



Come and see

RIVER KIDS TERM 1 TEACHING
I AM STATEMENTS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

I AM: THE VINE

JOHN 15:1-17



Jesus is the vine, he wants us to be close to him



We want our kids to leave knowing that Jesus wants us to be close to him and get all we need from him. He is our stability our life source and wants us to draw into him. Our response is to draw closer and reliant on him

TEACHING IDEAS

I AM STATEMENT LOOK UP

Grab a bible and look up John 15:5 together. Ask the kids what they think that might mean when Jesus says he is the vine.

REMAINING IN THE VINE

Bring in a dead branch that has come off a tree or plant.

Ask: What does this branch need in order to produce leaves and fruit again? (allow answers)

Explain: It needs to be back on the plant/vine. This branch can't do anything anymore, it has actually died because it's not longer connected to the source of life! We are the same! We need to be connected to Jesus who is "the vine" in order to live the life Jesus has called us to. We need to remain and abide in him!

Using [this poster](#), brainstorm what it looks like to abide in Jesus! A **reminder:** this activity is NOT about what things we can do better or more of (ie read our bibles more) it is about what a life look like when we *abide in Jesus*

for example: A life lived close to Jesus looks like generosity, peace, reliance and intimacy with Jesus

I AM the

VINE

PARENTS NOTES

- Reminder that these come out every second Sunday when our River Kids Video is out
- Check out the app Lectio for Families for more great opportunities for family discipleship
- We are asking kids to take turns in a fun new initiative called Peer Connections where they share about themselves, their favourite bible verse and what God is teaching them. Your child's POD leader will message you if your child has signed up.

Dates Coming Up:

Sunday 26 March - Encounter Sunday

Friday 7 April - Good Friday Services 9am + 11am

Sunday 9 April - Easter Sunday Service 10am

PRAYER AND CRAFT

VINE CRAFT AND ABIDING PRAYER

Prep: using 3 different shades of green paper, cut enough strips for every pod kid to get one of each shade.

Give each child their 3 strips and create a paper chain vine together.

Have each child write a small prayer on each strip.

1. A prayer of thanks to Jesus
2. A prayer request for help
3. A prayer for someone else to join the vine

As each strip is filled use a stapler to loop it into a larger chain. We will use these chains as decoration for our encounter Sunday.

Take your time with this activity, play worship music and allow them to write their prayers thoughtfully