

BEYOND SUNDAY

Jesus in His Own Words — 3.2.25

I AM the Vine (Read John 15:1-11)

Mark Turney

- 1.** Jesus calls Himself “the true vine” and us “the branches.” How connected to Jesus do you feel right now—thriving, surviving, or somewhere in between? Why?
- 2.** Jesus invites us to “remain in Him.” When do you feel closest to Christ, and what practices help you remain connected to Him?
- 3.** Jesus promises that remaining in Him will lead us to bear fruit. Where have you noticed spiritual fruit (love, joy, peace, etc.) growing in your life recently?
- 4.** Reflecting on the sermon, why do you think many Christians feel pressure to produce spiritual fruit instead of simply staying connected to Jesus? How has this tension affected your faith journey?

- 5.** Jesus says, "apart from me you can do nothing." Share a time when you experienced the truth of this statement in your own life.

- 6.** The passage speaks of pruning as a necessary part of growth. Describe a time when you felt God was pruning you. How did it shape your relationship with Him and others?

- 7.** Jesus emphasizes intimacy and connection over performance. What makes it difficult for you personally to believe you are loved by God apart from your accomplishments or failures?

- 8.** The sermon mentions gathering weekly for worship and daily in prayer as ways to remain connected. How can our small group support each other in prioritizing these two practices?

- 9.** "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:11) What brings you joy in your relationship with Christ right now? What areas feel incomplete or in need of renewal?

- 10.** If abiding in Jesus isn't about striving harder, but staying closer, what's one simple step you can take this week to deepen your connection with Christ and with each other?