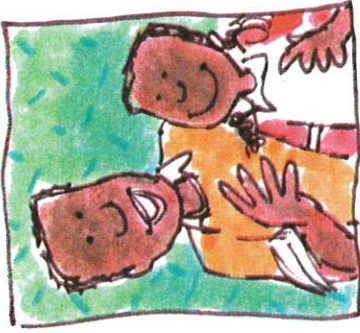


Family Page

Jesus said "I am the vine, you are the branches." Love is the fruit we bear. Here is a prayer to help your family be more fruitful. Add your own petitions to make it more personal.



PRAYER FOR LOVE

Lord, we want to be strong branches on your vine. Help us to love one another and to encourage the fruit of love to grow.

When our neighbor is hungry or cold and needs our helping hand,

Lord, help us to love.

When a friend is lonely and needs cheering up,

Lord, help us to love.

When we feel angry because of something someone has done or said,

Lord, help us to love.

When we fight among ourselves,

Lord, help us to love.

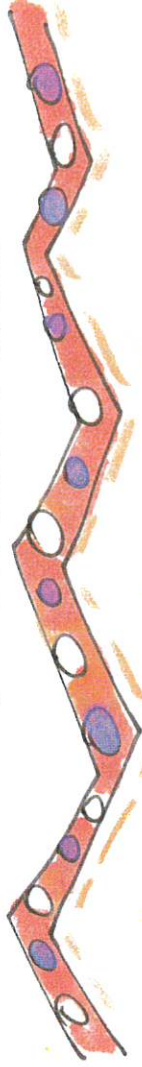
Lord Jesus, thank you for calling us to be your followers. Help us always to remain strong and loving branches on your vine.

Amen.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Fifth Sunday of Easter (B) • John 15:1-8 • May 2, 2021



Fruitful Branches

In this week's gospel story, Jesus speaks about vines and branches. Here are branches from four vines. Can you name the things that grow on them?

The Little Vine that Grew

Once there was a little vine with shiny green leaves. But the vine had no fruit. He grew all alone against a high fence. When he saw the red ripe tomatoes and juicy berries on other vines, he wondered why God had made him.

Before long, the little vine stretched out new branches. Every new branch was sturdy with shiny green leaves. The new branches sent out more branches. Purple grapes hung

from every branch. People came to pick the grapes for jellies and juices. At last the little vine understood why God made him.

In this week's gospel story, Jesus says, "I am the vine and you are the branches." He wants us to "bear good fruit" by helping others to believe. With Jesus' help, we can do many good things for God.

(Scattered throughout this page are leaves from the vine. Inside each leaf, put the name of someone you know who is following Jesus.)

