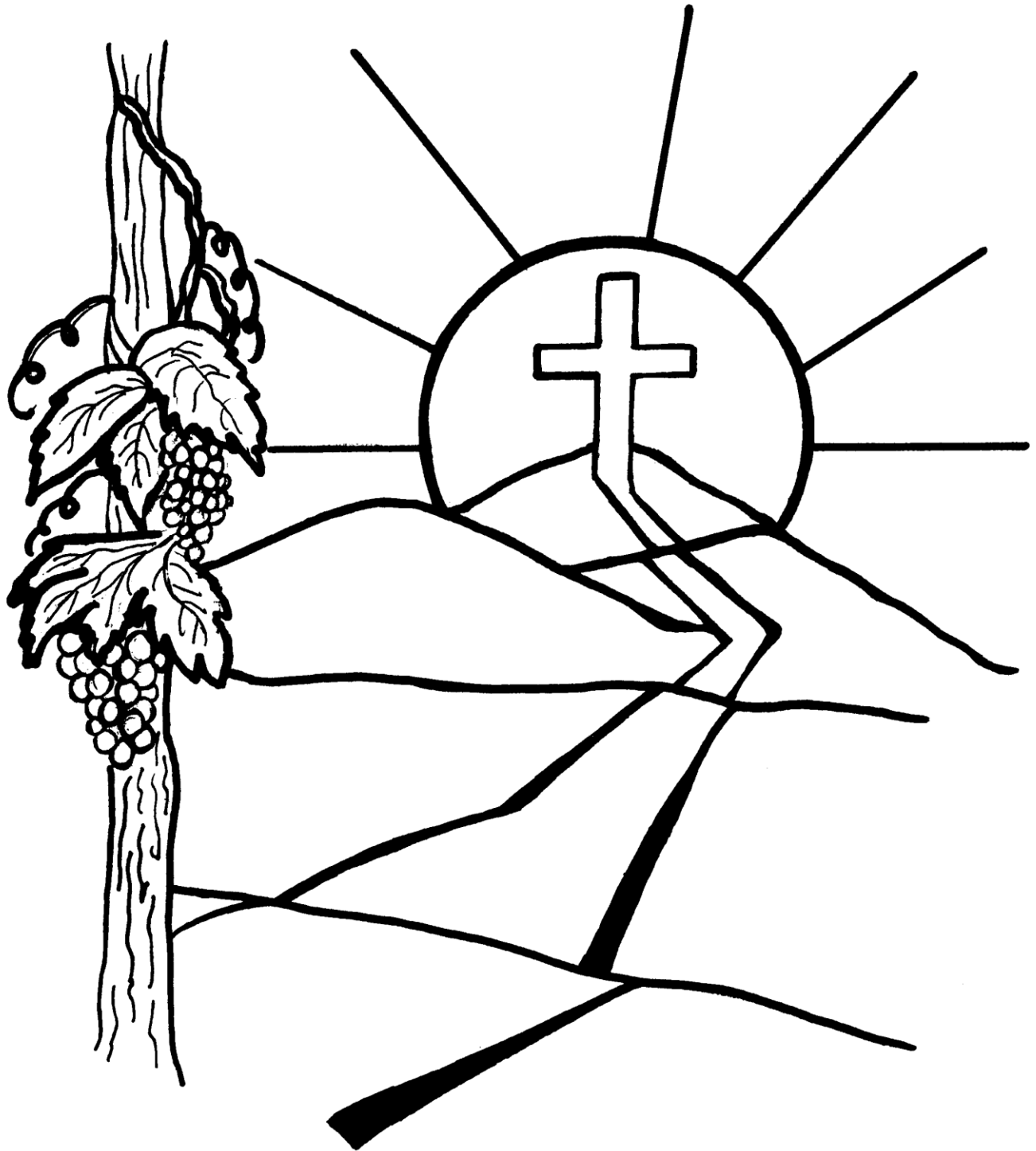


Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 232: THE TRUE VINE
JOHN 15:1-11

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener, or vinedresser. He cuts off every branch of mine that does not produce fruit. He also trims every branch that produces fruit so that it can produce even more fruit. Now you are clean, or pure, through the Word which I have spoken to you (through My teaching). Abide, or live, in me and I will abide, or live, in you. No branch can produce fruit alone. It must stay connected to the vine. It is the same with you. You cannot produce fruit alone. You must abide, or live, in me. "I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you abide in me, and I in you, you will produce plenty of fruit. But without me you won't be able to do anything. If anyone doesn't abide in me, he will be thrown out like a branch and will be dried up. All the dead branches like that are gathered up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you stay joined together with me, and follow my teachings, you can ask for anything you want, and it will be given to you. Show that you are my disciples by producing much fruit. This will bring honor to my Father. I have loved you just as the Father has loved me. Now continue in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will live in my love, just like I have kept my Father's commandments and live in His love. I have told you these things so that my joy might stay in you, and you might be full of joy.

232. THE TRUE VINE

JOHN 15:1-11



"Jesus said, 'I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit.'" *John 15:5*

232. THE TRUE VINE

JOHN 15:1-11

MEMORY VERSE:

"As the Father loved me, I have also loved you. Abide in my love." JOHN 15:9

Review Questions

True or False

1. Jesus said I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener, or vinedresser.
2. He cuts off every branch in me that does not produce leaves.
3. Jesus said, "Abide, or live, in me, and I will abide in you."
4. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever lives in me, and I in him, produces a lot of fruit.
5. Jesus said, "Without me, you can do everything."

Questions

1. Who is the true vine?
2. What happens to every branch that doesn't produce fruit?
3. Can we do anything without Jesus?
4. What happens to the branches that are cut off and dried up?
5. Do we give God honor if we produce a lot of fruit?
6. What did Jesus say would happen if we keep His commandments? Where will we live? Did He keep God's commandments? Does He live in God's love?

Lesson 232 Craft

Materials Needed:

1 black (or any color if you want) construction paper sheet per child

Green construction paper, cut into 'stalks' – make some ½" wide, some 1" wide, and some smaller for the tiny branches

Red, Purple, Orange, Yellow construction paper cut into fruit-like shapes (for younger children you can have these pre-cut)

Scissors

Glue

Collage of Abiding

Pass out as many pieces of construction paper as the number of children in your class. Use a black piece for the background and have your students cut green paper into the shapes of stalks (smaller children you can have the stalks, branches & leaves pre-cut for them), leaves and use the other colors of construction paper for fruit shapes.

Have your students glue some of the stalks as vines, some as branches with leaves and then glue on the fruit. Encourage them to make sure their branches are all attached to the vine.

Write (or print, color and cut out the template below – you can use either the landscape text or the portrait text) "Jesus is the True Vine" on the bottom of the construction paper.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to abide in Jesus. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.

JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE.

JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE.