

## GOD AND ME

Lesson Twenty-Six

GOD IS....

I AM...



MY RESPONSE...

THE LOVE OF THE CROSS



JESUS CHOSE THE CROSS BECAUSE HE **LOVES** US!

AND



HIS RESURRECTION GIVES US THE **POWER** TO CHOOSE TO LOVE HIM!

"The message of the cross seems foolish to those who are lost and dying.  
But it is God's power to us who are being saved."

1 Corinthians 1:18

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you  
a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the true knowledge of Him."

Ephesians 1:17

In The Last 5 Lessons We Have Discovered That:

## GOD SAID, "I AM WHO I AM"



### THE FIRST "I AM" Exodus Chapter 3

*God said to Moses, "I AM who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites:*

*'I am has sent me to you.'"*

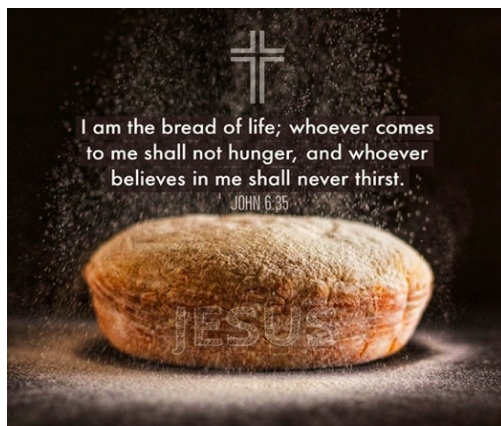
*"This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation."*

