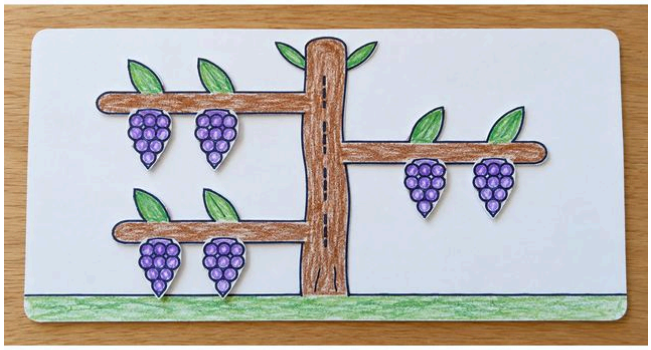
Preschool–Grade 5

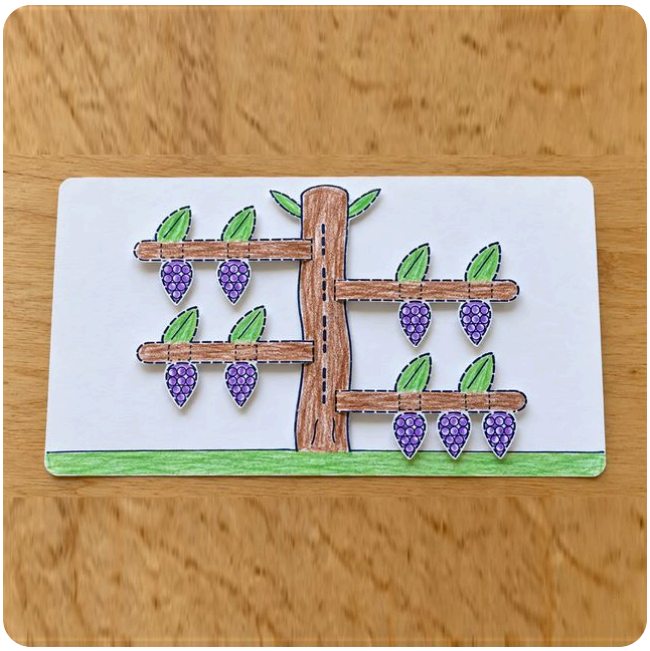
I Am the Vine Craft

I am the vine, ye are the branches · John 15:1–8 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



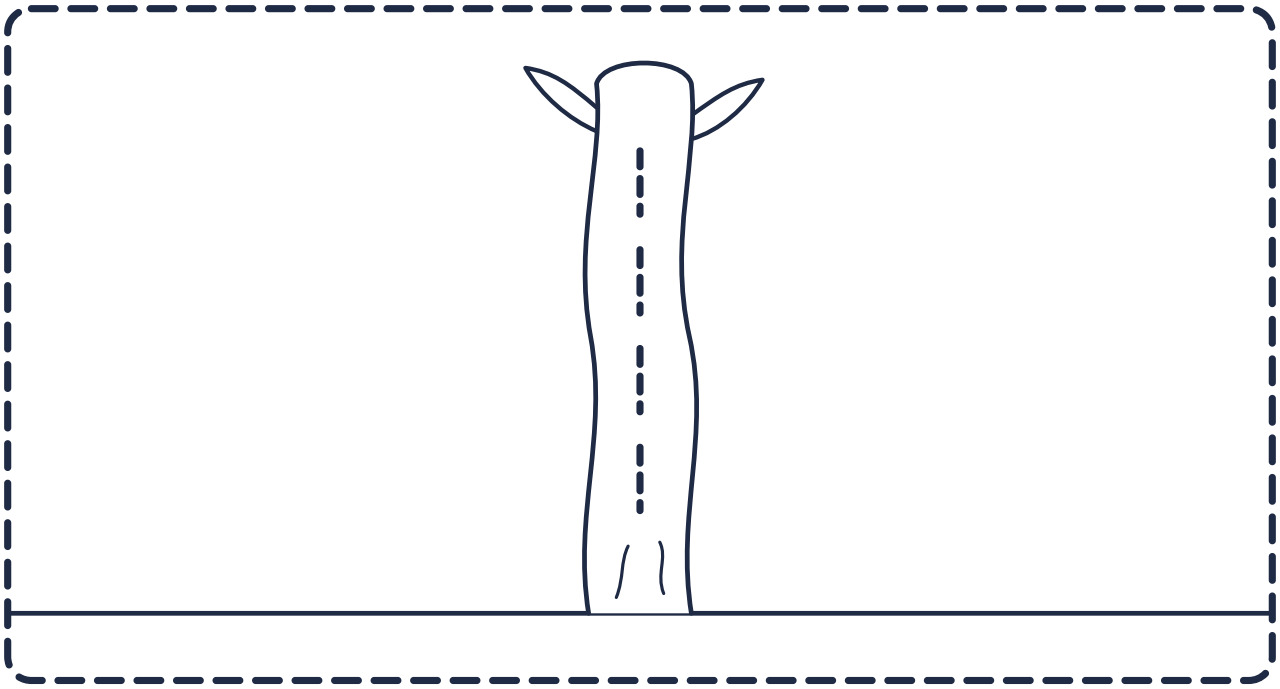
Harder

Both levels are a card with a brown vine growing up from green ground. Brown paper branches with green leaves are tucked into slits in the vine, and purple paper grape clusters hang from every branch: "I am the vine, ye are the branches" (John 15:5). Medium (left): three branches with two grape clusters each. Harder (right): the same, plus a fourth branch, low on the right, that was purged and bears three grape clusters, "that it may bring forth more fruit" (15:2).

