

Hello, everyone.

I hope you're enjoying the Bank Holiday Weekend. This week's Bible story is from John 15:1-8. Jesus says 'I am the Vine'. He tells his followers to stay close so that they can grow good fruit. If you can, go for a walk. Look at the trees and plants that are coming in to blossom. Chat about how the blossom and fruit can only keep growing if the branches stay attached to the trunk.

Then enjoy exploring the story more with these videos, crafts and colouring sheets. (Why not munch on some grapes as you do so?)

If you would like a bit more of a structure, scroll to the bottom of this email.

This is a delightfully quirky telling of the story. <https://www.pursuegodkids.org/the-vine-and-the-branches/>

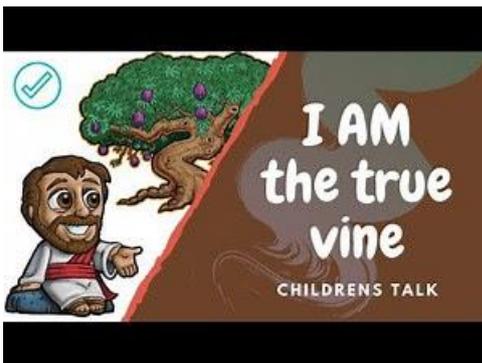


[The Vine and the Branches - PursueGOD Kids](https://www.pursuegodkids.org/the-vine-and-the-branches/)

Through Jesus, we can grow fruit in our own lives.

www.pursuegodkids.org

Another version of the story. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKl6zmr7qzE>



[I AM the true vine Childrens Talk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKl6zmr7qzE)

Here is a children's talk about Jesus saying he is the true vine.

What does this mean? When Jesus said I AM the true vine he was saying that Christians become more and more like Jesus.

This retelling of the story goes outside, looks at growing things and wonders what Jesus was trying to tell his friends when he called himself 'the vine'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwvjsPRndG4&t=83s>



[Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B - I Am the Vine - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwvjsPRndG4&t=83s)

John 15:1-8, retold for children's/all-age groups or for streamed worship where children are present. Includes wondering questions at the end for reflection.

www.youtube.com

This combines the telling of the story with a craft. You'll need some paper, pipe cleaners, glue, buttons and crayons. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhqBdOdfSg4>



[April 29th-Vine, Branches & Fruit craft](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhqBdOdfSg4)

This week on Catholic Crafts with Clare we make a Vine, Branches, and Fruit craft! Visit www.themassbox.com to craft along with us!

www.youtube.com

Mina Munns suggests collecting some collage materials (scraps from around your house will work as well) and together create a picture. Love is the fruit mentioned in John 15. What might 'love' look like in a collage? <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2012/10/exploring-fruit-of-spirit-using-colours.html>

[Flame: Creative Children's Ministry: Exploring the fruit of the Spirit using colours and objects](http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2012/10/exploring-fruit-of-spirit-using-colours.html)

As we are looking at the fruit of the Spirit this term, I thought it might be interesting to get out the box of colours and objects to see what the children think of it all!

flamecreativekids.blogspot.com

This weaving activity focuses on patience, but you could focus on love as you make it. You'll need a paper plate, some wool, scissors and some strips of coloured paper. <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2014/06/fruit-of-spirit-patience-weaving.html>

[Flame: Creative Children's Ministry: Fruit of the Spirit: Patience Weaving](http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2014/06/fruit-of-spirit-patience-weaving.html)

This is a good activity to help children reflect on the Spiritual fruit of patience- how we have to sometimes wait and slowly and carefully do something in order to get to the end.

flamecreativekids.blogspot.com

If you'd like a structure, try this:

- Go for a walk or into your garden. Look at how trees and plants are showing signs of new life. What would happen if branches or blossoms got snapped off?
- *(If there's a shop nearby, pop in and buy some grapes to munch on together as you think about Jesus the vine.)*
- Watch one of the videos or read the story of Jesus saying 'I am the Vine' in a Bible story book.
- Colour one of the attached sheets as you chat together: What was your favourite part of the story? Did you find anything puzzling? What sort of things might Jesus want us to 'grow'?
- Try the weaving craft together. As you weave the paper through the 'loom', use this prayer: Dear God, thank you that you help me to grow more like Jesus. Please help me to grow love and kindness. Show me ways to be loving and kind this week. And please help me to stay close to you. Amen.
- Finish with the Lord's Prayer.

