

Series: John's Portrait of Jesus

Scripture: John 15:1-17

Title: **"I am the True Vine"**

In the final 'I am...' passage, Jesus adopts a metaphor familiar to most Israelites from the Old Testament (Psalm 80; Ezekiel 15 and 17; Isaiah 5; 11:1; 27:2-4; Hosea 10:1). Just as salvation came through Israel then, now salvation will come through Jesus, Israel's Messiah. Jesus, in the passage for today, expands and explains the metaphor and paints a compelling portrait of what life in community with Christ looks like.

**I. The Metaphor and its meaning: (John 15:1-8)**

A. The True Vine: Jesus

B. The Gardener/Vinedresser: The Father

C. The Branches: The community of Christ

**II. The Metaphor expanded and explained. John 15:9-17**

A. The basis of Christian community: Remaining (abiding) in Christ

B. The results of Christian community: bearing fruit

C. The expression of Christian community: loving one-another

D. The equipping of Christian community: asking and receiving from God