



Community Group Discussion Guide

December 22, 2013

Week 5 - Who's Going to Give Me Strength?

John 15:1-8

Read John 15:1-8 before answering the following questions.

Introduction

In this five week series we're looking at five "I AM" statements made by Jesus. In each one of these statements Jesus tells us something about himself and doing this, he answers five of the biggest questions we have in life.

Questions for Study

1. Where do people often get their strength from?
2. Describe a recent time or a season in your life when you felt "spent"...you found yourself needing extra strength.
3. Read vs. 1-2. Jesus tells us He is the vine, God is the gardener, and we are the branches. What do you believe Jesus is telling us with this illustration? Why did Jesus refer to Himself as the "true" vine?
4. Jesus says there are two types of branches. What are they? What happens to each?
5. What is the significance of Jesus' referring to His followers as branches?
6. Who is responsible for the pruning of the vine? In what ways have you experienced God's pruning? How did it make you feel?
7. Read vs. 4-8. Jesus does not command His followers to bear fruit. What does He command us to do? What does it mean to "remain" in Jesus? What is the result of remaining in Jesus?
8. Jesus says we will produce much fruit if we remain in Him. What are some of the possible "fruit" we will produce?
9. How well are you "connected" to Jesus these days? Do you need to make any course corrections? If you did, what would be the outcome to your life and lives of others?
10. What is your #1 take-away from this week's text?