

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 15v1 & 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 15v1-11 (We must bear ‘fruit’ for the Lord)	
Monday	John 15v12-22 (We are chosen by God to be saved)	
Tuesday	John 19v1-20 (Christ’s death bears much ‘fruit’)	
Wednesday	Galatians 5v16-26 (Unfruitful and fruitful deeds)	
Thursday	Ephesians 5v1-18 (Unfruitful works of darkness)	
Friday	Ephesians 5v19-33 (The bond of love in Christ)	
Saturday	Philippians 4v4-20 (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 own ‘righteousness’ is seen by God as unacceptable filthy rags. Once saved, because we love Him, we will want to obey and please Him by what we do. Our new ‘good works’, even though not perfect, then become the ‘Fruits of The Holy Spirit’. **Read Galatians 5v19-25.**

Hymn 468 – Asks the Lord Jesus Christ’s help us to use our lives faithfully in His service: -

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

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The Lord Jesus Christ - The True Vine.

- **The Farmer sows’ seeds and plants trees - expecting good fruit.**
 - He is certainly not pleased when: -
 - They show disease or when pests spoil them – this requires serious action.
 - When a tree has broken branches or has 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. If we live for ourselves, yielding ‘bad fruit’, He will judge us.
 - God is the Vine. We must be joined to Him as a ‘branch’ to bear good ‘fruit’.
- **Some Real-Life Examples of Believers Who ‘Bore Fruit’ for The Lord: -**
 - These Christian men showed their love for their Saviour through their lives, and all were greatly used of God to influence others and change the world: -
 - **The Apostle Paul (AD5-67).** Initially vehemently set against The Lord, he was converted in his early thirties and counted his earlier days of formal Jewish religion as a total waste of time. Called by the Lord on the Damascus Road, he dedicated the rest of his life to missionary work, preaching the Gospel, 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.
 - **Fred Charrington (1850-1936).** He was born into a rich brewery family. Converted at 19, he gave up his wealth to preach the Gospel, giving help for the poor in London’s East End, whose lives were damaged by drink.
 - **Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892).** Converted, aged 15, at 17 he started preaching the Gospel, and became one of the greatest Baptist preachers – heard by over 10 million people all over the world, with thousands being saved. He set up orphanages for destitute children, trained preachers, established churches, and stood for the truth at a time of growing unbelief.
 - **Gladys Alward (1902-1970) in China, and Corrie Ten Boom (1892-1983) in Europe,** were Christians who gave their lives to witnessing of the Lord.
- **Is Our Life a Waste? Is God pleased with the way we live?**
 - God has given us His Commandments, and a Saviour Who has kept them all.
 - The **‘first good fruits’** are repentance, faith in Him, obedience, and loving Him.
 - If we are forgiven, then we will love the Lord, and want to **‘bear fruit’** to please Him.
 - He looks to see what we do, and why we do it. Have we borne **‘good fruit’**?

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 4v8.*