



## *Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 37*

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 15:1-11

### Summary:

In this text, Jesus introduces one of the most famous images in all of Scripture – the vine and the branches. With this word picture, Jesus reveals the absolute dependence of the disciples on their Lord, and the absolutely inability of the branches to bear fruit on their own. Ultimately, as the disciples abide in Jesus' love, as they walk in obedience, they will be like fruitful branches attached to a life-giving vine. And as they bear fruit for the kingdom, the result is the one thing everyone desires – joy!

### Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose this particular image? What implications would his disciples have drawn from it?
3. What does it mean that the Father "takes away" the branches that don't bear fruit? What does it mean that the Father "prunes" those who do bear fruit?
4. **Application:** Have you been "pruned"? What did that look like? What was the end result of the "pruning process"?

5. What does it mean to “abide” in Christ? How do verses 4 and 5 help your understanding?
  
6. How do you understand verse 6? What’s the warning Jesus is giving there?  
**Application:** What implications does this warning have for your own walk with Christ?
  
7. Notice that the warning (verse 6) also comes with a promise (verse 7). What does Jesus mean when he promises, “Ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you”? How does verse 8 provide context for this promise?
  
8. What’s the relationship between obedience and love (verse 10)? **Application:** How does love for Christ influence your behavior as you walk with him?
  
9. What’s the reason for our obedience? What does Jesus want for us, above all (v. 11)? **Application:** What does “joy” look like for the Christian? Are you truly joyful? Why or why not?
  
10. How would you ‘title’ this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?