Sacred Space The Vine, Branches, & Fruit

PREPARATION

Whom have I in heaven but you?
I desire you more than anything on earth.

My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever. Psalm 73:25-26

CONFESSION

Anyone who wanders away from this teaching has no relationship with God.

But anyone who remains in the teaching of Christ has a relationship with both the Father and the Son. $_{2\ John\ 1:9}$

ADORATION and GRATITUDE

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Psalm 91:1-2

MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATION—John 15:1-8* (The Voice)

Jesus: I am the true vine, and My Father is the keeper of the vineyard. My Father examines every branch in Me and cuts away those who do not bear fruit. He leaves those bearing fruit and carefully prunes them so that they will bear more fruit; already you are clean because you have heard My voice. Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. A branch

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read Slowly, several times.

Reflect How do I relate to this?

Respond What is my next step of obedience?
Rest Receive God's healing and renewal.

cannot bear fruit if it is disconnected from the vine, and neither will you if you are not connected to Me.

I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you abide in Me and I in you, you will bear great fruit. Without Me, you will accomplish nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is like a branch that is tossed out and shrivels up and is later gathered to be tossed into the fire to burn. If you abide in Me and My voice abides in you, anything you ask will come to pass for you. Your abundant growth and your faithfulness as My followers will bring glory to the Father.

ANCHORING PRAYER

"Yes, You are the Vine and I will remain in You.".

REVIEW OF THE HEART (previous 24 hours)

Where do I see evidence of spiritual fruit in my life? What part of my life feels dry and withered?

WISDOM

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23a

Yes, but remember—those branches were broken off because they didn't believe in Christ, and you are there because you do believe. So don't think highly of yourself, but fear what could happen. Romans 11:20

"Abide in Jesus, the sinless One - which means, give up all of self and its life, and dwell in God's will and rest in His strength. This is what brings the power that does not commit sin."

Andrew Murray

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, others, and me.

CLOSING PRAYER

And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame. 1 John 2:28

May we always be filled with the fruit of our salvation—the righteous character produced in our lives by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to You O God. Amen. Philippians 1:11 (adapted)

SACRED SPACE EVERY DAY

Be still and quiet before God.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Pray for, and serve my community.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. *Episcopal or Revised Common Lectionary, Year B..

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