



Daily Reflections

May 2, 2018

Scripture

John 15: 1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.

He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit,
and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own
unless it remains on the vine,

so neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me
will be thrown out like a branch and wither;
people will gather them and throw them into a fire
and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you,
ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is my Father glorified,
that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Our Scripture Reflection

What makes a teacher effective is the ability to capture the imagination of their students. Jesus is a master teacher because He uses Grace-filled stories and metaphors in order to capture and nourish His student's imagination. Such is the case in today's Scripture from John 15. A broken branch will wither and die in a short period of time because it loses its energy source. We will wither away if we separate ourselves from the true vine, Jesus Christ.

Food for your Journey

Early in the new film Walk the Line ... a 12 year-old Johnny Cash is talking with his adored older brother Jack. Johnny asks how Jack is able to remember all the stories in the Bible. Jack, who wants to be a preacher, responds, "You can't help people unless you can tell 'em the right stories."

—Charles Colson, "The right story," BreakPoint Commentary, November 18, 2005.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You are the true and living vine. You nourish me and give me strength with Your Body and Blood. Please give me the Grace to remain connected and faithful to You at all times. Amen