

# THE CHURCH ABIDES IN CHRIST

## BIG TRUTH: THE CHURCH ABIDES IN CHRIST

John 8:31; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:6; 1 John 2:6, 24-28

### BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 15:4-5

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

### BIG IDEAS

- Jesus is the vine and we are dependent branches.
- Pruning is a normal part of the Christian life and community.
- The church that bears fruit glorifies God and finds joy in Jesus.

## BIBLE PASSAGE: JOHN 15:1-12

### UNITE - I AM PART OF A FAMILY

The Unite Year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are given a spirit of adoption as sons (Romans 8:15-16), are made a child of God, and we are also saved into a family- the Church. The Unite Year explores how we are to live as a part of a family, and to live in light of our calling as servants and disciples of Christ. We use our gifts to build up the church as we pursue unity, humility, and gentleness with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-2).

### SERIES AIMS



#### Every student should know that...

- The church is a family.
- The church is given by God.
- The church exists for God.



#### Every student should feel...

- Thankful for the unique ways God has gifted them and their church.
- Appreciation for the elders and leaders that God has gifted their church.



#### Every student should strive to...

- Prioritize gathering to worship each week with their church family.
- Learn more about membership in their local church.
- Do something to intentionally serve someone in their church family each week



#### Every student should want...

- To devote themselves to pursue holiness with their church family.
- To have their lives be marked by love for the church.
- To live in a way that is sacrificial and generous for the good of others and the glory of God

## STUDENT WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder what it looks like to abide in Jesus. We will pray for opportunities to participate in bearing fruit in our local church and we will practice looking to Jesus for our joy.

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**Read and meditate on John 15:1-12 this week.**

As you read these verses consider some of these questions:

- When Jesus says He is the true vine, what does it mean for you personally?
- How have you found life in Jesus? How can you turn to Him as your source of all things?
- Are there other “vines” that you depend upon rather than Jesus?

Ponder how you can discipline yourself to abide in Jesus daily. How can you join in your local body of believers to bear much fruit for Jesus?

**Pray the Holy Spirit helps you see the ways you can join with your church to bear much fruit for Christ.**

- Spend time praying with your small group leader. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom to know which ministries of your church to participate in that you might bear much fruit for Christ.

**Discuss with your parents some ways you can serve in your local church.**

- Talk through some of the gifts and talents you have and how you can use them to bear much fruit in your church. Make a list of some of the ways and then commit to use your gifts and talents within your church to bear fruit for Jesus.
- Discuss with your small group leader ways you can better abide in Jesus. Make a plan to put into place habits that help you seek Jesus daily.