

Going deeper

This is a very famous passage from John's gospel. It comes in the context of Jesus giving some final instructions to his disciples on the night before he is arrested and crucified.

Read John 15:1-8

5. Who is the true Vine? What does it mean to 'remain in the vine'? (cf. vs. 7)
6. What does it mean to 'bear fruit'? (cf. Isaiah 5:7) Where can we do this? Why is it important to bear much fruit?
7. What happens to the branches that are 'not bearing fruit'? What does it mean about your relationship to Jesus if you are not bearing fruit? (cf. vs. 5, Gal. 5:19-21)
8. What is the secret to bearing much fruit? How does meeting with other Christians on a Sunday and in Growth Teams help?
9. Our vision statement at St. Luke's is: *"Growing in Christ to glorify God and enjoy him forever."* How well does this vision statement summarise this passage and the passage in 1 Peter 2?

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



**Week Beginning
Sunday 26th November 2017**

Growth Team News

This week is the last in our series on the Reformation. We will be looking at the theme 'To the Glory of God alone.' There is one more week of Growth Teams after this, before we break for Christmas.



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

To the Glory of God Alone

1 Peter 2:4-12 (page 1218)

Space to take notes on the talk

What is the Christian _____?

❖ Glorifying God in All _____

❖ Glorifying God through All _____

Starter question

❖ Which job that you have done did you most enjoy?

Responding to the talk

1. A Christian friend missed church on Sunday. What from this week's talk do you think they really needed to hear?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:4-8
 - a. Peter uses the image of a temple to describe God's people. Who is the 'living stone' and why is he described in this way? (cf. 1:3)
 - b. How are Christians described and what is their role?
 - c. How do believers and non-believers relate differently to the 'living stone'?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10
 - a. Read Exodus 19:3-6. What parallels are there between Christians and Jacob's descendants after the Exodus?
 - b. What do these verses say God has done for us?
 - c. How does this description of what you are as a Christian make you feel?
4. Read 1 Peter 2:11-12
 - a. What as Christians are we to abstain from and why?
 - b. Why are we to live good lives?
 - c. How do these instructions relate to the description of Christians in verses 5 and 9?

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

Applying it to our lives

10. A Christian friend is finding their job uninspiring and unfulfilling. What might you say to them about how to view their job in order to encourage them?
11. Another Christian friend has a job that is so busy it means they can't do as much in church as they would like. They feel they are not serving God. What might you say to them?