Study 20

The Gospel of John

Remain in Me!

Introduction

Jesus' description of Himself as the True Vine and His disciples as the branches provides a compelling picture of the reality of fellowship with Jesus on a day to day basis. What is particularly encouraging about Jesus' words is that they refer to the time during which He is physically absent from the world, having returned to His Father. Even though we do not see Him, we can have fellowship with Him and experience His work in our lives. This and this alone is the way in which we can bear fruit that lasts!

Study Questions

These questions help you to see clearly what the text is saying. This is a vital first step towards understanding what the text means. The questions should be answered from the text itself.

Read John 15vs1-17. Answer the following questions:

1. What description does Jesus apply to Himself? (John 15vs1, 5)

2. What does this mean seen in the light of the Old Testament imagery (see e.g. Psalm 80vs8-19; Isaiah 5vs1-7)

3. What relationship do the disciples have to Jesus? (John15vs5)

4. What conclusion are we to draw from this imagery?

5. In what way alone can we be fruitful in the Christian Life? (John15vs4-5)

6. How do we remain in Christ? (John 15vs9-14)

7. What role does the Father play in this process?

8. What result will our fruitfulness have? (John 15vs8)

9. What promise does Jesus make to His disciples?