

Sermon Notes

The True Vine Part 2

March 9th – March 10th, 2024

- **The True Vine**
 - Vision Series. Why do a vision series??
 - Reach Up, Rise Up, Reach Out.
 - **Recap: John 15:1-8**
- **Part 2: Branches Connected to the True Vine Growing Stronger (Rise Up)**
 - I enjoy the process of improvement. The Lord expects us to get better. This is where the difference is made in our lives.
 - 3 main points today: Pruning, Unity, and becoming a friend of Jesus.
- **Pruning. John 15:2-3**
 - So, the best-case scenario is pruning!! Embrace that!!
 - Interesting thing, “prunes” from v2 and “clean” from v3 are same root word.
 - Kind of softens it a bit.
 - But then there are things like **Matthew 5:27-30**.
 - The Point? For you to reach your full potential in Christ there are some things you will need to leave behind!
 - Examples? I think you know...harmful/unhealthy things, distractions, etc. **Eph 4:22-24**
 - Maybe, like the early disciples, you need to leave your selfish ambitions and grudges behind.
- **Unity/Love one another. John 15:9-17**
 - Rise Up in love for one another.
 - The disciples needed some work. **Mark 9:33-34, Luke 22:24, Matt 20:20-28**.
 - There were problems and infighting...even on the day of the last supper!!
 - Jesus redefines greatness in **Matthew 20:26-28**
 - Waiter/attendant v26, servant/slave v27.
 - Do you want to be great in the Kingdom of God?? Servant leadership is the key.
 - Same word in Matthew 20:27 and **John 15:15**
- **From servant to friend of Jesus.**
 - Going from the fear of the Lord (which is legit) to the joy of the Lord (which is also legit)...
 - **John 15:3**, Jesus is your friend.
 - **John 15:4**, are you his friend??
 - Jesus doesn't have any insubordinate and rebellious friends. Those are servants/slaves.
 - Contrast a slave's obedience with friends on the same mission.
 - 2nd grader and the principle, employee who hates their job and boss, vs.
 - On the same football team, employee who believes in the mission of the company.
 - Let's grow past childish “fire insurance” Christianity to being a friend of Jesus and get on mission.
 - Next week: Reach Out. Branches Connected to the True Vine Bearing Fruit!!
 - Pastor Daniel and Pastor Mike switch locations.
- *******START MUSIC*******
- **Rise Up. You are a branch in the True Vine that is growing stronger.**
 - Your Father in Heaven doesn't want slaves. He wants you to Rise Up into being His friend.
 - You may need to leave some things behind.
 - You may need to leave selfish ambition and grudges behind to stand unified with “The Church.”
 - You may need to leave forced obedience behind and catch the vision for the mission.
- **Send off:** prayer@goodhope.ag Thank you so much for tuning in today! Have a blessed day!