

Sermon Notes

S M T W T F S
Date: 4/14 /2024

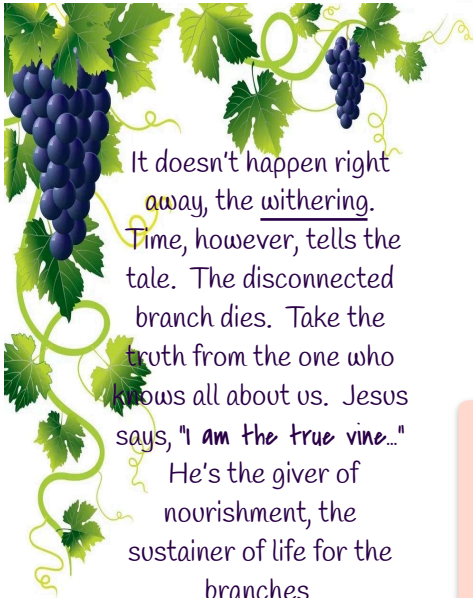
TITLE: **Time Tells the Tale**

SPEAKER: **Larry Hall**

TOPIC: _____

SCRIPTURE:

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. John 15:1-8



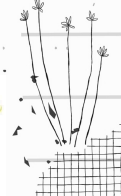
It doesn't happen right away, the withering. Time, however, tells the tale. The disconnected branch dies. Take the truth from the one who knows all about us. Jesus says, "I am the true vine..." He's the giver of nourishment, the sustainer of life for the branches.

Notes/Reflection

You can't separate a plant from its root system.



Verse 6 - "If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."



We are the branches. Cut off from Christ, we can't make it. We must remain rooted in him.

It's easy to show up in church looking like a freshly cut sprig. You look alive! But you and the Lord know what's really going on inside. "People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." So says 1 Samuel 16:7.

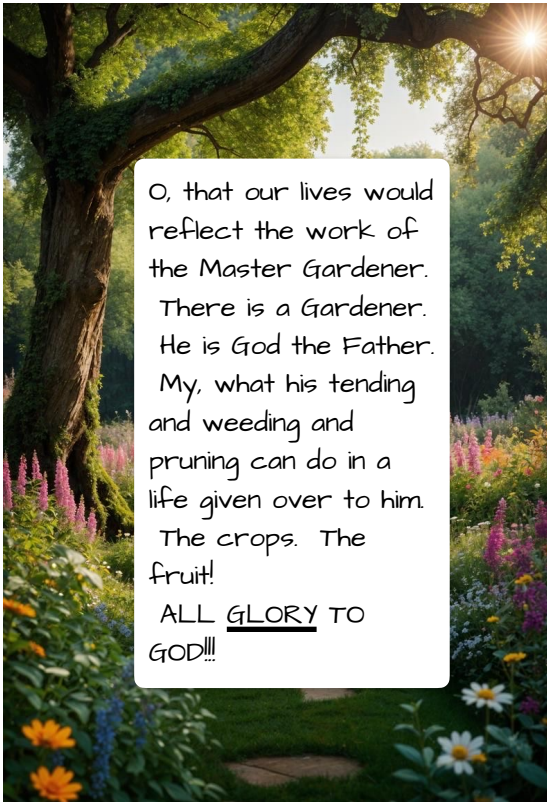
Notes

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What does he see when he looks at my heart? I want him to see someone who...

- ♥ Loves to read and study his word.
- ♥ Looks forward to worshipping the Lord with God's people.
- ♥ Lives to connect people to Christ.



O, that our lives would reflect the work of the Master Gardener. There is a Gardener. He is God the Father. My, what his tending and weeding and pruning can do in a life given over to him. The crops. The fruit!
ALL GLORY TO GOD!!!

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." - John 15:8

"Be still and know that I am God." - Psalm 46:10

"...apart from me you can do nothing." - John 15:5

But if we remain in him...

But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

