

Sermon Notes

The True Vine Part 3

March 16th – March 17th, 2024

- **The True Vine**
 - Vision Series. Reach Up, Rise Up, Reach Out.
 - **Recap: John 15:1-8**
 - Reach Up: Get connected and remain in the true vine!
 - **Recap: John 15:9-17**
 - Rise Up: From servant to friend of Jesus! (Pruned/Cleansed and loving as He has loved us.)
- **Part 3: Branches Connected to the True Vine Bearing Fruit (Reach Out)**
 - 1) God expects productivity. **John 15:2**
 - Not just here. Parable of sower, talents, minas, etc.
 - Let's look at the end of the Parable of the Talents. **Matthew 25:24-30**
 - This servant was unproductive. He didn't steal anything. He just didn't produce.
 - This servant also thought he was on his own! (v24, 26) See Point 2.
 - The expectation actually wasn't that high!! (v27)
 - Look at **Romans 10:5-10** (from **Deuteronomy 30:11-14**)
 - Put your money on deposit. Believe. Grow. Bear some fruit.
 - 2) God is there to help!!!! (Maybe: if we are on board with God's plan, He is there with us!)
 - How I used to pray, "Lord what do you want me to do today?"
 - Now, "Lord, what do you want to do and what is my role?"
 - Look at **John 15:7, 15:16**.
 - What does this mean? Not that we can get God to do what we want.
 - Rather, that if we are doing what God wants, He is there with us!!!
 - It's like a friend saying, "Whatever you need man, just let me know."
 - Contrast that with **James 4:1-3**.
 - Selfish angry consumer Christians not getting what they want. YUCK!!!
 - Rather, when we are about our Father's business, He will be there for us!!
 - 3) This is where the fun is!!
 - Why did Jesus show up here in the first place? Lots of answers, but **Luke 4:16-21** today.
 - Phone conversation with Joel. New Vision. Salvation, deliverance, freedom!!!
 - If you want to tell me Christianity is boring and irrelevant you got to me too late!!
 - If all you do is sit on the bench you will get bored...and grumpy.
 - Don't let yourself become a disgruntled connoisseur of religious services.
 - Be a follower of Jesus who is making a difference in this world!!
 - Order of the Vision Statement: Rise Up so you can get in the game.
 - 4) There will be opposition. **John 15:18-25**
 - There are always giants in the promise land!! Don't let that surprise or demoralize you!
 - Make sure you aren't the opposition...bored and grumpy consumer Christian.
 - The Pharisees error. The solution is **Matt 6:33**.
 - There is opposition, but also a promise of effectiveness! **John 15:20**
 - Back to Point 2, we do have to abide in The True Vine!!
 - **Galatians 3:3**. My error: go do stuff for Jesus. **Matt 6:33** is way better!!
- Reach Out: bearing fruit for the Kingdom of God. It expected, God is there for us, it's fun, even though there is opposition.
 - Victory comes for those who remain in the vine. **John 15:5** changed my life.
 - And, it's not about you. **John 15:8**
 - Let's pray to be connected, growing, and productive in our faith.
- **Send off:** prayer@goodhope.ag Thank you so much for tuning in today! Have a blessed day!