This is the first time in the Bible when God calls Himself, **"I AM"**

## In the New Testament Jesus Said:

### "I AM the Bread of Life"

John 6:35

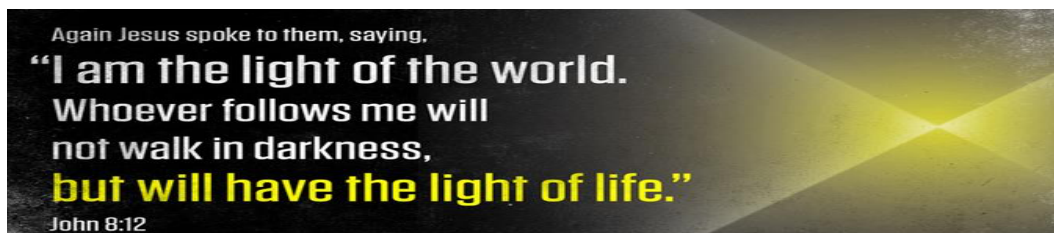


**JESUS is the good bread from heaven  
that keeps our spirits going forever!**

**AND**

### "I AM the Light of the World"

John 8:12



**Following Jesus Out Of Darkness Is The Best Way To Live!**

**AND**



**“I AM the Gate for the Sheep”**

John 10:7



**Following Jesus Keeps Me Safe!**

**AND**

**“I AM the Good Shepherd.”**

John 10:11



**Jesus Is Committed To Caring And Watching Over Those Who Are His.**

**AND**

**“I AM The Way, The Truth, And The Life.**

**No one comes to the Father except through Me.”**

John 14:6



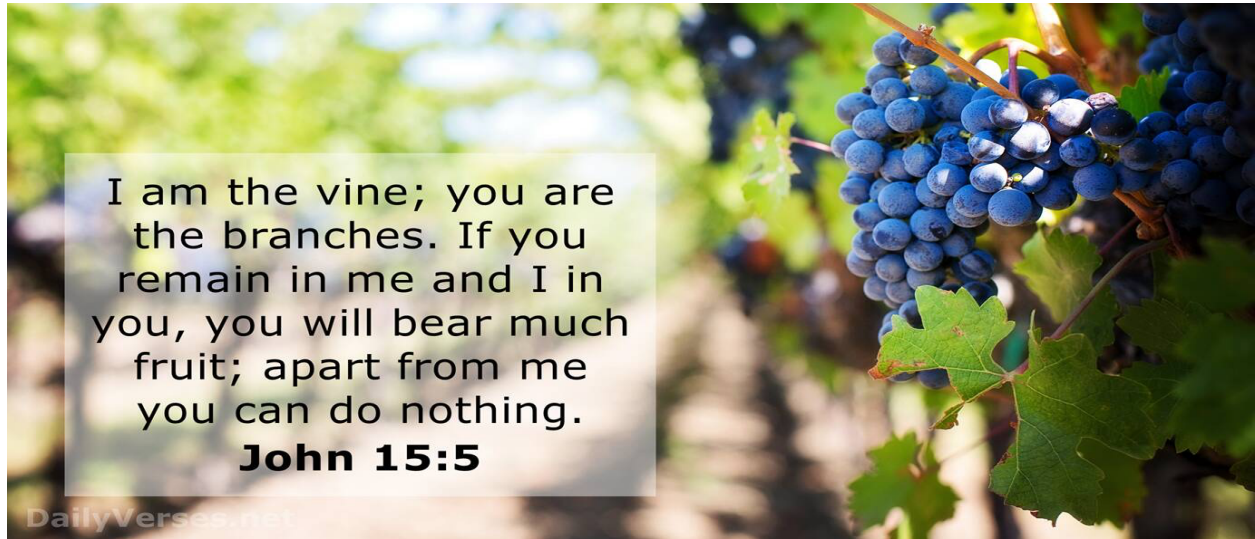
**Jesus Is The Source Of All Truth And Knowledge About God.**



This lesson we hear Jesus say,

**"I AM the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."**

John 15:5



Grapes Grow In A Unique Way

**Do you know how they grow?**

They grow on a vine! Once they are removed from the vine, they start to die, they get all squishy, and eventually they dry up. But if they are still connected to the vine, they can get the nutrients through the vine that they need to survive!

Jesus Tells Us That He Is Like Our "Vine."

**BY ATTACHING OURSELVES TO CHRIST, WE BECOME LIKE HIM  
AND BEAR GOOD FRUIT THAT WILL HONOR GOD.**

**Did You Ever Think Of Yourself As A Grape?**

**Does That All That Sounds A Little Crazy And Confusing?**

Let's learn some more about what Jesus means when He says He is the Vine and we are the branches..



**Do You Remember Which Book Of The Bible We Have Been Studying? To Hear Jesus Saying:**  
**“I AM the Bread of Life”, I AM the Light of the World”, “I AM the Gate for the sheep”,**  
**“I AM the Good Shepherd”, “I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”**

We find all these Scriptures in the **Gospel of John**.

- Today's: **“I AM the Vine”**, is also in the book of John. **Let's look up John 15:5**
- Grab your Bible.
  - Find the New Testament.
  - The book of John is last of the 4 Gospels.
    - The order is: Mathew, Mark, Luke then John.
- Find the book of John. (Remember, you can use your table of contents in the beginning of your Bible if you need to.)
  - Find John chapter 15 (use the big numbers) then
  - Find verse 5 (use the small numbers).

Read John 15:5 in your Bible. It will sound like this:

*“I AM the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.”*

**Based On What We Have Learned So Far, What Do You Think This Scripture Means?**  
**What Is Jesus Telling Us About Himself And About Us?**

Jesus is telling us that when we live our life with Him, we can live lives that are fruitful. Just like when the grapes are removed from the vine, they start to die. They get all squishy, and eventually dry up. If we choose to live apart from Jesus, we will be like a squishy, dried-up grape and not have a life that is fruitful.

### **What Does It Mean To Live A Fruitful Life?**

Living a fruitful life happens by letting God love us and loving Him back. As we follow Jesus and obey Him, this helps others to know about His greatness, goodness, and love. When we are attached to Him, He helps us to show kindness and love to others. When we are following Jesus, it is much easier to be kind and patient with others. It is also easier to be kind and patient with ourselves!

