

Discussion and Reflection Questions
7th Sunday of Easter - 17th of May 2026

Read: John 15:1-8

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Questions

1. What do you think Jesus wants us to understand about the source and shape of a full and healthy life?
2. How is “abiding” different from striving, rushing, or constantly proving ourselves?
3. What does this passage suggest about the relationship between spiritual fruitfulness and the intentionality with which we live?
4. What kinds of things might God prune from our lives? Why can pruning make us feel uncomfortable or vulnerable?
5. Why is dependence difficult in a culture that values busyness, independence, and productivity?
6. Is there a difference between being busy, productive or effective and being fruitful?
7. How might abiding in Christ lead to “life in all its fullness” in a way that constant hurry and striving cannot?

Prayer

Living God, whose word goes forth to establish your kingdom and whose Son is the true vine: May we find our identity in Christ, that abiding in him we may bear the fruit of your kingdom, and share in life in all its fullness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.