

## Reproduce Disciples John 15:1-11

Main idea: When we depend on Jesus, the true Israel, we can grow disciples and prove we are truly Jesus' disciples.

I. Jesus is the true Israel. Spiritually dead Jews are removed while spiritually alive Jews are tested to produce more fruit (15:1-2).

<sup>2</sup> In that day, "A vineyard of wine, sing of it! <sup>3</sup> "I, the Lord, am its keeper; I water it every moment. So that no one will damage it, I guard it night and day. <sup>4</sup> "I have no wrath. Should someone give Me briars *and* thorns in battle, *Then* I would step on them, I would burn them completely. <sup>5</sup> "Or let him rely on My protection, Let him make peace with Me, Let him make peace with Me." <sup>6</sup> In the days to come Jacob will take root, Israel will blossom and sprout, And they will fill the whole world with fruit. Isaiah 27:2-6 (NASB)

<sup>21</sup> "Yet I planted you a choice vine, A completely faithful seed. How then have you turned yourself before Me Into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine? Jeremiah 2:21 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> Let me sing now for my well-beloved A song of my beloved concerning His vineyard. My well-beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill. <sup>2</sup> He dug it all around, removed its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it And also hewed out a wine vat in it; Then He expected *it* to produce *good* grapes, But it produced *only* worthless ones. <sup>3</sup> "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge between Me and My vineyard. <sup>4</sup> "What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected *it* to produce *good* grapes did it produce worthless ones? <sup>5</sup> "So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground. <sup>6</sup> "I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned or hoed, But briars and thorns will come up. I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it." <sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel And the men of Judah His delightful plant. Thus He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; For righteousness, but behold, a cry of distress. Isaiah 5:1-7 (NASB)

<sup>7</sup> So he *began* saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> "Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." Luke 3:7-9 (NASB)

<sup>43</sup> "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it. Matthew 21:43 (NASB)

II. Depend upon Jesus in order to grow disciples and prove that you are truly Jesus' disciple (15:3-11).

<sup>17</sup> But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, <sup>18</sup> do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, *remember that* it is not you who supports the root, but the root *supports* you. <sup>19</sup> You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." <sup>20</sup> Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; <sup>21</sup> for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either. <sup>22</sup> Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. <sup>23</sup> And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. <sup>24</sup> For if you were cut off from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these who are the natural *branches* be grafted into their own olive tree? Romans 11:17-24 (NASB)

III. Intimate, intentional relationships produce strong disciples.