

**Belmont Exeter House Group Notes**  
**w/c 4<sup>th</sup> Jun**  
**Come and See – How to bear fruit – John 15:1-25**

We're working our way through the gospel of John in our Sunday morning services. Our home group studies will pick up the topic from the Sunday before the meeting. This means we won't cover the whole of the Gospel of John in these outlines. Feel free to adapt this content, or to study other passages.

John wrote his gospel so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name (John 20 v 30&31). As we study John together, keep that purpose in mind and ask, "How does this passage help me believe that Jesus is the Messiah and so live life to the full (eternal life)?"

This study is for the passage from the morning service on 4<sup>th</sup> June. If people aren't able to be at the service then please encourage them to catch up online via YouTube or the talks page on the Belmont Exeter website.

This outline is the bare bones of the study: more thought needs to be given to the way you start and finish the evening, use (or don't use) the questions themselves, and think about the way this passage may affect your own group members. Think about the big ideas and how to apply them to everyday life. Here are three book titles you may find helpful to have available for study leaders through the series.

John for Everyone by Tom Wright, pub. SPCK, (short 'daily' chapters on each section)  
The Message of John by Bruce Milne, pub. IVP (more in depth analysis and explanation)  
John for You by Josh Moody, pub. Goodbook Co (sermon style & with focus on application)

**BIG IDEA:** Fruitful disciples abide (remain) in Christ and love one another on mission together in a world which often rejects Jesus

**WAY IN:** Describe what comes to mind when you think of a fruitful Christian.  
(You might get a broader range of views by asking people to write / draw their first thoughts before sharing.)

**Context:** Jesus is teaching his close friends as they gather in the Upper Room on the day before Jesus' crucifixion. Is it often split in two parts

1. 'Let not your hearts be troubled' (John 13:31 – 14:31), words to comfort
2. 'So I send you' (John 15:1 – 16:33), words to equip

John includes these sections to show us how, 'by believing we may have life in His name'.

**READ:** John 15:1-25

**DIG IN**

1. What part of the text or sermon had the greatest impact on you? Did you learn anything new about Jesus? The Bible? God? *This is an open question to see if there are particular themes to explore which are on the minds of the group.*
2. V 1 – 8 Take some time to work out who is who in this picture, and what is the role of each person.

3. In v 5 – 8 Two actions are presented. What does each look like? You may find it helpful to spot the clauses that begin with 'If'. Do these descriptions reflect seasons in your own life? Can you share things you noticed which contributed to that situation?
4. What does v9 – 17 describe as a practical way in which we abide in Christ? What is the result?
5. How does Jesus describe as the context in which we live as disciples? (v 18 – 25)

## LIVE IT OUT

1. Think about your Frontline (the place where you spend most time in your week) – what opportunities can you see for Christian fruitfulness? How might you bear more fruit for His glory?
2. 'Love each other as I have loved you' is a big deal!! What helps us to put it in to practice? What hinders us?

## PRAYER

1. Pray for the impact you would like to see the Lord have, through you, on your Frontline?
2. V7 and 16 indicate that to remain in Christ and be fruitful will affect our prayer. How would you like to pray differently having studied this passage? Pray that way together now!