

I Am The True Vine from **John 15:1-17** | March 22, 2026 | Luke Dahlenburg

Discuss: Does God want Christians to be faithful or fruitful?

a. OT Background: God's People = Vine

- i. Psalm 80 – planted vine from Egypt
- ii. Isaiah 5; Ezekiel 19 – failed fruit

b. Jesus Confronts Unfruitfulness

- i. Mark 11:12-14 – cursed fig tree
- ii. Mark 12:1-12 – evil tenants
- iii. Point: God's people are not the fruitful vine

c. Jesus the True Vine (15:1)

- i. Jesus = true vine / true humanity
- ii. Hebrews 12:10 – pruning for holiness
- iii. Union with Christ = He in us, we in him. John 15:9 – abide in his love

d. Remain in the Vine (15:1-8)

- i. Apart from Jesus = nothing
- ii. Pruning = necessary, purposeful
- iii. Fruit = Character (Galatians 5) and Conversions (mission)

e. Remain in His Love (15:9-17)

- i. Commands = path to life, joy, love
- ii. Fruit = the Master's business

f. Faithful AND Fruitful

- i. Not either/or
 - (1) Faithfulness (abiding) = Fruitfulness
 - (2) Fruitfulness requires abiding
- ii. 15:5 – apart from me you can do nothing

g. Embrace the Life of a Branch

Abide → be pruned → bear fruit

Ask:

- i. Are your habits vine-connected?
- ii. How might the master gardener be making you more like Jesus at this time?

MY ONE THING

What's one thing that struck, challenged, or encouraged you today? Write it down and share with someone.