

# True Vine True Life

Spirit Moving.

## I. Life, Human Radiance, Darkness

### A. *In Him was Life*

[Jn 1:4](#) In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5](#) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

### B. *Life was the Light of men*

Zoe, eternal, extraordinary, infinite life. Beyond *bios*. **Pura Vida**  
Radiant energy that sets apart human life. *imago Dei*

### C. *Light overpowers Darkness. No contest.*

## II. Trial of Faith and Overcoming this World

### A. *Disasters, Disappointments, Disillusionments, Delays, Discouragements, and Distractions — TRIBULATION*

### B. *His Shalom*

[Jn 14:27](#) Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

## III. Already but Not Yet

[Jn 16:33](#) I have said these things to you, that in me **you may have peace**. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

## IV. True Vine and Branches

[Jn 15:1](#) I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

### A. **IDENTITY** (I AM) True Vine

Divinity — Source. Humanity — Israel (covenant)

**1. Applies to all believers INDIVIDUALLY**

**2. No fruit can be better than the vine.**

**B. Father** — Vinedresser

Tends, Waters, Cultivates for maximum yield.

**Phil 1:6** And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**Phil 2:13** for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**C. Branches**

**Jn 15:2** 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.

**1. “Dead Wood”**

Removed —

Worse than fruitless — Parasitic sucks vitality into leafy, fruitless branches.

**2. Fruitful Wood — Pruned for MORE fruit**

More in quantity AND more appropriate in quality, essence

**ALREADY trimmed clean by Word**

Every true branch has SOME fruit. No guarantee on quality or quantity. The vinedresser works to make each branch MORE (better more appropriately) fruitful.

ALREADY — Encouraging

**3. Abide (Remain, Reside) IN Me IMPERATIVE**

Apart from the VINE — nothing

**Jn 15:4** 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**.

### **Remaining in Him & HE in us — MUCH FRUIT!**

**Jn 15:6** 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.

**Warning** — Don't wither! Is anyone thirsty? COME to the waters, Drink.

### **4. Vital Union — Bold Prayer — Father's Glory**

**Jn 15:7** 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.

### **D. Abide (Remain, Reside) in My Love**

**Jn 15:9** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

**JUST AS** — Infinite, Eternal, Incomprehensible — defying dissection or analysis

**Jn 15:10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. **11** These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

### **Obedience — Communion of Honor**

### **Joy — Communion of Ecstasy**

Testimony of Iranian believers

## **V. His Commandment: Love One Another**

**Jn 15:12** "This is my commandment, that you love one another **as** I have loved you.

*JUST AS*

## A. Giving Our Lives Away

**Jn 15:13** Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Laid down lovers. Soulsh living. Natural tendencies

## B. Chosen and Appointed to be Fruitful

**Jn 15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **17** These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

**You are HIS choice, appointed to have lasting fruit!**

**Basis of answered prayer**

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

## VI. The World will Hate You

**Jn 15:18** "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. **19** If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because ***you are not of the world***, but ***I chose you out of the world***, therefore the world hates you. **20** Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. **21** But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. **22** If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. **23** Whoever hates me hates my Father also. **24** If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. **25** But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.'

You are representing the Kingdom of God and the Age to Come  
You LIVE in LOVE and are Filled with Eternal Life

Invitation —

Distracted, Disappointed, Disillusioned, Discouraged by  
Delay

Change your focus!

Know and Believe the Love God has for you

RESIDE in Love

[1 Jn 4:16](#) So we have come to **know** and to **believe** the  
love that God has **for** us. God is love, and whoever  
**abides in love** abides in God, and God abides in him.

COMMUNION IN THE DIVINE NATURE!

PURA VIDA