

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sermon Notes for February 9th , 2025**

**"Growing in Christ"**

**"Growing into Fruitfulness"**

Sermon Text: **John 15:1-12 (p. 1147)**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 105:1-7 (p. 639)**; New Testament Text: **Colossians 1:9-14 (p. 1251)**.

Read **John 15:1-12 (below)** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

**John 15:1-12:** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

1. Read **John 15:1 (above)**. What does Jesus call Himself in this verse?

Why would this be an especially meaningful name to a Jew?

What is a vinedresser, and who did Jesus say was the vinedresser?

2. Read **John 15:2**. Why would God prune someone from the Body of Christ who claimed to be connected to Jesus but bore no fruit?

How might God prune us to make us more fruitful?

3. Read **John 15:3**. A vinedresser would normally clean the leaves of a grapevine, especially those nearest to the ground. Why wouldn't God have to do that with Jesus's disciples?

4. Read **John 15:4-5**. What does it mean to *abide in Christ*?

Why is it impossible for us to produce fruit apart from Christ? (Explain using the vine and the branches symbolism Jesus used.)

5. Read **John 15:6**. What is Jesus saying will happen to people who don't stay connected to Him?
6. Read **John 15:7-8**. Why is God not afraid to answer the prayers of someone who abides in Christ?

How does our fruit prove we are Christ's disciples?

7. Read **John 15:9-10**. According to v. 9, how has Jesus loved us?

According to v. 10, what is the secret to abiding in Christ's love?

8. Read **John 15:11**. Why has Jesus shared this important information with us?
9. Read **John 15:12**. List some qualities of Jesus's love for us that should show through us when we love others *as He has loved us*?

10. What will you remember most from this lesson?