

Sermon Notes – November 15, 2015
“Stay Connected”
John 15:1-5
Pastor Bill Hoffman

Some Old Testament passages referring to Israel as a vine:

- Psalm 80
- Isaiah 5
- Jeremiah 2:21, 6:9
- Ezekiel 17, 19:10-14
- Hosea 10:1-2
- What is Jesus claiming when he says that he is the “true vine”?

The vine is what enables the branches connected to it to bear fruit.

- What kind of fruit do you think God wants our congregation to bear?
- You personally?

Fruit bearing is enhanced by pruning (verse 2).

- Can you think of an example in which you have experienced growth by “weeding out” of your life something that was not necessarily bad, but which got in the way of growth?

A branch cannot bear fruit unless it “remain(s) in the vine” (verse 4).

- What does Jesus mean by calling people to “remain” in him? (see verses 7 and 10)
- What is one practical step that you can take to “remain” in Jesus as the life giving vine?