

**“I am the true vine”**

**Theme-** If we stick close to Jesus we will live a great life.

**Games**

**Huggy bears** A game for getting people together. Pick common attributes: everyone with black socks hug each other; everyone aged 9; everyone with blue eyes hug each other.

**Stand up** In pairs, sit back to back with elbows interlinked. Try and stand up. Easy! Now find another pair and make an interlinked quartet. Now stand up. Not so easy! Then get two quartets together and so on.

**Things** In groups of 4 or 5, each group has to make themselves in to an object collectively, i.e. a bridge, a tree, a snake, a box etc. You could finish with a vine.

**Memory verse** *“I am the true vine, you are the branches.”* John 15:5. You could present this verse on a large sheet of paper as a hangman which the children can solve and then read out together.

**Introduction** Get the children into groups of about 4 or 5 and give them a sheet with some fruit on them, (see resources). See if they can identify the fruits correctly; give them about a minute to complete as many as they can.

**Story** John chapter 15, *“I am the true vine”*. You could get the children to help you by acting it out. For example: a few children can be vines and another child can be the gardener. The rest of the children could be a fire by waving their arms above their heads. Place a cross in the middle of the children and have a couple of the children, (who are vines) holding on to it. The other children who are also vines just stand away from the cross and when the gardener comes along he will throw the vines that aren't holding the cross into the fire, (children waving hands above head).

**Application** What would happen to a plant if it has no sunlight or water? (It will die) What happens to fruit once it has been picked? (It stops growing and starts to go bad) Jesus tells us that he is the true vine, that's not to say that he is a plant but if we believe in Him and stay close to Him through praying and reading the bible we will have good fruit in our lives. What does it mean by good fruit? See fruits of the spirit in the resources section.

**Prayer** Sit the children in small circles and have the Fruit of the Spirit tree in the middle and get the children to pray which fruit they would like God to help them with.

**Resources** There is a funsheet for the children to colour in.

**Song** If Jesus is de vine. (The Best of Spring Harvest Kids Praise).

**Fruit picture check list**

- **Pineapple**
- **Strawberry**
- **Pear**
- **Grape**
- **Kiwi**
- **Banana**
- **Apple**
- **Lemon/lime**
- **Coconut**
- **Pumpkin**
- **Peach**
- **Avocado**

