

I Am the True Vine...



...Abide in Me
John 15



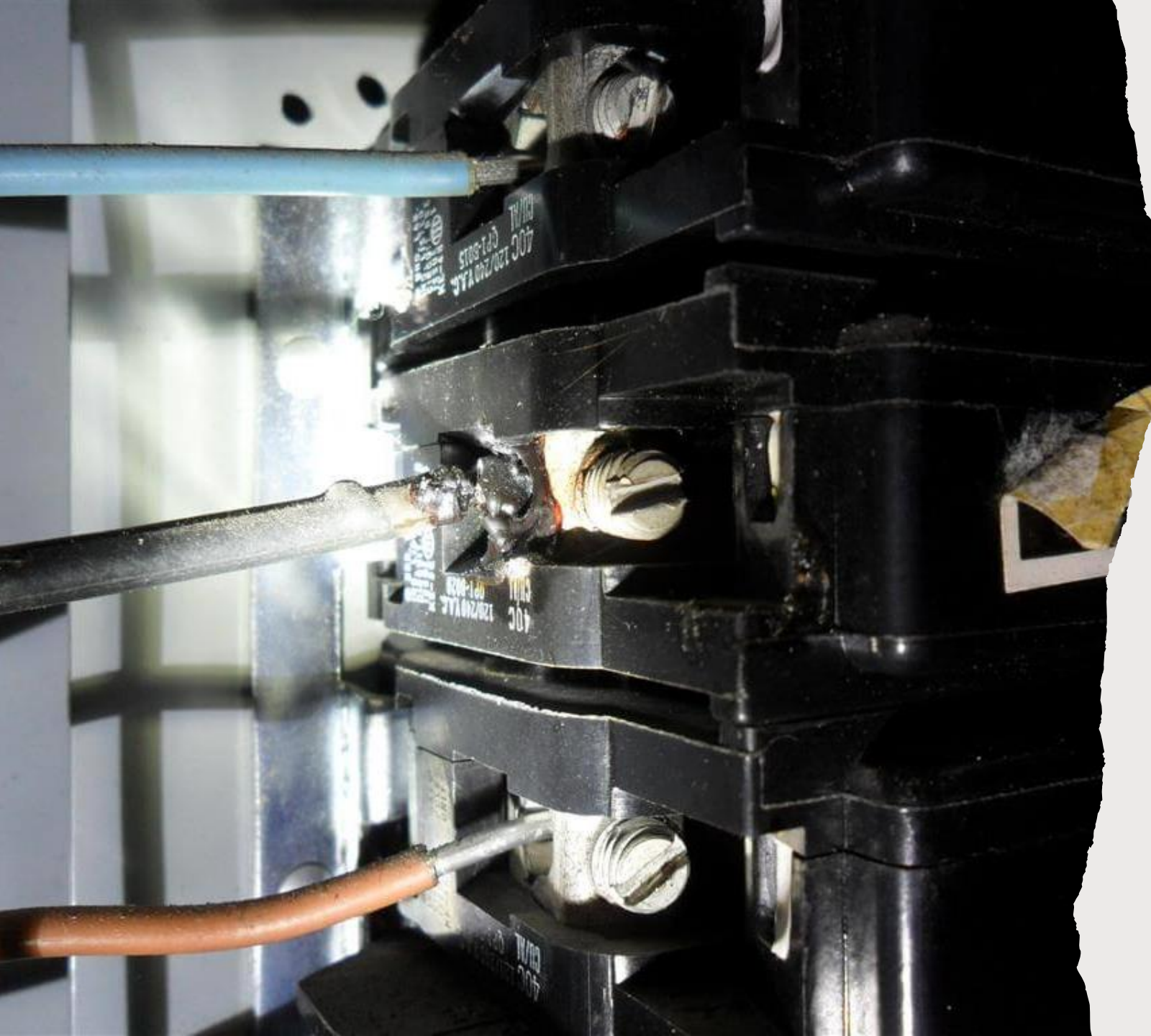
Three Types of
Disconnected
Power:

Obvious



Three Types of
Disconnected
Power:

Right under the
Surface



Three Types of
Disconnected
Power:

Deep at Heart

Key Verses:

- “**Abide** in Me (command), and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.” John 15:4

“These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.” John 15:11



Let's Start at the End, v. 11

- A. This Is Not Fruit Inspector Training
- B. This Is Not Spiritual X-ray Vision to People's Hearts



Let's Start at the End, v. 11

- C. This Is a Means to Evaluate Personal Spiritual Health & Maturity
- There's a difference between Health and Maturity.



Identifying the Principal “Players”

- A. The Father – The Vinedresser
- B. The Son – The True Vine
- C. The **Eleven** – The Branches
(us, by extension)



Identifying the Principal PRINCIPLE

- A. It's All about Bearing Fruit, v.16
 - *Gal. 5:23-25, Godly character
[Peace already dealt with in chapter 14:1; 14:27]
“Love, Joy, Peace...”
 - *Titus 2:14, “zealous for good deeds”
 - *Mt. 28:19-20, Spiritual
Reproduction



Identifying the Principal PRINCIPLE

- B. It's All about Abiding - How

1. Built on an Already Established Status –
“In Me, I in You” v. 4



Identifying the Principal PRINCIPLE

2. Built up Through an On-going Intimate Relationship

a. Keep His Commandments –
His Words To Me & In Me

His Last Command is to “Teach
converts to obey all that He
commanded.” Jesus does the
same (14:31); 1 John 5:2-3

b. Keeping His Words =
Abiding in His Love, v.10



Identifying the Principle's Progression

- A. “No” Fruit

Three Types of Believers
with “No Fruit”:

- New Believer
- Pruned Believer
- Stubborn Believer
“non-abiding”



Identifying the Principle's Progression

- B. Fruit

Vinedresser Prunes Back, v.2

“OUCH!” How do we respond?

-Is it chastening?

-Is it a trial?

The result...



Identifying the Principle's Progression

- C. More Fruit
Greater Focus/Consistency
Greater Understanding of
The Vinedresser's Work



Identifying the Principle's Progression

- D. Much Fruit
(Both items under More Fruit)

Greater Span of Time



Identifying the Principle's Progression

- E. The Desired Outcome
“Much Fruit” Believers
Prove they are also **Disciples**



A Final Proof to Ponder, 2 Peter 1

- Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;
- 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.
- 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.



A Final Proof to Ponder, 2 Peter 1

- 5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your **faith** supply [add] moral excellence, and in *your* moral excellence, knowledge,
- 6 and in *your* knowledge, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness,
- 7 and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and in *your* brotherly kindness, **love**.



A Final Proof to Ponder, 2 Peter 1

- 8 For if these *qualities* **are yours** and **are increasing**, they render you neither useless nor **unfruitful** in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9 For he who **lacks [not abiding]** these *qualities* is blind *or* short-sighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins.
- 10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you **practice** these things, you will never stumble;
- 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be **abundantly supplied** to you.



A Final Proof to Ponder, 2 Peter 1

- Grow in Health and Maturity by Adding to Your Faith...

Abiding in Him...

Keeping His Commandments

...There can be Joy In the Journey

