

I am the vine you are the branches...



Hello

Do you like fruit? What is your favourite kind of fruit? I love fruit, and one kind I particularly enjoy is grapes! Do you know anything about grapes? They grow in bunches on vines and the soil provides the nutrition that is needed to produce the fruit. Grapes have to stay close to the branches and vines for them to keep growing and tasting delicious.

What would happen if one of these grapes fell off of the vine and sat in the sun for a while? It wouldn't be fresh and juicy, in fact, it would be shrivelled; we call them raisins. Now, there's nothing wrong with raisins. They're great for cookies or cereal or for a quick snack. But I would always choose grapes!



Did you know that Jesus talked about grapes? Jesus said that He was the vine, and that we are the branches. What might that mean? He was explaining how important it is for us to stay connected to Him. Just as the vine provides nutrition that helps fruit grow on a plant, Jesus gives us all that we need to grow in our faith. The branches on a grape vine have to stay connected to the vine so that they can produce delicious fruit. Otherwise, they'll dry up and wither like these sad little raisins.

We need to stay close to Jesus so that He can produce "fruit" in us. Of course, we aren't going to start sprouting grapes or anything. Spiritual fruit are things like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. How do we make sure we are connected to Jesus? We read God's Word and study the Bible and we pray.



You could remind yourself of this teaching by making a bunch of grapes. You could paint the grapes, scrunch up or roll up paper for grapes or use play dough. Use your imagination and have fun!