**Do You Ever Get Frustrated With Yourself About Something?**  
**Maybe Something That You Struggle To Do Or Aren't Good At?**

God wants us to be kind, patient, and helpful to others. But...

**He Also Wants Us To Be Kind And Patient With Ourselves.**

God made each of us special, just the way that He wanted us. His creation of us is perfect to Him! He loves us all the time, even when we are learning, growing, and making mistakes. No matter how many mistakes we make, when we ask Him to forgive us, the Holy Spirit will help us and release the fruit of His Spirit through us.

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”*

Galatians 5:22-23a



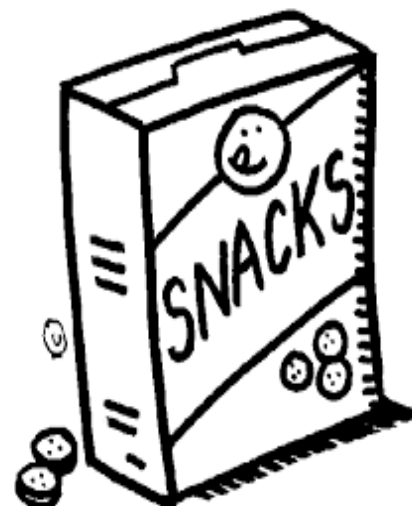
**Let's Look At Some Situations Where People Can Bear Good Fruit With Jesus' Help.**



Ella's big brother is in a bad mood. He had a really bad day at football practice. Ella asked him if he wanted to play a game, and he snapped back at her and told her to leave him alone. Ella has two choices here. She can yell back at him and get angry at him, or she can be fruitful like Jesus. **What Are Some Ways That Ella Could Choose To Be Fruitful?**

Abby's mom accidentally forgot to get her favorite snack at the grocery store. Abby had asked her specifically to get that snack for her before she went to the store that morning. Abby is really frustrated that her mom forgot. Abby has two choices here. She can choose to get angry and whine, or she can choose to be fruitful like Jesus.

**What Are Some Ways That Abby Could Choose To Be Fruitful?**



Sam's friend accidentally kicked his favorite ball over the fence. It rolled down the street, and into the storm drain. Sam knew there was no way he was going to get it back. Sam has two choices here. He can get mad at his friend and tell him to go home, or he can choose to be fruitful like Jesus.

**What are some ways that Sam could choose to be fruitful?**

What do you think Jesus means when He says: **"If you remain in Me and I in you..."**?



I Am the True Vine

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### Some Ways To "Remain In Jesus"

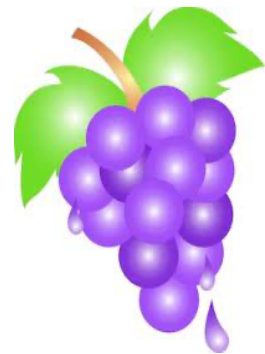
- Trust Jesus As Your Savior
- Worship & Thank God
- Pray & Let Him Help You
- Read His Bible and Obey His Word
- Think About Your Actions
- Make Wise Choices

As we do these things, it gets easier and easier to be like Jesus.  
This is how we stay "attached to the vine."

### Do You Have A Person In Your Life That You Really Like To Be Around Because They Are Kind And Make You Feel Loved?

You can be that person for others! When you attach yourself to Jesus, just like the branch is attached to the vine so the fruit stays good; you will become more like Jesus every day.

As Jesus makes you feel loved and special, His love and kindness will squish out of you (just like sweet, yummy grape juice) and you will help make others feel loved and special too!



### Think About It:

What is something that has happened to you recently that frustrated you?

How did you handle it?

Is there a way that you could have handled it better?

What are some ways that we can work to stay connected to Jesus so that we can be fruitful?

