



## I am the Vine

- **Ask:** What's your favorite plant/flower?
- **Activity:** Look at some seeds and talk about them - what do you think they will grow into? What do they need to grow healthy and strong? What do we need to grow healthy and strong? Maybe show the children some plant/tree roots. Orchids are good for this as their roots are visible. Look at how the roots go down into the moss/bark to draw up water and nutrients, so they grow big and strong. What else do the roots do? They help the plant to stand upright and not get blown over by the wind or washed away with the rain. Roots are really important for plants. Roots are really important for us too. Being rooted in Jesus, being his friend and putting him at the very centre of everything is really important. It helps us to stand firm and not get blown over when the troubles of life come our way.
- **Sing:** Our God is a Great Big God [https://youtu.be/uZNVaBNzs\\_Q](https://youtu.be/uZNVaBNzs_Q), or Jesus Love is Very Wonderful at <https://youtu.be/VC4eb8Pk-3g> or Wiggle Freeze at [https://youtu.be/tM\\_wGFVBBmA](https://youtu.be/tM_wGFVBBmA) or Wriggle like a Worm at [https://youtu.be/\\_YenZbKXjYg](https://youtu.be/_YenZbKXjYg).
- **Talk:** Jesus often used everyday things to explain things to people. He talked a lot about plants and trees growing fruit. Today we are talking about staying rooted in Jesus. How can we be rooted in Jesus, we're not trees or plants are we? There are two ways to live life. One is living our own way and doing whatever we want to do, and the other way is to live our lives the way Jesus did. Jesus' statement 'I am the vine, you are the branches' (John 15:1-8) can help us to understand how we stay rooted in Jesus.
- **Watch/Read:** Vine and Branches video <https://youtu.be/SDIS4otedvY> or watch Lottie's 'I am the Vine' video <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfoRgvwNoapVwiU5UCF2ZMg>, or read John 15:1-8 <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+15%3A1-8&version=NIV>.
- **Discussion:** Jesus said I am the vine and you are the what? **The branches.** If you stay connected to me, you will bear fruit like the fruit of the spirit. **Can you remember what the fruit of the spirit were?** Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. Without Jesus we can do what? **Nothing, just like a plant without being attached to the roots cannot grow. Without Jesus we cannot get any goodness/nutrients to grow and lead the full lives we are meant to.** Jesus gives us good things that helps us grow and produce good stuff i.e. the fruit of the spirit. Show the children a twig or grape stalk that is no longer attached and ask them where the branch would get water or nutrients from? Nowhere, as it has no roots. It needs roots to grow just like we need to know Jesus as our friend and learn about him from the Bible, talk and listen to him by praying, praise him in worship and live as he asks us to by loving everyone as he loves us. The beginning of a new year is a time where we make plans to become healthier, happier, kinder. It is a good time to root ourselves in Jesus for the first time or recommit to rooting ourselves in Jesus by putting him in the centre of our lives.
- **Pray:** Dear Jesus, thank you that you love us, that you want to be our friend and want us to live the best lives we can producing good fruit. Forgive us for the times when we have lived our own way without you. Please help us to be rooted in you, living by your spirit, living how you lived so we can produce good fruit in our lives. Amen.

