

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

06/01/18 - It's God's Choice

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John 15:1-17

John 15:16 is a small part of a familiar passage, one known as *The Vine and the Branches*. The passage leans heavily on the understanding that love is essential to the life of a believer. In fact love is a natural outcome or "fruit" for those who are connected to Christ (the Vine). While I do not know much about gardening, I can imagine that it takes time and daily care of a very patient gardener to graft a vine. Once the graft is complete the branch becomes a living part of the original vine. This is how we are to live: as believers grafted into the vine that is Jesus Christ. The most wonderful news is that we did not choose to be grafted into the vine. God chose us! The "fruit" of God's vine and branches is love. Love for God, love for one another as believers, and love for others whether or not they know Christ. God has chosen us so that love may thrive in abundance wherever we are planted.

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