"John 15"

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I discussed John 15. Following are some of the scriptures that were discussed.

Son of God is true vine

■ John 15:1—The Son of God is the true vine, and the Father is the vinedresser.

■ John 15:2—Every branch that does not bear fruit is taken away, and every branch that does bear fruit is pruned to bear more fruit.

■ John 15:3-6—If we abide with the vine (the Son of God), we can bear much fruit. If we do not abide with the Son of God, we are like a branch that is burned in a fire.

Whatever you ask?

- John 15:7—"Ask what you desire" and it will be done.
- John 15:16—"Whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give you."

■ James 4:2-3—Some people don't receive because they don't ask, and other people don't receive because they "ask amiss."

■ John 15:8—The Father is glorified when we bear much fruit.

Son of God kept Father's instructions

■ John 15:9—Since the Father loved the Son and the Son loved the disciples, we ought to abide in His love.

■ John 15:10—Since the Son kept the Father's instructions, we ought to keep the Son's instructions.

Love one another

- John 15:11-12—We should love one another as the Son has loved us.
- John 15:13—Are you willing to lay down your life for a friend?

■ John 15:14—Since we are the Son's friend, we should follow the Son's instruction.

- John 15:15—He called them friends instead of servants.
- John 15:16—We did not choose Him, but He chose us to bear fruit.
- John 15:17—He reiterated that we should love one another.

Dealing with hatred

- John 15:18—If the world hates you, know that it hated the Son of God.
- John 15:19—We are not of the world.

■ John 15:20—If the world persecuted the Son of God, they (the world) will also persecute you.

- John 15:21—They did not know the Father.
- John 15:22—If the people were ignorant, they had an excuse.
- John 15:23-24—If people hate the Son of God, they hate the Father.
- John 15:25—The people hated the Son of God without a legitimate reason.

Comforter pronoun

■ John 15:26—The Son of God mentioned the "Comforter" with the various personal pronouns. (Personal pronouns are also used in John 14:16, John 14:26 and John 16:7.)

There are many examples of the "personification" of the Spirit.

My favorite examples are found when the Son of God said that the Spirit "speaks" to the seven congregations in Revelation 2 and 3.

Power from God

Notice verses about power from God.

- Acts 2:33
- 2 Corinthians 1:21-22
- Ephesians 1:13-14
- 1 Thessalonians 4:8
- 2 Timothy 1:6-7

Disciples bear witness

■ John 15:27—They were to bear witness of the Son of God, because they had been with Him from the beginning.

■ Acts 1:22—When it was time to pick a replacement for Judas, they were to consider someone who had been a witness of the resurrection.