



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle B - V Sunday of Easter,

Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

The True Vine

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Reflection

What does a tree or a vine need to give much fruit?

(water, sun, good soil, pruning and cleaning...) **What happens if a branch separates from the trunk or the vine?**

(The Branch and its fruits die because they don't receive water and nutrients.) **Jesus compares His Kingdom to a vine, where He is the vine, we are the branches and our Father in Heaven is the vine grower.**

What do the fruits represent in this comparison?

(The love we share to build God's Kingdom: praying for others, doing works of mercy to help our neighbor... Jesus depends on us to be His voice and hands on earth.) **How does God prune us so we give more fruit and stay on the path to Heaven?**

(God takes away obstacles that stop our spiritual growth, or lets us experience the negative consequences of our bad decisions to teach us to follow the right path that leads to Him.) **Have you ever experienced God's pruning? Share.**

Jesus asks that we stay close to Him so we give fruit and so we receive all that we want from the Father. How do we stay close to Him?

(Praying, going to Mass and confession, obeying His commandments of love...)

Activity

Choose from the activities on the following pages and share how we can give fruit for Jesus.

Prayer

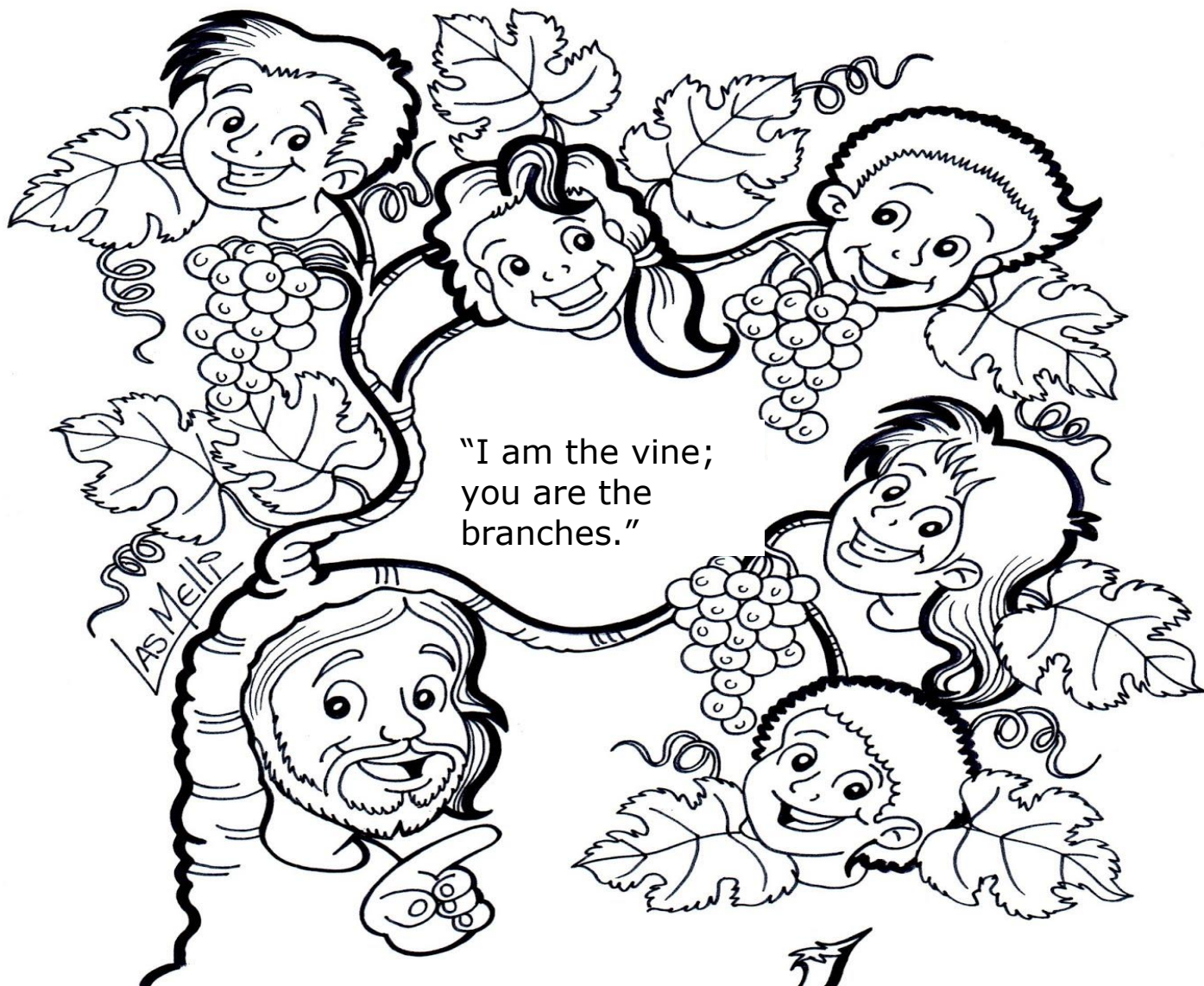
Lord, sometimes we separate ourselves from your presence. Then we feel like life has no meaning or happiness. Remind us always that to live and bear fruit, we need to be united to you and to each other, like branches on a vine. Amen.

