

The True Vine

Glendale Scriptures: John 15:1-11, Gal 5:22.

Peoria Scriptures: John 15:1-5, Gal 5:22, Heb 2:1,
Luke 5:16, Heb 12:11, Rev 3:1

I Am The True Vine

The Way, The Truth, The Life; The Good Shepherd; The Gate/Door; The Light
of The World; The Bread of Life; The Resurrection and the Life.

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- a. Romans 8:12–17 reminds us that the Spirit not only renews us but confirms our adoption as God’s children (Rom. 8:14). Being led by the Spirit is daily surrender, choosing His way over our impulses. What does being led by the Spirit look like in your everyday life, and what is one rhythm that helps you slow down enough to hear and follow His voice?
2. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples, but Thomas was absent and struggled to believe without seeing for himself. Read John 20:24–31. Jesus gently met him in his doubt, yet also said, “Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.” When you think about your own faith, what about not physically seeing Jesus can make it harder to feel connected to Him? And in seasons where He feels distant, what has helped strengthen your trust and relational connection with Him?
- a. Building on that, Jesus cares deeply about real connection, not surface-level religion. In Matthew 7:15–29, He contrasts what appears strong with what actually lasts. As you read, what common thread do you notice about what makes a life secure in Him? If your faith were examined over time, what evidence would show that it is deeply rooted in Christ?

3. If you spend enough time in church culture and walking with Christ, you begin to notice a tension between doing for Jesus and simply being with Him. In Luke 10:38–42, Martha is busy serving while Mary sits at His feet, and Jesus gently calls attention to what truly matters. When you place yourself in that room, what does Jesus actually deserve from you in His presence? How does your perspective shift when your activity for Him replaces attentiveness to Him? And if you are willing, what has your own journey looked like in learning the difference between striving and abiding?

TAKING IT HOME:

When Paul writes to the Corinthians in 1 Cor 13, he reframes what spiritual maturity truly looks like. The church in Corinth was active and gifted, yet Paul makes it clear that without love, even the most visible expressions of faith become empty noise. It is possible to serve Jesus and slowly drift from His heart. Abiding is not sustained by pressure or performance, but by being captivated by His love. This is the love that is patient and kind, that does not boast or dishonor, that keeps no record of wrongs and rejoices in the truth. It outlasts gifting and remains when everything else fades. The more convinced we are that His love never fails and never leaves, the more naturally we remain in Him.

This week, reflect on where your doing may have outpaced your being with Christ. Take time to receive the nearness of Jesus again and rest in His love. Then intentionally strengthen someone in your group by asking how you can support them in remaining in Christ's love. During the week, follow up by sharing and praying through one of these promises each day: Isaiah 41:10, John 16:33, Hebrews 13:5, Joshua 1:9, Matthew 28:20, and Romans 8:38–39.