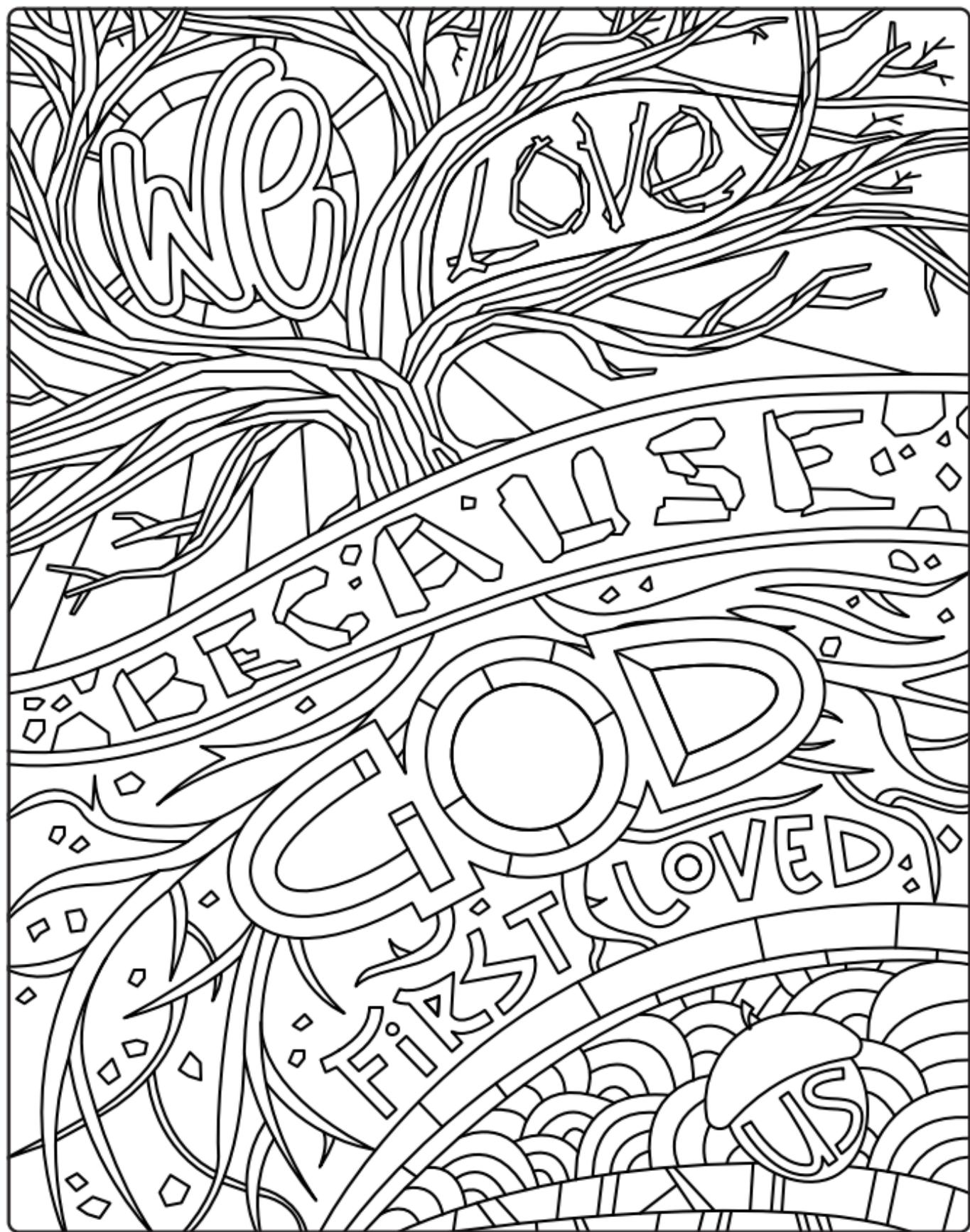
And if you are feeling strong, here's a song that will become today's ear worm (it's based on Galatians 5:22,23 which tells us more fruit that God wants us to grow): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-ejASqf1VE>



