**Family Worship Guide – “I Am the Vine”**

**(Part of the “I Am” series)**

*…as for me and my house, we will serve (worship) the Lord* (Joshua 24:15)

Considerations:

* Before beginning the first “I Am” statement (and as a lead-in to this series), ask the children who they would say that *they are* if asked, and then ask them who they would say that *Jesus is*. See how their responses to the latter question line up with His seven statements.

**Read God’s word together**

Bible Verse –John 15:5

Possible questions/conversation-starters:

1. Who is the vine, and who are the branches? (Jesus is the vine, and we—His disciples/followers—are the branches). Why does Jesus use this image? (Jesus was going to be leaving His disciples soon, and so He wanted them to know that they would be able to remain connected to Him, just as branches are connected to the vine; as the vine, Jesus is the only one in a position to provide human beings with access to God; as the branches, we receive everything we need for eternal life from Jesus).

2. What do you think it means to abide in Jesus? (We remain close to Him through things like prayer, Holy Communion, and togetherness with other followers and believers, and try each day to live according to His example and teachings).

3. What does Jesus say happens when we abide in Him? (We bear fruit!) What does it mean to “bear fruit”—this is an odd saying, after all! (It means that we are a reflection of Jesus, and the fruit of the Holy Spirit is evident in our life – see Galatians 5:22-23).

Additional video resource for teaching: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btojLhvXzUc>

**Pray together**

Prompt: Give thanks to Jesus for being the vine, and for allowing us to remain connected with Him. Pray for a renewed desire to daily abide in Him.

**Sing together**

Nearer, Still Nearer (Celebration Hymnal 567) or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCF2D98szaU>

Christ Is All – Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13dBODwf3V4>

Any hymn/song of praise and worship!