Song: I am the Vine, I Believe, <https://youtu.be/sa1QmrfQ6q8?si=Dw5RSW0wxZUG8K37> (3-7 yrs.)

You are the Vine Vineyard Worship, J. Priday, <https://youtu.be/Mhq6Wse6sqY?si=3u20WkkMQCLT6d> (8+ yrs.)

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YaovzIata-LXIH_5k7P4pXAfzs2lMu9/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtprof=true&sd=true





"I am the vine;
you are the
branches."

"Whoever remains in me and I
in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can
do nothing." (Jn. 15:5)





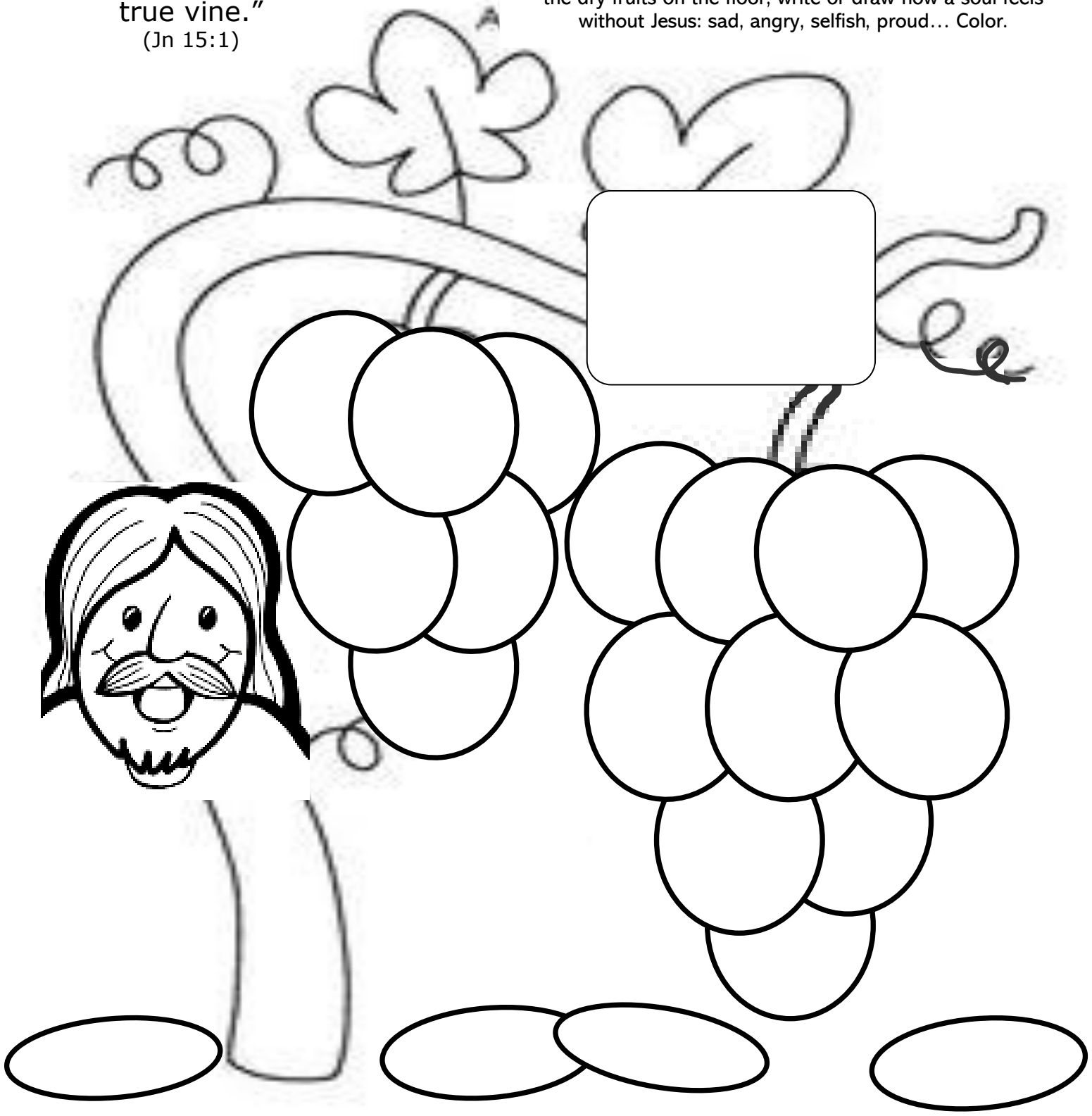
Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

"I am the
true vine."
(Jn 15:1)

Instructions: Write in some of the grapes, how you can give fruit for Jesus. Draw your face in the square on the Branch. On the dry fruits on the floor, write or draw how a soul feels without Jesus: sad, angry, selfish, proud... Color.



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| P | L | E | N | W | T | E | Y | E | P | VINE | BRANCH | FRUIT | PRUNES |
| Y | O | G | O | E | N | U | R | P | S | WORD | HOME | PLENTY | THROWN |
| T | L | R | N | T | H | R | O | W | N | FIRE | BURNT | GLORY | DISCIPLES |
| N | D | I | S | C | I | P | L | E | S | | | | |
| E | V | R | U | F | R | O | G | L | Y | | | | |
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