

### MEMORY VERSE

John 15:5

### MEMORY WORK

- Write the Memory Verse on the board and read it with the class. Have the students suggest motions for each phrase in the verse. For example, for *I am the vine*, have students stand up as tall as possible. For *you are the branches*, have students stretch their arms out to their sides. Continue to invite students to suggest motions for the Memory Verse and to recite the verse as many times as needed until all have memorized it.

### ★ PREPARATION

Bring a **CLUSTER OF GRAPES** to class. Prepare **DM-7 Vine and Branches** for display. (*Introduction*)

Select the song “Right to My Heart” from the Grade 1 URL. (*Introduction*)

### EXTENSION

**1A** Prepare some **GRAPES** for a snack. As students eat, remind them that the grapes would not be sweet without the sugar the leaves help to produce. They would not be juicy without the water from the soil that was carried upward through the vine to the branches. The branches needed to stay connected to the vine to produce the grapes.

### Introduction ★

Hold up the **CLUSTER OF GRAPES** so that all students can see it. Display **DM-7 Vine and Branches**. Explain that the cluster of grapes came from a vine similar to what is on DM-7. Ask students if the cluster of grapes that you brought will grow and continue to live. (**No.**) Affirm that they have answered correctly. Grapes will not grow or live without the rooted section, the vine, to which they are attached. As you point out the various parts of the grapevine on DM-7, explain that the vine, branches, leaves, and grapes are all parts of the same living plant. God has designed each part of the grapevine to do a special job for the plant. Each leaf takes in sunlight and makes sugar for the plant. Each branch carries the sugar and water to the grapes and the leaves. The vine keeps the plant in place, holds the branches up, and carries water, sugar, and other nutrients to various parts of the plant. The vine produces the grapes that appear on the branches.

Teach students the song “Right to My Heart” from the Grade 1 URL.

### Directed Instruction ↻

Explain that when Jesus wanted to teach a lesson, He often talked about common things with which His listeners would be familiar, such as grapevines. Jesus used the ordinary things to help the people understand more about God. In today’s Bible truth, Jesus compares Himself to a grapevine. Read the following Bible truth:

During His time on Earth, Jesus chose 12 men to be His disciples. The word *disciple* means a *follower*. The disciples followed Jesus to the places where He was teaching the people. The disciples listened to Jesus as He taught God’s truth, and they followed Jesus’ example by helping others.

Jesus had a close relationship with His disciples. He told them, “I am like a vine and you, My friends, are like branches. A branch can only grow when it is joined to the vine. You will grow in faith and be able to do wonderful things to help many people when you listen to My words, copy My actions, and follow My directions for your life.”

Direct students’ attention back to the picture of the grapevine on DM-7. Circle the vine and remind students that Jesus compared Himself to the vine. Ask students to recount who were represented by the branches in Jesus’ lesson. (**the disciples**)

The disciples were like branches because they stayed close to Jesus. When Jesus taught the disciples, they took what they learned and put it into practice, just like the branches of a grapevine take water and sugar from the vine, and grapes are formed.

Jesus told the disciples that they needed to do three things to grow in their faith. Ask students to share what those three things were. (**listen to what He taught them, copy His actions, and follow His directions**) Christians are to do these same things today. When Christians listen to God’s Word, copy His actions, and follow His directions, they are able to do many

things to help others and to share the good news about God’s plan of salvation. When showing God’s love to others and telling others about Jesus results in a life being changed for God, it is called *bearing fruit*.

## Review

- What were Jesus’ followers called? (**disciples**)
- Who is the vine in Jesus’ lesson? (**Jesus**)
- Who are the branches in Jesus’ lesson? (**the disciples, Christians today**)
- What does it mean to *bear fruit*? (**It means that I have shared about Jesus, and it has changed someone’s life for God.**)
- What does a branch need in order to bear fruit? (**It needs to be connected to the vine.**)

## Student Page 20.1

Assist students as needed to complete the page.

## Notes:

## APPLICATION

- What are some games that you cannot play alone? (**Answers will vary.**) Name some sports that are played with teams. (**Answers will vary.**) Is it important for Christians to work as a team with other Christians? (**Yes.**) Why? (**Answers will vary but should include that it is important to work together to share God’s Word and to help others.**)
- It is important to have a close relationship to Jesus and a close relationship to other Christians. Share some things that go wrong when people do not get along. (**Answers will vary.**)
- What is something that you can do to keep a close relationship with Jesus? (**I can read the Bible, pray, and worship regularly.**)
- What does *bearing fruit* mean and how can you bear fruit? (**Bearing fruit occurs when someone’s life is changed for God. I may bear fruit when I show God’s love to others and tell others about Jesus. When I listen to God’s Word, copy His actions, and follow His directions, I am then able to do many things to help others and to share the good news about God’s plan of salvation.**)

## REINFORCEMENT

















Old Testament writers often used the vine to symbolize the nation of Israel. The symbolism indicated that people were connected to God through their covenant relationship with Him. Israel, however, did not bear the fruit of righteousness that should have come through its relationship with God (Isaiah 5:1–7). Jesus Christ is the true vine; He replaces the Law and restores believers into a right relationship with God (Romans 10:4).

DAY  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_











Following Jesus 20.1












Use the code to find Jesus’ words.

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Jesus said, “ l a m t h e v i n e , y o u a r e t h e b r a n c h e s .”

John 15:5a

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