

## WEEK 5: Jesus, the True Vine

**Big Idea:** Jesus invites us to be in his love.

### HANGOUT

1. Discuss:
  - Have you ever received a really exciting invitation to do something fun? What was it?
  - Have you ever given out invitations for something? What were they for?
2. Let the kids know that today you'll be talking about how **Jesus invites us to be in his love!**
3. Depending on the ages of your group, prepare invitations highlighting today's Big Idea in advance or guide the kids to create them. Provide paper and drawing supplies. Guide everyone to write their names and the message: "You are invited to be in my love! Love, Jesus". Encourage them to decorate their invitations. Suggest that the kids put them somewhere at home as a reminder of how much Jesus loves them.

Watch this week's video on the Kids and Youth playlist at [youtube.com/themeetinghouse](https://youtube.com/themeetinghouse)

### HEAR

4. Tell everyone that in today's Bible story, Jesus compares himself to something a little surprising. Ask the kids to listen carefully to find out what it is.
5. Look up and read aloud the story from John 15:1-17.
6. Ask: What does Jesus compare himself to in these verses? (a grapevine)
7. Explain that Jesus doesn't mean he's a plant; instead, he's the source of life for us—his branches!
8. Discuss:
  - Can a branch grow fruit if it's cut off a vine? (no)
  - Why can't a branch cut off from the vine produce fruit on its own? (it receives nutrients and water from the vine, which has roots that go down into the soil; without the vine, the branch can't survive)
9. Tell the kids that when we stay close to Jesus, his life fills us up just like the vine fills up the branch. We don't have apples or grapes or oranges growing out of us, but we have the fruit of the Spirit, such as love, joy, and peace.
10. Discuss: According to verse 5, how much fruit will we produce if we remain in Jesus? (a lot)
11. Read verses 12-13 again. Remind everyone that these are this month's Key Verses.
12. Discuss:
  - What is Jesus' command here? (love one another)
  - What does it mean to "give your life for your friends"? (to love and serve others as Jesus showed us)
  - What are some ways we could use our time, energy, and love to serve other people?

**HUDDLE**

13. Provide blankets for everyone in your group. Invite the kids to wrap themselves up and get as cozy as possible. When they're all comfortable, emphasize that Jesus invites each of us to be wrapped in his love, just like these blankets.
14. Pray, "Thank you, Jesus, for loving each of these kids so much [name each one if possible]. It's so great to learn from you and listen to you. Thank you for inviting each of us to be wrapped in your love! Amen."