



# "Hold on in Christ" by Mrs Evodia Mametsa Sunday Service, the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2012.

## Scripture reading:

John 15:1-17 "1 I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. Love and Joy Perfected 9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. 11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you





that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. 17 These things I command you, that you love one another." NKJV.

There is no one who can forgive you or baptise you with the Holy Spirit except Jesus Christ, that is why He says I am the true vine. You have been chosen to be saved by Jesus, it is not by our works but by His grace, Eph 2:8-9 "8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast." NKJV.

That is why he says we are the branches, and he is the true vine so ask yourself today if you are a good branch because God is looking for people whose life are pleasing before him Christ and before the Father. Ask yourself what kind of a branch are you today? Branches that are not bearing fruits God is going to cut them off, God is looking for good branches, branches that produce good fruits. God says if there's any branch which is not producing good fruit it must be cut off.

God is showing us that there is no one who can come to Him except through Jesus Christ, so ask yourself today if you are a good branch that pleases God or are you living an ungodly life that is no good in God's eyes or are you becoming a dry branch? If you're a good branch are you producing good fruits? Are you watering your spirit? For us to please God we must water our spirit because that is the only way that we can be connected with him and live a Godly life because if our spirits are clean it means we'll hear God.





The roots absorb the water in the ground and feed it through to the branches and when there is a branch that is not producing fruits, it affects the supply of the water by the roots. That branch must be cut out so that it doesn't badly affect the other branches of that tree.

As Christians we must not go a day without praying because prayer is our pillar and it is the only we that we can speak with God. In order for you to stay in Christ you must always water you spirit through prayer, and if you're not watering your spirit it will be dry and God will cut you off from His side. Today you must conduct a self-introspection, is your life pleasing God? Are you a branch that is dry and no longer producing good fruit? For us to be connected to Christ we must always meditate on His word. Do yourself a favour today so that you won't be a dry branch but a good branch by obeying His commandments.

As Christians we must always pray for one another as we are brothers and sisters in Christ and by doing that you will be practicing the love that God left us with. We must also love one another; we are not supposed to neglect each other. If you give yourself time and tell God that I am coming out of the sins that am doing he will forgive. Jesus said who is a good friend that can die for His or her friend? Only the one who laid his life for us can enable us to see the kingdom of God.

Jesus says He is the good vine, and He is looking for good branches that can produce good fruits. He says He has chosen us and He expects us to show love to one another so that we can win the lost souls, but firstly you need to first introspect yourself and ask yourself if you're a good branch. Is your life pleasing God? Are you not living a good life?





If you are at church in order to please other people it means that you are not yet ready to be a good branch, so in order to be a good branch you must know what is your purpose at church, and above all God wants us to love one another as He has loved us.

Can you be a good sacrifice that God can accept? God is pleased when He sees us loving each other so if you're failing to love another person do you think you can be a living sacrifice? If the Holy Spirit is sending you to pray for someone and you keep on refusing and that person ends up dying what will you say to God? We have a lot of work as Christians to go and help other people to be cleansed and sanctified as we have been washed by the blood of Jesus.

He says if we are abiding in Him, whatsoever we ask in His name we will receive. In God you can ask anything and receive if you are abiding in Christ. It is because He died on Calvary for our sins because of the love He had for us, so let's keep that love by loving each other let us be good branches in order to remain in Jesus, if we help others to clean up their lives it means we are pleasing God because that is what He want us to do in order for the world to know that we are His ambassadors. And we can then make disciples of the people.

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