"I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES."

# THE TRUE Stage

HARBOR COMMUNITY CHURCH

"1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

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### I AM STATEMENTS:

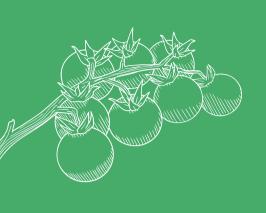
- "I am the bread of life (6:35)."
- "I am the light of the world (8:12)."
- **3** "I am the door of the sheep (10:7)."
- "I am the resurrection and the life (11:25)."

- **05** "I am the good shepherd (10:11)."
- **6** "I am the way, the truth, and the life (14:6)."
- **7** "I am the true vine (15:1)."

#### "I AM..."

### JESUS IS ABOUT TO MAKE A CLAIM OF EXCLUSIVITY AND SUPERIORITY.

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### ISRAEL AS THE VINE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:



**PSALM 80:8-13** 

03

**ISAIAH 5:1-4** 

**O2** HOSEA 10:1-2

04

JEREMIAH 2:21

#### "THE TRUE VINE..."

IN CONTRAST TO ISRAEL, JESUS IS CLAIMING TO BE THE TRUE VINE WHO WILL NOT FALL SHORT, WHO WILL NOT FAIL, AND WHO WILL PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT.

"1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser) 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

#### "THE VINEDRESSER"



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#### "FRUIT"

"BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL; AGAINST SUCH THINGS THERE IS NO LAW."

-GALATIANS 5:22-23

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### "MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE, AND I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME. I GIVE THEM ETERNAL LIFE, AND THEY WILL NEVER PERISH, AND NO ONE WILL SNATCH THEM OUT OF MY HAND."

-JOHN 10:27

### IT'S POSSIBLE TO GO TO CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY AND STILL NOT PRODUCE FRUIT.



### A LACK OF FRUIT DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED BY THE FATHER.

### ALTHOUGH PRUNING MAY BE PAINFUL, IT IS NEVER MEANINGLESS.

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#### "YOU ARE CLEAN"

OUR RIGHT STANDING WITH GOD DOES NOT HINGE ON OUR ABILITY TO DO GOOD THINGS, OR PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT. OUR RIGHT STANDING WITH GOD HINGES ON THE LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS.



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#### "ABIDE IN ME"



### THE CHRISTIAN WALK IS NOT A ONE TIME EVENT; IT'S A LIFESTYLE.

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### TRUE, GOD-GLORIFYING FRUIT, CAN ONLY BE PRODUCED THROUGH UNION WITH JESUS.

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## FRUIT IS THE PRODUCT OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER, AND EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS SHAPED BY GOD'S WORD.

## THE CHIEF GOAL OF ABIDING IN JESUS IS GOD BEING GLORIFIED THROUGH FRUIT BEARING.