**BIG IDEA:**

Today, we want to remember that

**By Attaching Ourselves To Christ, We Become Like Him And Bear Fruit That Will Honor God!**

We can stay attached to Christ by reading our Bible, praying, and learning more about how Jesus wants us to live.

**With the Holy Spirit's help: "We will be FRUITFUL!"**

Remember:

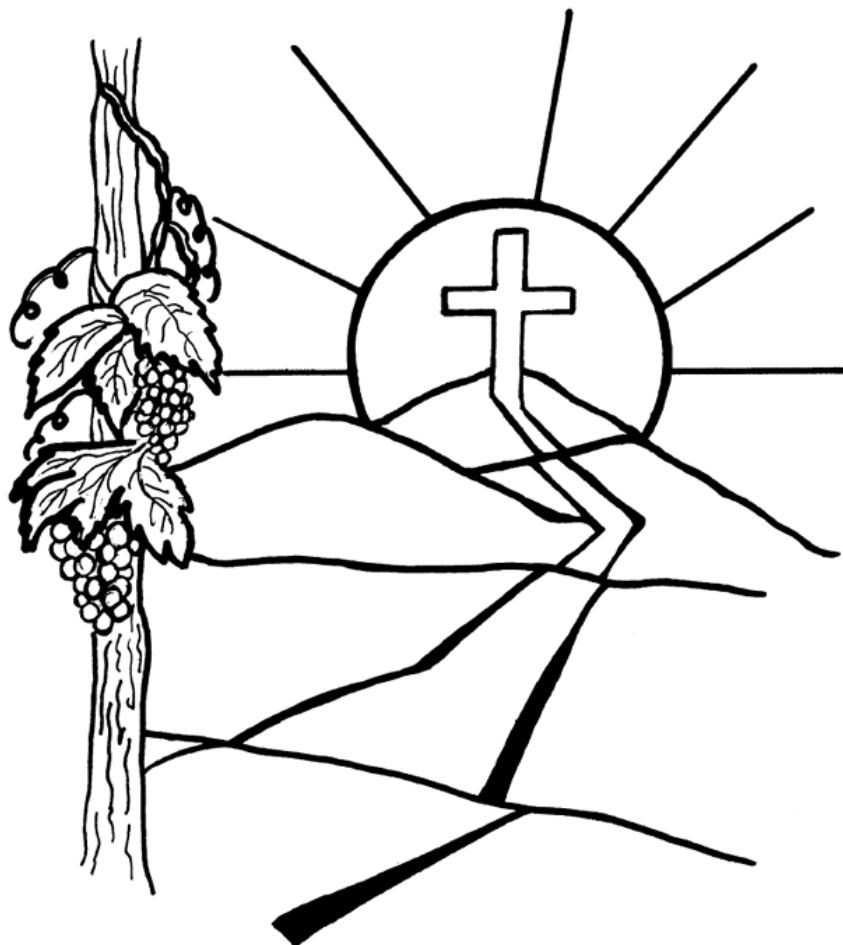
Jesus Said,

*"I AM the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."*

John 15:5

Just like the grape depends on the vine to stay alive and juicy, we need to stay with Jesus to be able to make good choices and live for God.

**By Attaching Ourselves To Christ, We Become Like Him And Bear Fruit That Will Honor God!**





## My Response:

I Choose To Believe That:

**Jesus is the True Vine  
Apart From Him I Can Do Nothing**

I Choose To:

**Stay Attached to Jesus & Be Fruitful for God By:**

- Trusting Jesus as My Savior
  - Reading My Bible
- Worshipping God & Praying
  - Going To Church
- Learning More About How Jesus Wants Me To Live
  - Making Good Choices

I Choose To Remember That:

**By Attaching Myself To Christ, I Become Like Him And Bear Fruit That Will Honor God.  
With the Holy Spirit's help: "I will be FRUITFUL!"**



**I AM THE VINE  
YOU ARE  
THE BRANCHES**

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**TALK TO GOD**

Use the ARK model (**A: Agree R: Revelation K: Keep**) to pray using Scripture.

