

Family Worship at Home – 2nd May 2021

The Vine and the Branches

Introduction: *Supplies:* You will need a piece of wood that is obviously wood AND 100% dead (like a 2x4, a yard stick, a broom handle, a pencil, etc). *Optional:* Before worship service, ask an older student for their help to tell you during the children's sermon that a tree can't grow from the item you chose to use.

Good morning! [hold up the piece of wood]

Hey, look at what I found! Any guesses what I'm going to do with this?

Those are all good ideas, but I'm going to do something even more exciting than what you were thinking. I'm going to plant this in the ground and water it until it grows into a tree!

What kind of tree do you think will grow from this item?

So let me make sure I understand -- you're telling me that this piece of wood won't ever grow into a tree no matter how much sun it receives or how nutritious the soil is? (YES!)

Oh. Can you tell me why? (because it's dead and has no seeds)

Message: I'm glad that you are so smart about trees and branches because you just saved me from a lot of disappointment! And, this is the very thing that Jesus is talking about in today's scripture story.

Watch clip ["I Am" The Vine and Branches Bible Story - John 15 | Online Sunday School | Sharefaithkids.com - YouTube](#) or [The Vine and the Branches for Kids - YouTube](#), or read John 15:1-8 from the Bible

In today's scripture story, we hear Jesus talk about how a branch is supposed to grow and bear fruit for the vine or tree that it belongs to. But, for that branch to grow and bear fruit, it must remain attached to the vine or tree.

Because, if the branch was removed from the tree, what would happen? That's right – the branch wouldn't be able to receive water and food from the tree and the branch would die.

And if the branch was separated from the tree and died, what else wouldn't it be able to do? (It wouldn't be able to grow or bear fruit or leaves).

One of the reasons Jesus is talking about trees, branches, and fruit is because Jesus wants us to think about how *we* are like branches and that *he* is like a tree.

Jesus wants us to remember that when we stay connected to him, then like branches on a tree, we are better able to receive (and then share) God's love, healing, and forgiveness.

But, Jesus is also reminding us that it is possible for us to become separated from him.

However, unlike this [*say name of item and hold it up*], if ever we do become disconnected from Jesus, that does not mean we're disconnected forever.

Instead, we can and are invited to reconnect with Jesus.

Then, when we are connected / reconnected with Jesus, we are able to receive all the same gifts that Jesus receives from God.

Which also means we can share those same gifts of love, healing, and forgiveness with the people around us.

And that is the good news for today: Let's pray.

Clips: [The Vine and the Branches | Q10L13 - YouTube](#)

[The Vine and the Branches for Kids - YouTube](#)

Songs: ["I Am" The Vine and Branches Bible Story - John 15 | Online Sunday School | Sharefaithkids.com - YouTube](#)

[I Am The Vine - YouTube](#)

[The Vine and the Branches for Kids - YouTube](#)

[John 15:5 - A Bible Memory Verse Song for Children - YouTube](#)

Activity: 1. Create a vine. Find a branch in the yard. Glue it onto a piece of card, choose your 'fruit' and glue on.

2. Have a family Jesus vine.

Write Jesus' name on a piece of paper. Have each member of the family attach their name to Jesus.

