



GOD'S BLUEPRINT

IN THE BEGINNING

In The Beginning

John 15:1-11

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

The Vine

Jesus is the true vine: the true source and sustainer of life.

The Vinedresser

God our Father owns the vineyard and tends it so it can bear fruit.

The Branches

Being a branch to the true Vine means living with Christ, breathing with Christ, doing day-to-day life with Christ.

The Fruit

Good fruit cannot be faked.

Fruit:

Personal transformation and renewal: repentance, conviction, sanctification etc.

Much Fruit:

Personal transformation that affects other people: fruit of the Holy Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” - Galatians 5:22-23

Fruit that Will Last:

Missional: it's not just for the here and now, but it is eternal fruit as we respond to the mandate to disciple others. Fruit that will outlive you for multiple generations to come.

“God made human beings, as he made his other creatures, to be happy. They are capable of happiness, they are in their right element when they are happy; and now that Jesus Christ has come to restore the ruins of the Fall, he has to bring back to us the old joy,—only it shall be even sweeter and deeper than it could have been if we had never lost it.”

- Charles Spurgeon