*"I AM the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."*

John 15:5

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."*

Galatians 5:22-23a

**Agree** - LORD, I **AGREE** that You are the vine that I need to be attached to so I can have a fruitful life and show Your *love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control* to myself and others through Your Holy Spirit.

**Reveal**– Please show me more about what it means that You are the True Vine. Teach me how to remain in You every day of my life. Show me how much I depend on You for EVERYTHING!

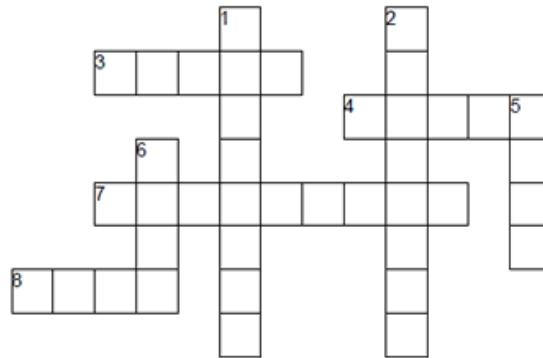
**Keep**– I want to **attach myself to Jesus, become more like Him and bear fruit that will honor You**. I want to depend on the Holy Spirit to help me to be FRUITFUL! Thank You, God for helping me to love You, love myself, and love others! Jesus, You are the True Vine! Amen

**Write or Draw Your Own Prayer Above**

## The True Vine

"I am the vine: you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.," John 15:5 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 15:1-8.



### ACROSS

3. Praise or honor
4. The part of a vine or tree which is eaten
7. Those who follow Jesus
8. A plant that climbs or creeps along the ground

### DOWN

1. Arms that grow out from the trunk of a tree
2. A person who works with plants and flowers
5. The opposite of false
6. Burning flame

|           |       |          |          |
|-----------|-------|----------|----------|
| TRUE      | FIRE  | GARDENER | FRUIT    |
| DISCIPLES | GLORY | VINE     | BRANCHES |

# **“I AM” THE VINE**

**John 15:5**

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.



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# "I AM" THE VINE

Discover the hidden words.



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | Y | L | A | P | T | T | N | S | U | N | X | W | J | T |
| J | E | S | U | S | S | W | N | I | C | P | V | P | O | S |
| B | V | W | E | E | Y | O | N | E | N | L | P | A | B | A |
| R | O | L | N | D | C | Q | X | A | V | E | K | R | E | C |
| A | V | I | V | C | Y | U | Y | P | U | E | Q | A | D | R |
| N | V | M | I | F | R | I | E | N | D | S | L | B | I | I |
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| H | U | J | R | T | T | D | H | F | T | X | S | E | F | E |
| Z | B | K | S | F | Z | V | C | N | D | K | V | M | D | K |
| U | C | E | U | D | M | U | N | I | E | E | K | A | G | J |
| G | A | R | D | E | N | E | R | M | S | N | N | Z | S | W |

