



Life in the Vineyard

John 14:6

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

Week #1 – We are **connected** to the Life to **deliver** life.

Week #2 – If God can't **reduce**, you can't **produce**.

Week #3 – T__ O__ T__ A__ L__

A Total Surrender

“Abide in Me, and I in you.” (John 15:4a)

- The key to real life is found in Christ and Christ alone.

Ephesians 2:1-7

¹ And you He made alive...

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ...

- As a branch your **everything** is found in the vine
 - Everything you need
 - All of your satisfaction
- Satan will aggressively try to get you to be dissatisfied with what you have and try to get you to find satisfaction in something other than Christ.
 - That was his strategy with **Eve**.
 - That is his strategy with **you**.
- Your continuous surrender to what God wants makes it possible for Christ to live through you.

A Total Dependence

“As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.” (John 15:4b)

- The reality of our spiritual limitations
John 15:5 – “Without Me...

- We will have no life
- We will bear no fruit
- “The focus of the Christian life is connectivity to the Vine rather than activity for the Vine.”
- Our dependence is made visible by our trusting and resting in God and His Word.
 - **Ephesians 4:6-8** “Be anxious for nothing...”
 - **Proverbs 3:5-6** “Trust in the Lord with all your heart...”
- We must learn to **replace**...
 - Worry with trust
 - Fear with faith
 - Manipulation with truthfulness

The Total Provision

- Everything you need to live the Christian life is in you and with you in the person of **Jesus**.
 - Jesus is the great “I AM”
 - The answer to every question and situation...
- We must replace everything we were with everything He is
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17** – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
 - **Galatians 2:20** – “I have been crucified with Christ...”
- In the Vine, everything is new and complete
 - We have a new purpose
 - We have a new source of satisfaction
 - We have new potential - making an eternal difference
 - We have a new audience - Jesus.

The Total Plan

- A radical concept: Less is more
 - Less religion, more relationship
 - Less doing, more abiding
 - Less activity, more fruit

“Here is the simplicity of the Christian life: Your daily satisfaction and spiritual productivity is found in Jesus Christ. You were saved to experience complete satisfaction and daily spiritual nourishment in the vine. This is the main thing!”



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