

Sermon Notes: What Are You Connected To?

I. Main Scripture:

John 15:1-5 - "I am the true vine... you are the branches."

II. Central Theme:

Spiritual Discovery - Auditing your spiritual connections.

III. Key Question:

"What are you *truly* connected to, and what fruit is it producing?"

IV. Main Points:

1. The Wrong Connections (Counterfeit Vines)

- **Family Spirits:** Generational curses (addiction, debt, sickness).
- **Cultural Spirits:** Traditions that contradict God's Word.
- **Spirit of Religion:** Rule-based, no relationship; leads to pride.
- **Spirit of Fear:** Paralyzes faith; passed through trauma or family.
- **How to Identify Them (The Bad Fruit):**
 - **Condemnation:** Constant feeling of not being good enough.
 - **Bondage:** Trapped in inescapable cycles.
 - **Confusion & Fear:** Lack of peace and clarity.

2. The Right Connection: The Holy Spirit (The True Vine)

- Received upon salvation; a spiritual transplant.
- Fundamental Difference: He **lives IN you** (1 Cor. 6:19), not just around you.
- **How He is Different:**
 - **His Residence:** Internal, not external.
 - **His Focus:** Points to Jesus, not to Himself (John 15:26).
 - **His Fruit:** Produces love, joy, peace, etc. (Gal. 5:22-23) naturally.
 - **His Function:** Spirit of Truth & Freedom (2 Cor. 3:17); convicts to liberate, not to shame.

V. Conclusion & Altar Call:

- Call for a spiritual audit.
- The prayer of connection is a transfer of allegiance.

- Invitation to disconnect from dead vines and connect to the True Vine.

VI. Key Quote:

"You are not just socially or culturally connected; you are spiritually connected. Before you seek help, ask: 'Which spirit is answering me?'"