## Word Bank

PROSPER

SACRIFICE

FRUIT

FRUIT

PARABLES

VINES

OBEDIENCE

JESUS

GARDENER

FRIENDS

BRANCHES

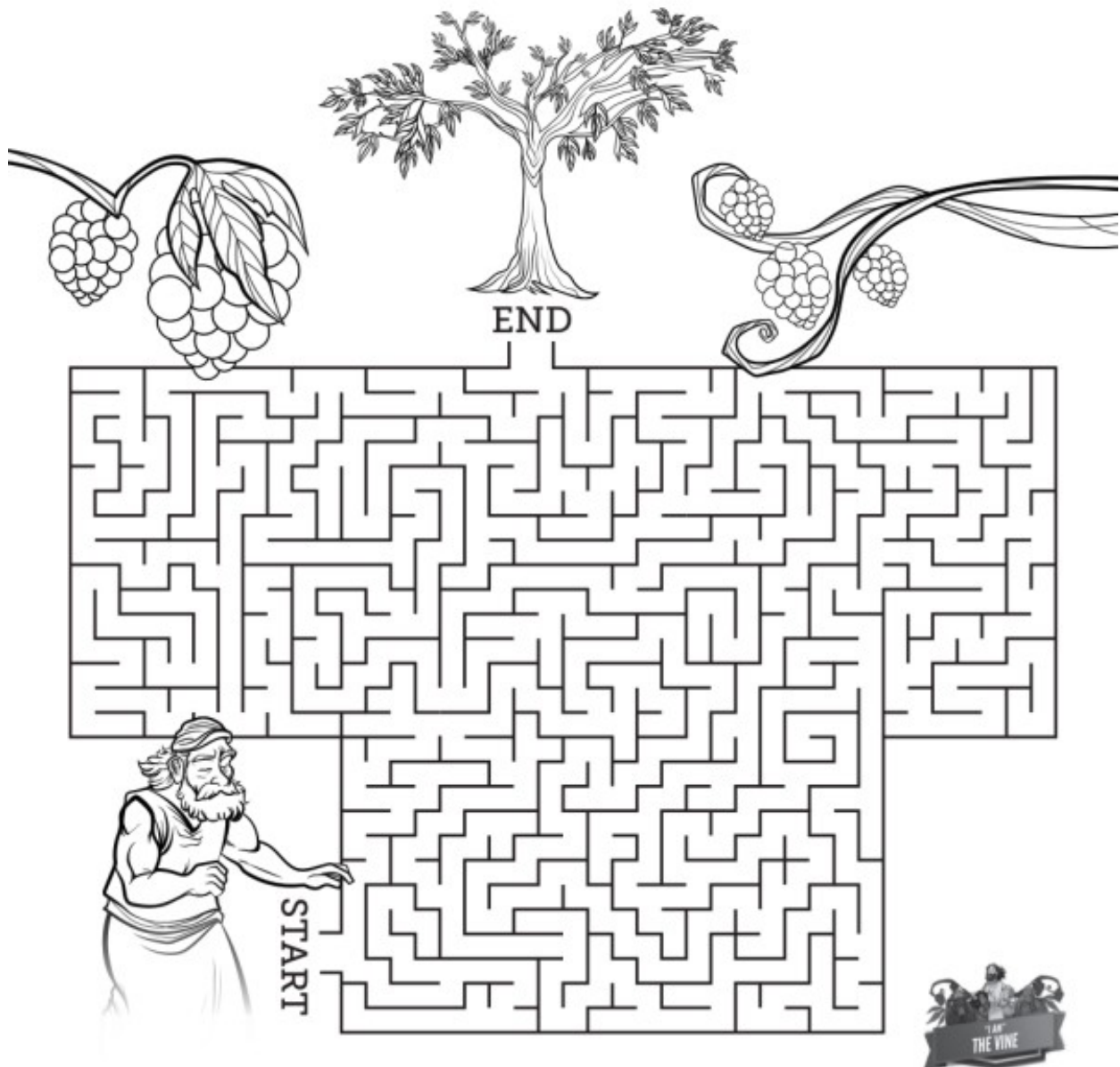
GOD



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# "I AM" THE VINE

Guide the gardener to the fruit tree.



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**TAKE HOME CHALLENGES:****1. This week read one or more of these Scriptures in the Bible.**

Corinthians 1:18

Ephesians 1:17

Exodus 3:14-15

John 6:35

John 8:12

John 10:7,11

John 14:6

Galatians 5:22-23

**2. Memory Verse:**

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*

John 15:5

**3. Share this workbook with a family member and talk about:**

a. God is...

b. I am...

c. My Response... (Share your feelings about what you learned together)

**4. Do the coloring, activity pages, and writing or drawing a prayer suggested in this book.**