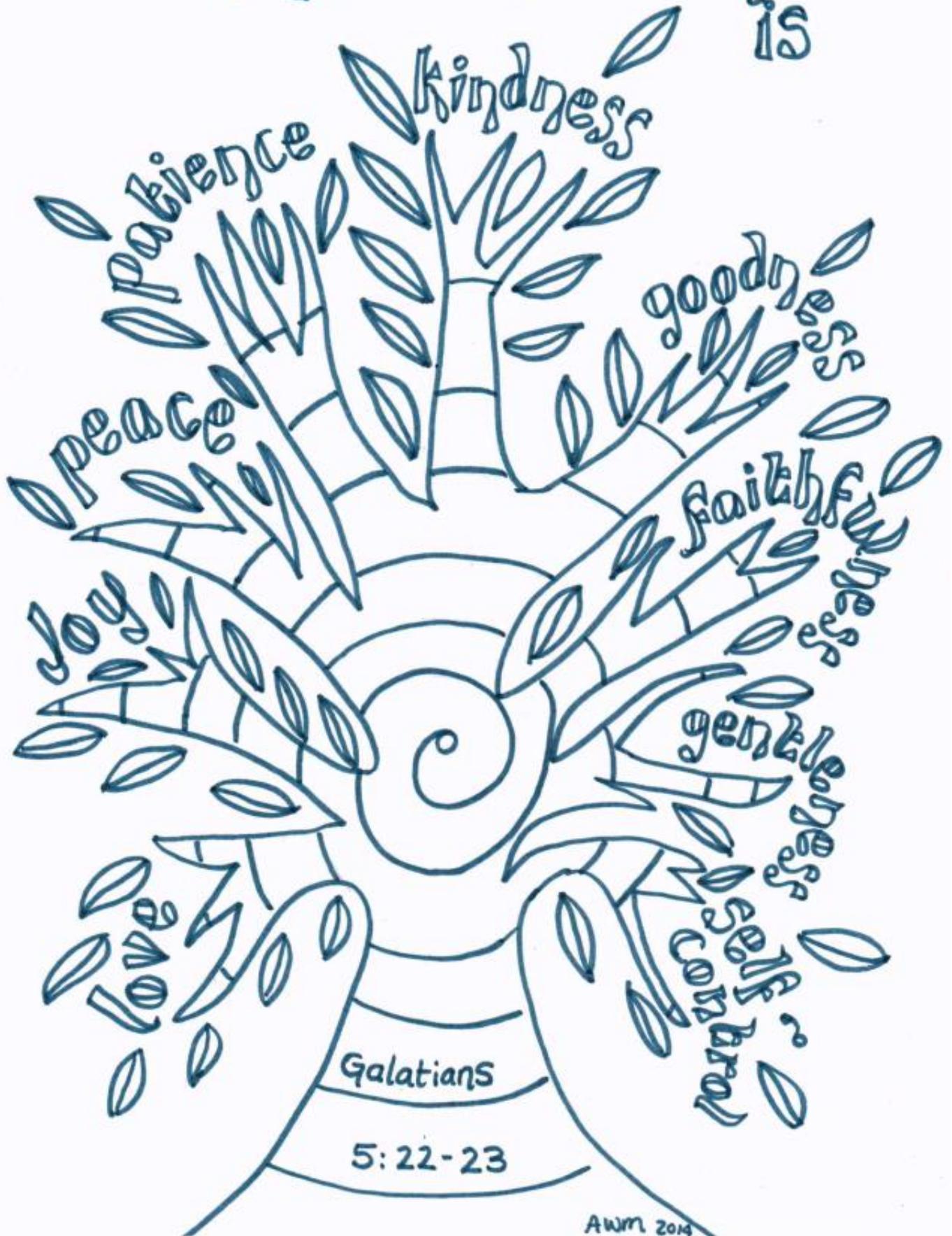
[Go Fish - Fruit of the Spirit - Great Music For Kids!](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-ejASqf1VE)

Great music for KIDS that won't drive PARENTS bonkers!

Have a great week - maybe you could plant something (herbs or tomatoes or mustard and cress) and care for it together so that it grows as a reminder of today's story.



... the fruit of the Spirit is



Galatians

5:22-23

Awm 2014