



# The Gospel According to John

## Lesson 28: [John 15:1-25](#)

May 5, 2015

1. Preparation: Begin with prayer. Read [Mark 12:1-12](#). Write out and memorize: [John 15:5](#).
  
2. Study: [John 15:1-25](#) and read [Köstenberger, Encountering John](#), Chapter 12, pages 148-153.
  - a. **Observation:** What does the Scripture passage say?
    - (1) **Who** is with Jesus at this time? **Who** is no longer present with Jesus? ([John 13:21-30](#))
  
    - (2) **Where** are Jesus and His disciples in this passage? Is it clear **where** they are at this time?
  
    - (3) **Where** does Kostenberger suggest that Jesus and His disciples may be at the start of [John 15](#)? **Why** may this be important in Jesus' metaphors in [chapter 15](#)?
  
    - (4) **How** are the disciples (followers of Jesus) to bear fruit? ([John 15:4-5](#))
  
    - (5) **How** is Jesus' commandment in [John 15:12](#) similar to His "new commandment" in [John 13](#)? ([John 13:34](#))
  - b. **Interpretation:** What does the Scripture passage mean?
    - (1) Compare Jesus' vine metaphor in [John 15](#) with the vine metaphor in [Isaiah 5:1-7](#). **What** is the vine in [John 15](#) that replaces the vine in [Isaiah 5](#)?

(2) Contrast the discussion of Jesus abiding with the disciples in [John 14](#) with the discussion of Jesus abiding with the disciples in [John 15](#) (e.g., [John 15:4](#)). **Hint:** Are the discussions in [John 14](#) related to a present situation and the discussions in [John 15](#) related to a future time? If so, **why** is the timing here important?

(3) **What** is the key difference between “slave” and “friend” discussed in [John 15:15](#)? **Why** was this difference of critical importance to the disciples? Did they fully understand this difference at the time Jesus speaks the words in [John 15:15](#)?

c. **Application:** How will you apply this Scripture passage in my life?

(1) **How** can you continue to “bear fruit” in your Christian walk?

(2) **How** can you follow Jesus’ new commandment in [John 13](#) which was reemphasized in [John 15](#)?

(3) **How** can you use [John 15](#) to encourage us to be Christian witnesses when others criticize us for our views?

3. Write out [John 15:5](#) from memory.

4. Conclude your study time with prayer.