- Make:** 'I am the vine, you are the branches' mobile. You will need: A4 green card/paper, A4 green foam/card/paper, A4 purple card/paper, ribbon/thread, pencil, pens, scissors and a glue stick. Draw a large spiral on the green card or paper and cut it out. This is the vine (Jesus) write this on the green spiral. Then fold the A4 green foam/card/paper into at least four depending on the size of your hand. Then draw around your hand on one side of the green card/foam/paper/card and cut it out. These are the leaves that will be glued to the vine, but before you do this write the following on a leaf 1: 'I am the vine, you are the branches' John 15:1-8. 2. 'No branch can bear fruit by itself, it must remain in the vine.' 3. 'Live the way Jesus did – live by the Spirit.' 4. 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Matthew 22:39). Fold the paper into ten and draw a circle with a 5 cm diameter and cut them out. Then write one of the Fruit of the Spirit on each of the circles (fruit/grapes). 1. Love, 2. Joy, 3. Peace, 4. Patience, 5. Kindness, 6. Goodness, 7. Faithfulness, 8. Gentleness and 9. Self-Control. Then stick the fruits/grapes at regular intervals on your vine. Put a hole in the top of the mobile and thread the ribbon/thread through and hang your mobile up.
- Make:** 'Paper bunch of grapes': You will need: A4 green card/paper, A4 purple paper, pencil, pens, scissors, glue stick. Draw the outline of a bunch of grapes with a stalk and leaf at the top (see picture below for example) on the A4 green card and cut it out. Then cut the A4 purple paper into strips. Then glue the end of the strips and make them into circles. Then glue each circle onto the green bunch of grapes template side by side to look like purple paper grapes.
- Make:** 'A vine with grapes': You will need: A4 red, orange and yellow card/paper, purple and green paper, brown cord/pipe cleaners, ribbon/string/thread, pencil, scissors, holepunch and glue stick. Twist 2-3 pipe cleaners together to make a vine. Draw leaves onto the red, orange and yellow card and cut them out. Then put a hole punch hole in the stem and thread the ribbon/string/thread through the hole and tie the leaf onto the vine. Cut the purple and green paper/card into strips and then glue the strips into a circle and glue the circles next to each other to make bunches of purple and green grapes. Tie ribbon/string/thread around one of the circles and another around the vine so that bunches of grapes dangle from the vine.
- Print:** The sheets below and do the Colouring, Mazes, Dot to Dots, Word Search and Crossword.
- Drinks and biscuits:** Give the children drinks with straws and talk to them about how they are sucking the juice/water up through the straw like the plants do through their roots.

