

THE MEANING OF JESUS FOR THESE TIMES:
AN EXAMINATION OF THE I AM STATEMENTS
“I AM THE TRUE VINE”
JOHN 15: 1-8

The TRUE Vine is not the only vine

Personal choices

Career

Flesh

Family

Relationship/friends

Money

Supermarket of Faith Choices

Ways of Discerning Truth

Practice or Discipline of Prayer/Meditation (Mark 1: 35)

Continuing in the word of God (John 8: 31-32)

Study

Submission/Obedience

Revelation

Implementation

The Holy Spirit (John 14: 25-27)

Personal Experience (John 9: 25)

The Vinedresser

A Star Wars Approach to Life, “May the Force (Source) Be With You”

Don’t leave home without the Source

The Source will always have a better idea

The Source will help you rethink possible

Quality is always the most important product of the Source

Make no decision without first consulting the Source

Relationship

Business/Investment

Spending

Career

Family

Medical

The Discipline of Abiding

Good times

Loving Vinedresser

Vinedresser helps us keep our head on straight

Bad times

Remembering blessing of Vinedresser in past times

Trusting Vinedresser

Vinedresser gives power

Plateau times

The Vinedresser keeps us for a purpose
Claiming promise and vision of Vinedresser
While some fruit grows faster than others, none of it grows overnight
Finding joy as we are kept by the Vinedresser during plateau seasons
Plateau times are seasons for developing patience and appreciation lest we
mismanage blessings when they come

Bearing fruit

Fruit is natural consequence of abiding
We don't pick our giftedness and neither do we define fruit
We don't pick seasons of growth, ripening and harvest
As long as we abide in the vine we bear fruit (no age limit)
Imperfect grapes can still bear fruit if they continue to abide in the Vinedresser
If we are not bearing fruit perhaps we need to check our relationship to the
Vinedresser
The vision for "much" fruit as defined by the Vinedresser
Pruning and "much more" fruit