



KEEP TALKING

The weekend doesn't have to end. Keep Talking with this week's guide.

Who Is This Man? Fruitful Life

Carl Johnston

START TALKING - Find conversations starters for the group or with a friend.

- So far in our series “Who Is This Man?” we have looked at Jesus as the Bread of Life, the Light of the World, as the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and as the True Vine. Which of these illustrations that Jesus used to reveal Himself resonates most with you? Why?
- What is the best pizza you have ever had and why?

KEEP READING - Read the Scripture and ask a question to get the group thinking.

John 15:1-8

In this passage, Jesus reveals Himself to His disciples as the True Vine.

- Of all of the “I am” statements in the gospel of John, this is the only one that deals with our relationship with Jesus after entering into relationship with Him, what the Bible calls being saved or born again.
- Take the time to read this passage; what stands out to you the most from the perspective of being one of the branches connected to Jesus, the True Vine? What do you find most challenging?

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, self-control...

- As we read in the John 15 passage above, as followers of Jesus we should be bearing fruit in our lives.
- Based on the list of the qualities of the fruit of the Spirit in this verse in Galatians, how have you seen fruit in your life as you have continued to follow Jesus? How has the “fruit” in your life changed from before you had a relationship with Jesus until now?

KEEP TALKING - Choose questions to create openness.

1. People see Branches before they see the Vine

- You may have heard it said that “you may be the only Jesus some people ever see.” As Pastor Carl stated, “People will either be drawn to or move away from the Vine based on the fruit on the branches.”
- As you think about your own life, do you find this statement encouraging, convicting,...? What image of Jesus do you think people see when they see you?

2. CONNECTION precedes PRODUCTION

- The passage in John 15 tells us that our role as branches in Jesus is to “bear” fruit, not produce it. The way that we bear fruit is by staying connected to Jesus – by remaining or abiding in Him.
- Have you been frustrated that you keep trying to live in a manner that’s pleasing to God, but you keep failing? How does understanding that Jesus simply calls us to abide in Him – the Vine – and allow the “sap” of the Holy Spirit to produce fruit rather than striving to produce fruit on your own change your perspective? How does this change how you think and behave?

KEEP MOVING/GOING -Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Pastor Carl challenged us with:
- Make it a priority to to abide in Jesus and not just date Jesus and move from giving Him a part of your week to all of our week.
- Embrace principles that allow you to connect to God and learn to remain in Him
 - Read the word of God daily
 - Spend time in prayer and worship
 - Be in community with others (Join a Connect Group and Join a Team)

mylgcc.com/connect

mylgcc.com/joinateam

KEEP PRAYING

- Prayer requests from everyone at group
- Prayer