'I am the Vine, you are the Branches' mobile



Paper grapes craft



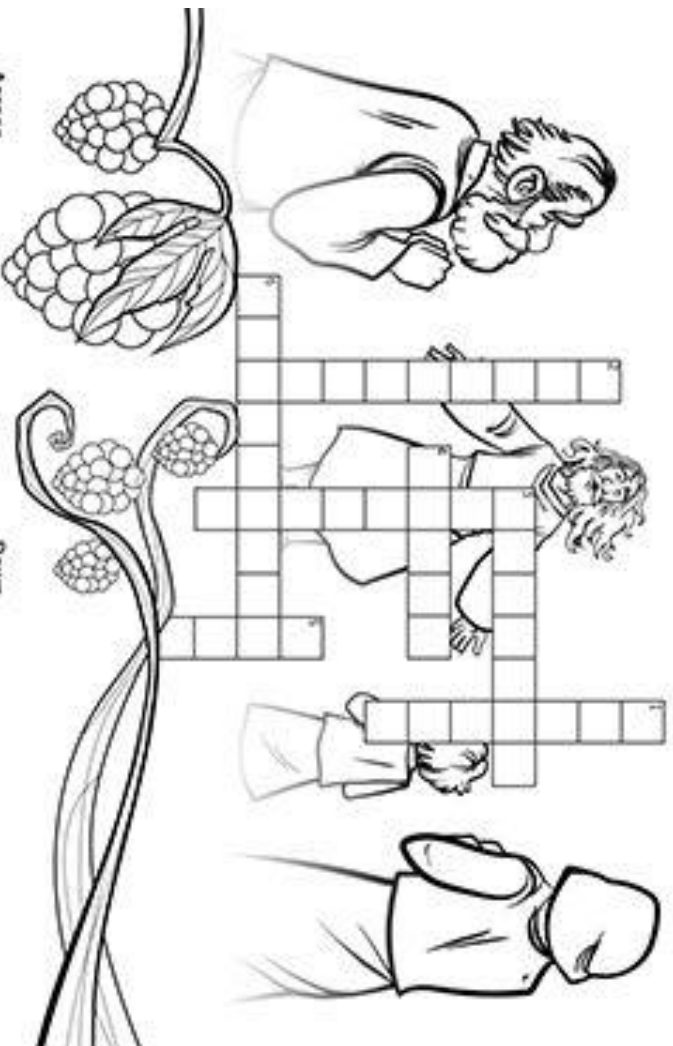


Vine with Grapes



# "I AM" THE VINE

John 15:1-17



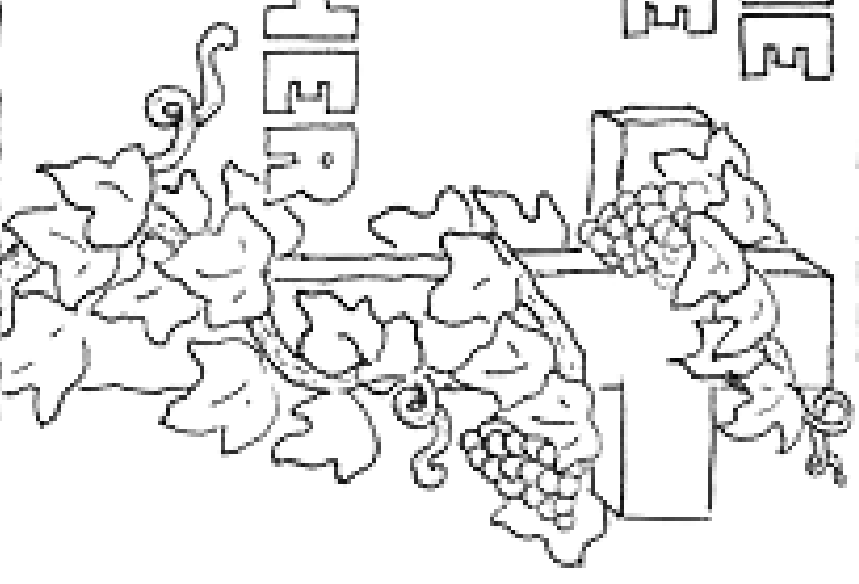
### Across

3. Without a connection to Jesus, it is not possible for us to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Branches that do not grow \_\_\_\_\_ are cut off and thrown away.
6. The keys to staying connected to Jesus are love and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down

1. Jesus calls those who obey his commands His \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus showed His love for us by coming to serve and through \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus often taught using \_\_\_\_\_ or examples of things that occur in nature.
5. Branches not fully connected to the vine will get \_\_\_\_\_, shrivel up, and fail to bear fruit.

I AM THE  
TRUE  
VINE  
AND  
MY  
FATHER  
IS  
THE  
GARDENER



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coloring pages by [mr.oddin-bing.spot.com](http://mr.oddin-bing.spot.com)



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# The True Vine

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing..." John 15:5 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 15:1-8



R P O W M P N S I O N F J X Z  
 S E O G A Z Y M H A P B K G X  
 N S M L D R W O E P P V T P W  
 X C U A Y R M L X N X S A Y K  
 B P P L I A C R T N M F R Z A  
 X K R N N A I H W O R D S J  
 C S U N L E D A R G J N R K X  
 J J N Q B A K E O L G E V Y T  
 B E E P W I G J W O U F Y I C  
 R B S W N I D Z N R O E U V E  
 A U Z N N H T B T Y G R X N J  
 N R F D P W H H J Z F N I F H  
 C N S I J F M K E G B V Y B G  
 H E Q E R H X G A R D E N E R  
 U D F V A E W R Z U S S G G E

WORDS	GARDENER	REMAIN	BEAR	GLORY
CLEAN	PRUNES	THROWN	VINE	TRUE
FRUIT	BRANCH	FIRE	WITHERS	BURNED