

Going Deeper

The Old Testament uses the image of Israel as God's vine in a number of different places. In Psalm 80, the image is used as a way of summarising Israel's history, but also looking forward with hope to a more fruitful future.

Read Psalm 80

4. How is Israel's restoration and their relationship with God connected?

5. Why did the 'vine' of Israel flourish? How do verses 8-11 reflect Israel's history?

6. Who is responsible for Israel's sadness? How does the description of the broken vineyard encourage God to act?

7. Who does the 'son' refer to in verse 15?

8. How does Jesus fulfil the picture of the man mentioned in verse 17?

9. What does the Psalmist hope for?

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...



**Week Beginning
Sunday 5th May 2019**

Growth Team News

Growth Teams are back this week. A great opportunity to meet together with other Christians, to be rooted in God's word by discussing more fully the Bible passage we are studying and to practice Christian love for one another through deeper relationships and prayer.

**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever**



Remain in Love

John 15:1-17 (page 1083)

Space to take notes on the talk

Christianity: A choice to be _____

- _____ **from Christ = _____**
- _____ **in Christ = _____**

What does it mean to be _____ in Christ?

1. Pruned by _____ - vs. 2,3,7

2. Power through _____ - vs. 7,16

3. _____ to love – vs. 9-11, 14-15

4. _____ to love – vs. 12-13, 17

Getting to know you question:

- ❖ What is your favourite fruit or vegetable?

Responding to the talk

1. Reflecting on the points of the talk, what do you need to change to become more rooted in Christ?
2. Read John 15:1-8
 - a. What is the main aim of a vigneron (someone who grows grapes)?
 - b. What is God's aim for Christians? (cf. vs. 16)
 - c. What do you think 'fruit refers to'? (cf. vs. 16-17; vs. 27; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 2:10)
 - d. Can you be a Christian and not bear fruit?
 - e. What is essential if we are to bear fruit?
 - f. How do Jesus's words and the Bible help us bear fruit?
 - g. What kind of prayer is Jesus encouraging? (cf. vs. 16)
3. Read John 15:9-17
 - a. This section reiterates some of the ideas of the previous section: 'remain in', 'bear fruit'. What is the main new idea?
 - b. What examples of God's love do these verses refer to or hint at?
 - c. What will lead to our joy and God's joy?
 - d. Why are we called 'friends' and not 'servants'?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

10. In what way is God calling you to be more fruitful?
11. What difference does it make to our Bible study if we are expecting to be 'pruned' by God's word?
12. How might we pray differently in the light of what this passage has taught us?