

I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:11 (NIV)

John 15:1-8

"What happened?" asked Aela as she picked up a broken branch with dry leaves from beside the apple tree.

"It broke off," Daddy said. "It'll never give any fruit now."

"But, can't we reconnect it?" asked Aela.

"If we had found it right away, maybe," he replied. "But now it's dry and we can't reconnect a dry branch."

Together they sat down in the shade to rest.

"Our lives are kind of like that branch," Daddy said. "Jesus told us He is the vine. We are the branches. If we stay connected to Him we'll produce fruit, but if we are like that branch--separate from the plant-- we won't be able to do anything."

"How do we connect with Jesus?" asked Aela.

"Great question!" said Daddy. "Jesus said we are connected to Him when we remain in Him and His Word remains in us."

"Daddy, what does 'remain' mean?" Aela asked.

"'Remain' means to 'keep being with' no matter what. If we read the Bible and see that our lives don't match up with what God says, we 'remain' when we ask God to help us change and obey His Word instead of doing our own thing."

"Like where it says to love your enemy and pray for him?" asked Aela. "Do I need to do that even for the boy who keeps bothering me at school?"

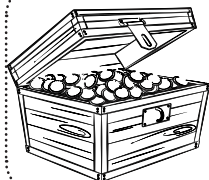
"Yes!" said Daddy. "When we do what God tells us to, we are acting like Him and we will produce good things in our lives and that pleases God!"



What did we discover?

- 1) A branch that isn't connected to the plant will produce _____.
MUCH FRUIT NOTHING BERRIES
- 2) Separate from Jesus, we can't do _____.
SOMETHING MUCH ANYTHING
- 3) What does 'remain' mean? _____.
TIE UP BREAK A BRANCH KEEP BEING WITH
- 4) If what I'm doing isn't what God's Word says, I need to _____.
PRAY & CHANGE CRY A LOT GIVE UP

How can I practice doing the Word of God today?



**God's Word shows me
how to live.**

God's Word lights up
the path of life for me.



**Father God,
Help me stay
connected to You
and do Your Word.**

