

READ John 15.1-8

Jesus describes himself as the true vine, his Father (God) as the gardener, and his disciples as the branches. He urges his followers to stay connected to him as the only way to be fruitful, and explains that we must expect and accept some 'pruning' to enable us to grow.

A note on the passage. In the Old Testament, Israel was described as the vine and yet often failed in its calling, so it is significant that Jesus calls himself the true vine. He emphasises the need for the disciples to stay connected to the vine because, of course, unattached branches cannot bear fruit. He goes on to explain that any fruitfulness we experience is not an end in itself, but for the purpose of bringing glory to God.

EXPERIMENT

You will need: a glass of water, bright food colouring, and a stick of celery or a white flower with a long stem. Add a few drops of food colouring to the water; stir until the colour is uniform.

Place the celery/flower in the water. Watch what happens during the day as the plant sucks up the water. How might this be a symbol of abiding in Jesus? Pray about the effect Jesus could have on you – and others – if you 'stay connected'.

What might help you to remain in the right place to grow?



Wesley Methodist Church

Minister: Revd. Josephine Soon 01384 821854

Link for on line worship

<https://www.valeofstour.org.uk/virtual-church/live/vosworship>

Newsletter: Sunday 2nd May 2021

Weekly Hymn: - Could not find a hymn to go with reading, but hymn book fell open at this:-

Awake, awake to love and work! 1
The lark is in the sky;
The fields are wet with diamond dew;
The worlds awake to cry
Their blessings on the Lord of life,
As He goes meekly by.

2 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs,
Shout with their shout of praise;
See how the giant sun soars up,
Great lord of years and days!
So let the love of Jesus come
And set thy soul ablaze.

3 To give and give, and give again,
What God hath given thee;
To spend thyself nor count the cost;
To serve right gloriously
The God who gave all worlds that are,
And all that are to be.

Church Contact: Margaret Kite 01384 392310 As always, Stay safe God Bless

We were saddened to hear this week that our oldest member Doreen Cartwright has passed away aged 94.

Please remember the family in your prayers.

Church being used on May 6th as a Polling station.

Another week closer to opening for worship, 23rd May