

Creekside Community Church
Transformed
October 29th, 2017
Jeff Bruce, Associate Pastor

Become

"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

I. How am I connected to Jesus?

II. How can I strengthen my connection to Jesus?

III. How can I weaken my connection to Jesus?

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Think of a task you perform on a regular basis that must be done in tandem with someone else (e.g. a co-worker, a family member, a spouse)? What would happen if you were to try and perform this task on your own?

Going Deeper

3. Read John 15:1-6. What is union with Christ? What images do the New Testament writers use to describe our union with him? What is communion with Christ? How is union different from communion? List some of these differences. Why is it critical that we understand and appreciate these differences?
4. Do you tend more towards complacency in your relationship with Jesus, or anxiety? If you had to choose...do you tend to take Jesus' grace for granted and become lazy/distracted? Or, do tend to worry about the security of your status with Jesus? Why do you think you have this tendency?

Application

5. Read John 15:7. What does it mean to abide in Jesus' words (See also John 8:31-32)? Read Psalm 1. What does it mean to "*meditate*" on God's word (Psalm 1:3)? Why is it critical that we reflect on Christ's word continually (rather than simply at set times)? What has helped you become more consistently mindful of God's word? Share your insights with the group.
6. Read John 15:7, 16. What's the connection between abiding in Jesus' word, and answered prayer? How could these verses be misunderstood? Why is that critical that we pray throughout the day (rather than simply at set times)? What practices have helped you to pray more consistently? Share your insights with the group.
7. Jeff listed several ways we can weaken our communion with Jesus. Which of these stood out to you? Why?
8. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?