

## Bible Class Notes – From John’s Gospel– Lesson 44

### The ‘I AM’ Sayings of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**This week** we continue lessons which teach the almighty saving power of Jesus Christ.

*Jesus said, “I am the True Vine ...,  
ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me,  
and I in him, the same bringeth forth much  
fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing”.*  
*John 15 v1 & 5*

#### Bible Readings for this week:

*(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)*

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	John 15 v1-11 (We must bear ‘fruit’ for the Lord)	
Monday	John 15 v12-22 (We are chosen by God to be saved)	
Tuesday	John 19 v1-20 (Christ’s death bears much ‘fruit’)	
Wednesday	Galatians 5 v16-26 (Unfruitful and fruitful deeds)	
Thursday	Ephesians 5 v1-18 (Unfruitful works of darkness)	
Friday	Ephesians 5 v19-33 (The bond of love in Christ)	
Saturday	Philippians 4 v4-20 (Be Christ-like in our actions)	

#### Important Lesson for us Today:

**This lesson teaches us to do good works for the Lord. But we must not think that doing these will save us.** Salvation **only** comes by repenting and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ (joining us to Him like a branch to the vine). **Only** His substitutionary death on Calvary can save us. **Only** His ‘good works’ (His righteousness), are credited to us and accepted by God The Father. Our **‘righteousness’** is seen by God as **‘filthy rags’**. Once saved, because we love Him and realise what a tremendous cost He paid to save us, we want to obey and please Him by what we do. Then our **‘good works’**, even though not perfect, become the **‘Fruits of The Holy Spirit’**, bringing honour to His Name.

#### This week’s hymn verses tells of using our lives in the service of The Lord Jesus Christ: (468)

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| 1. Take my life and let it be<br>Consecrated, Lord, to Thee:       | 5. Take my will, and make it Thine;<br>It shall be no longer mine:  |
| Take my moments and my days,<br>Let them flow in ceaseless praise. | Take my heart – it is Thine own;<br>It shall be Thy royal throne.   |
| 3. Take my voice, and let me sing<br>Always, only, for my King:    | 6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour<br>At Thy feet its treasure-store: |
| Take my lips, and let them be<br>Filled with messages from Thee.   | Take myself, and I will be,<br>Ever, only, all for Thee.            |

EDT Bible Class Take Home Sheet

### The True Vine – How not to Waste Your Life.

- **The Farmer sows seeds and plants trees - expecting Good Fruit.**
  - He is certainly not pleased when:
    - They show disease or pests spoiling them – this requires serious action.
    - A tree has broken branches or bears no fruit – these need to be cut off.
- **God also expects to see ‘Good Fruit’ from everyone who lives.**
  - He has **not** given us our life just for us to please ourselves in the sinful ways of this evil world, yielding sinful ‘bad fruit’ - for which He will judge us.
  - God is the Vine. We need to be joined to Him as a ‘branch’ to bear His ‘fruit’.
- **Some Real Life Examples of Believers Who ‘Bore Fruit’ for The Lord**
  - These Christian people showed their love for their Saviour through their lives, and all were greatly used of God to influence and change the world:
    - **The Apostle Paul (AD5-67).** Initially, as Saul, he was set against The Lord but was converted in his early thirties. He counted his early days as a waste but then dedicated the rest of his life to missionary work, Gospel preaching, setting up churches, and writing scripture under The Holy Spirit’s inspiration.
    - **William Wilberforce (1759-1833).** A very privileged man, but he wasted his time drinking, gambling and clubbing. After his conversion (25) he stood for the Abolition of Slavery – setting many slaves free around the world.
    - **Selina, Countess of Huntingdon (1707-91).** She so loved the Lord that she shared the Gospel of salvation with all she met; from servants through to the King! She funded the building of 64 churches, opened many others and ensured poor but able ministers were trained to preach the Gospel.
    - **Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892).** Saved at 15, a Gospel preacher at 17, becoming one of the greatest Baptist preachers – thousands were saved. He faithfully upheld God’s truth, trained preachers, established many churches, wrote many Christian books, and set up orphanages for destitute children.
    - **Many Missionaries** have left home and travelled to other lands to preach the Gospel, setting up churches, hospitals, orphanages, and schools.
- **Is Our Life a Waste? Will God be pleased with us?**
  - God has given us His Commandments, and a Saviour Who has kept them all.
  - He looks to see what we do, and why we do it. Have we borne **‘good fruit’**?
  - The **‘first good fruits’** are repentance, obedience, faith in Him, and service for Him.
  - If we are forgiven, then we will love the Lord, and want to **‘bear fruit’** to please Him.

*The Apostle Paul wrote, “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things”.*  
*Philippians 4 v8*