

The Gospel of John

Relationships of the Believer

John 15:1-27

The Lord and His disciples are now making their way to the Garden of Gethsemane. On the way there, Christ continues His teaching. He begins to tell the disciples about the many relationships that the believer has, such as to Christ, the World, and the Holy Spirit.

The Setting

- After the Last Supper on Tuesday night, 14th of Nisan
- This teaching occurs as Christ and His disciples make their way from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane (14:31).

The Story

- The Relationship of the Father, the Son, and the Believer (vs. 1-11)
 - The imagery of the vineyard – vs. 1-2
 - “The branch in the vine which beareth not fruit is not a true believer at all, but one who by profession claims to be a branch in the vine.” - Gaebelein
 - The washing of the Word, compare to 13:11– vs. 3
 - The results of abiding in Christ – vs. 4-7
 - Power through Christ – vs. 4
 - Fruit through Christ – vs. 5
 - Life through Christ – vs. 6
 - Prayer through Christ – vs. 7
 - The Father glorified through our fruit – vs. 8
 - “of doctrine, grace, and good works, which show them to be trees of righteousness” - Gill
 - The chain of love: Father to Christ to us – vs. 9
 - The results of obedience – vs. 10
 - “When we walk in fellowship with Him, when we are obedient to Him, as He was obedient to His Father in His path down here, then we abide in His love. Obedience to His words proves our love to Him, and walking in obedience we abide in His love ‘and hereby we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.’ (I John 2:3)” - Gaebelein
 - True joy is through serving Christ – vs. 11
- The Relationship of the Believer and Christ (vs. 12-17)
 - The new commandment of love – vs. 12
 - The test of true of love – vs. 13
 - The test of friendship – vs. 14

- The new intimacy with Christ – vs. 15
- The purpose of the disciples and their enduring work – vs. 16
- Love one another – vs. 17
- The Relationship of the Believer and the World (vs. 18-25)
 - The World hates Christ – vs. 18
 - The Believer's separation from the world – vs. 19
 - The World treats us the same as they treat Christ – vs. 20
 - The World does not know God – vs. 21
 - Christ has revealed their sin – vs. 22
 - Hatred of Christ is hatred of God – vs. 23
 - The World rejected Christ, as foretold in Psalm 35:19, 69:4 – vs. 24-25
- The Relationship of the Believer and the Spirit (vs. 26-27)
 - The Spirit will testify of Christ – vs. 26
 - The Believer will witness through the Spirit – vs. 27