

# Praise and Prayer Bulletin March - April 2015

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## Vine Connections

In John 15:1-8 Jesus describes Himself as a vine! This is in a world where everyone wants to be a mahogany tree, iron tree or even Oak!

In His first advent He came in tenderness and subject to cuttings and pruning. However, in His second advent He will be coming in full glory and power!

The stem of Vine plants are tender and need to be supported, and much more so their branches.

In this passage our Lord Jesus Christ called His Father and our Father the Vinedresser! True to His word He lived His life on earth fully dependent on His Father Jehovah. He only did what He saw His Father do. Only spoke the things He heard Father speak. He permanently abode in the Father's love and He won!

The life of the branch is sustained for as long as it stays connected to the vine. Our life and fruitfulness depends on our connectivity to Jesus.

We need to get off that old and doomed "independent train" that Adam and Eve invited us to. In verse 5 He says, "...for without me you can do nothing..." In other words, we cannot and will not survive outside of Jesus.

### 3 REASONS TO STAY IN THE VINE:

a. **Abundant fruitfulness:** John 15:2, 5 "he purges (prunes)". To maintain vitality fruitfulness, He cuts off all dead and unhelpful stuff, and only allow the good and most healthy parts to grow into greater fruitfulness.

b. **Answered Prayers:** John 15:7 "If you abide in my, and my words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you". When we remain firmly connected to Him heads or tail we will always win.

c. **God is glorified!:** The ultimate goal is that God gains glory through our lives. This happens as He expresses Himself through us.

In Mark 3:14 we are told that Jesus' order of priority for His twelve disciples was "that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach". He puts "being" before "doing". Abiding precedes fruitfulness! Ministry becomes an outflow of relationship with Christ.

I invite your young ones to "Vine Expressions" media workshop taking place on Saturday 7th March 2015 at Cornerstone Christian Centre, Bromley at 11.00am prompt.

We will be learning how to effectively express the mind of Christ through media. This is a series of workshops designed to help our young ones to clearly present TRUTH as a viable and compelling alternative to the new age messages the enemy is casting upon them.

The workshop is free but registration is required. To register please call [0208 460 5000](tel:02084605000) or simply reply to this email requesting for registration. If you are accepted, more information will be sent to you.

Rejoice! Jesus reigns forever!!!

Your co-labourer,

*Chuks Aniereobi*