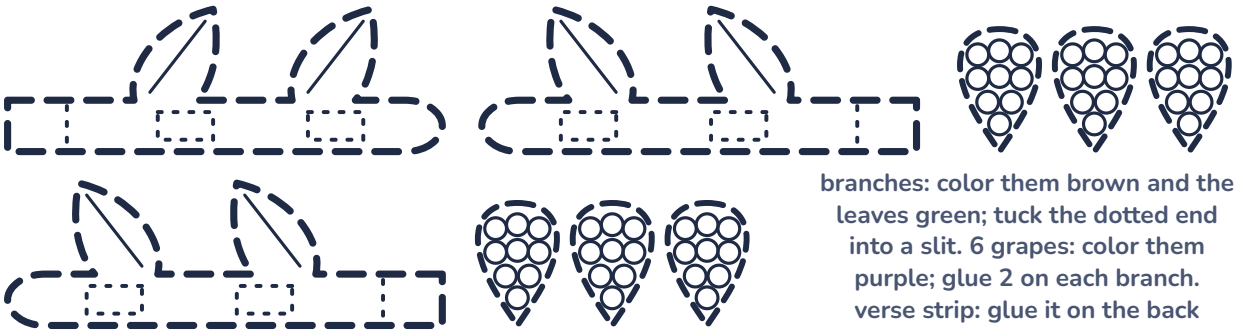
Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: color the vine brown, its two leaves and the ground green. Leave the rest white. Cut the 4 short dashed slits in the vine. The bottom slit is for the harder level only.



branches: color them brown and the leaves green; tuck the dotted end into a slit. 6 grapes: color them purple; glue 2 on each branch. verse strip: glue it on the back

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

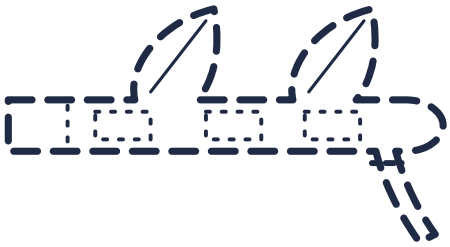
John 15:5 (KJV)

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the three branches, the six grape clusters and the verse strip, and snip the slits in the vine. Glue the grapes on the dotted spots, then tuck each branch into the vine.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

✂ Harder level



the bare twig hangs down near the tip



3 grapes: color them purple

4th branch: color it brown and the leaves green. Cut off the bare twig on its short dashed line.

How to add the fourth branch

1. Make the card from page 2 first.
2. Color the fourth branch brown and its leaves green, and the three grape clusters purple. Cut out the branch and the grapes on the dashed lines.
3. Purge the branch: cut off the bare twig on its short dashed line. Jesus said that every branch that beareth fruit, "he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit" (John 15:2). **Purgeth** means cleans and trims.
4. Glue the top of one grape cluster on each of the three dotted spots, so the grapes hang down: this branch bears more fruit than the others.
5. Tuck the dotted end into the bottom slit of the vine, so the branch points right.
6. Tell it: "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (15:8).

VBSHQ

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/i-am-the-vine-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), crayons or markers in brown, green and purple, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: snip the slits in the vine for younger kids. For preschoolers, cut out all the pieces ahead of time.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and snip the slits. Kids color, glue the grapes on with help and tuck each branch into the vine. Help them glue the verse strip on the back.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, snip the slits, glue the grapes and tuck in the branches. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card, then add the fourth branch from page 3: purge it by cutting off its bare twig, give it three grape clusters, and tuck it into the bottom slit (John 15:2). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the vine brown, its two leaves and the ground green. Leave the rest white.
2. **Color the pieces:** the three branches brown and their leaves green, and the six grape clusters purple.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the three branches, the six grape clusters and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Snip the slits:** fold the card gently across each short dashed slit in the vine and snip it. The bottom slit is only for the harder level.
5. **Glue the grapes:** glue the top of one grape cluster on each dotted spot on the branches, so the grapes hang down below the branch. Each branch gets two.
6. **Tuck in the branches:** tuck the dotted end of each branch into a slit, so the branch abides in the vine. The two branches that point left go in the first and third slits from the top; the one that points right goes in the second slit.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, and read it together.
8. **Tell it:** pull a branch out of its slit. Can it grow fruit by itself (John 15:4)? Tuck it back in the vine: "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit" (15:5).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the vine. Who did Jesus say the vine is? *("I am the true vine," John 15:1; "I am the vine," John 15:5)*
- Point to a branch. Who are the branches? *("Ye are the branches," us, 15:5)*
- Pull a branch out. Can a branch bear fruit of itself? *(No, "except it abide in the vine," 15:4)*
- What does abide mean? *(Stay, stay joined, 15:4)*
- What can we do without Jesus? *("Without me ye can do nothing," 15:5)*
- How do His words help us? *("If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will," 15:7)*
- Count the grapes. When is the Father glorified? *("That ye bear much fruit," 15:8)*
- What shall we be when we bear much fruit? *(His disciples, 15:8)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: vine** means a plant with a strong stem and long branches; **husbandman** means the farmer who takes care of a vine; **purgeth** means cleans and trims; **abide** means stay; **of itself** means by itself; **bringeth forth** means grows; **glorified** means honored, shown to be great; **disciples** means followers of Jesus.
- **What the Bible says:** John 15:1–8 says "fruit"; it doesn't name the fruit or describe the vine. Grapes are the fruit a vine grows, so the craft draws grape clusters. The colors, leaves and slits are the craft's simple picture of the teaching.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** the vine and branches are pictures of Jesus' words, and no husbandman is drawn (John 15:1).
- **Keep it gentle:** the craft leaves out John 15:6, the branch cast into the fire. Keep the focus on staying in the vine.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and snip the slits ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child pull a branch out and tuck it back in.
- **Teach the lesson first:** this craft goes with the free I Am the Vine lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/i-am-the-vine.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post