ABIDE IN THE WORD

To abide in Christ is to abide in His Word.

God's Word is powerful, living and active, it never fails, is perfect, protects, cleanses, does not return void, is relevant, convicts of sin and roots us in the Gospel.

**"The Holy Scriptures are our letters from home."**

Augustine of Hippo

John 15:4-11 // John 8:31 // 2 Timothy 3:16 // Hebrews 4:12  
Psalm 119:9-11 // James 1:21-23

### PRACTICAL WAYS TO ABIDE

Ask yourself, how can I come to delight in God's Word?

- Fast from anything that gets in the way of spending time in it.
- Pray like David. (Psalm 51)
- Mediate and Memorize it. (Psalm 1)
- Understand the value of it.
- Plan time to spend in it.
- Focus on quality, not quantity.
- Apply it.



## NOTES:

### Upcoming Sermons:

Next week we will be looking at Gospel Community as one of the primary means of grace that God uses to help us grow.

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

#### **1 Peter 2:9**

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering during service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information. Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. Serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! **Fill out a connection card** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

### GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets during service, give online at [lifemissionchurch.com/give](http://lifemissionchurch.com/give) or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

### KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Visit our website to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum. For questions about KOM email **Katie McGinty** at [katie@lifemission.tv](mailto:katie@lifemission.tv)

### JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **9th - 12th graders** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. Our **High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM at Casey & Amy Barnes Home in San Marcos**. For directions and/or questions about our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at [casey@lifemission.tv](mailto:casey@lifemission.tv).



## VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

## MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

## STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

## CONTACT US:

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[www.LifeMissionChurch.com](http://www.LifeMissionChurch.com)  
[Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch](https://www.facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch)  
Twitter: @YourLifeMission  
[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before discussion begins, is there anyone who can recite John 15:4?

Read **John 15:1-11**. What did God show you through this Scripture and through Pastor Eric's sermon? \_\_\_\_\_

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In verse 2, it talks about how every branch that bears fruit is pruned by the Father in order that it might bear more fruit. Can you think of a time when God allowed something to be taken away from you or when He reduced something in your life in order that you could bear more fruit and bring Him more glory in your life? \_\_\_\_\_

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Verse 4 says that a branch cannot bear fruit by itself. Where do you find yourself trying to bear fruit without abiding in the vine? In other words, where do you find yourself trying to do things in your own strength and depending on yourself rather than depending on the true vine? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read verse 11. What is the result of abiding in Christ through His Word?

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Sinclair Ferguson says "In a nutshell, abiding in Christ means allowing His Word to fill our minds, direct our wills, and transform our affections. In other words, our relationship to Christ is intimately connected to what we do with our Bibles!" How have you experienced joy through abiding in Christ through His Word?

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Pray together as a group. Pray that, in everything, we would be seeking to abide in the true vine and bear fruit for His kingdom rather than our own. Pray that He would fill our minds with His truth, direct our plans, and that He would be first in our lives.



**LIFE MISSION**  
C H U R C H

**Pastor Jobey McGinty**  
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**Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,  
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.**



## ABIDE IN THE WORD

John 15.1-11 // January 8, 2017

### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025



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