

# The **Good News** that John Wrote

***...that you may believe that  
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of  
God, and that believing you  
may have life in his name.***

**John 20.31**

***Life in the Spirit***

# Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
- To become more conformed to His image
- To pray for and encourage one another

# Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

# John 15.1-17



## Isaiah 5.1-7

Listen while I sing you this song, a song of my friend and his vineyard: My friend had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

## Isaiah 5.1-7

He dug the soil and cleared it of stones; he planted the finest vines. He built a tower to guard them, dug a pit for treading the grapes. He waited for the grapes to ripen, but every grape was sour.

## Isaiah 5.1-7

So now my friend says, “You people who live in Jerusalem and Judah, judge between my vineyard and me.

## Isaiah 5.1-7

Is there anything I failed to do for it? Then why did it produce sour grapes and not the good grapes I expected?

## Isaiah 5.1-7

...the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, a cry!

## John 15.1

“I am the real  
vine, and my  
Father is the  
gardener.



## John 15.2

He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will be clean and bear more fruit.



## John 15.3

You have been made clean  
already by the teaching I have  
given you.



## John 15.4

Remain united to me, and I will remain united to you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it can do so only if it remains in the vine. In the same way you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

## John 15.5

“I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me.



## John 15.6

Those who do not remain in me are thrown out like a branch and dry up; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, where they are burned.



## John 15.7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it.

## John 15.8

**My Father's glory is shown by your bearing much fruit; and in this way you become my disciples.**

## John 15.9

I love you just as the Father  
loves me; remain in my love.

## John 15.10

If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

## John 15.11

**“I have told you this so that  
my joy may be in you and that  
your joy may be complete.**



## John 15.12

**My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you.**

## John 15.13

The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them.

## John 15.14

**And you are my friends if you  
do what I command you.**

## John 15.15

I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father.

## John 15.16

You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name.

## John 15.17

**This, then, is what I command  
you: love one another.**

**O let us give thanks to the Lord!**

**For You, O God...brought us out of nothing into being, and when we had fallen away, You raised us up again. You left nothing undone until you had led us up to heaven and granted us Your Kingdom, which is to come.**

Priestly Prayer from The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

**Questions?**  
**Comments?**