

Sermon Notes

John 15

March 8, 2026

Third Mark of Discipleship: People (Fellowship) Pastor Scott Suskovic

- I. Why or How is the Church Unique?
- II. John 15
 - A. The significance of the “I Am” statements by Jesus
 - B. The setting: just after the Last Supper and before the arrest
 - C. The significance of the vineyard
 1. Psalm 80
 2. Jesus as the fulfillment Israel
 - D. A little gardening tip
 1. Bad branches cut off (severed)
 2. Good branches are cut off (pruned)
 - E. Jesus’ two points
 1. First, we are called to have outward, visible fruit as evidence of an inward faith. And what is that fruit?
 - a. An inwardly changed life
 - b. Producing an outward sign
 2. Second, “apart from me you can do _____.”
 - F. How does this come about?
 1. “Abide”
 2. Story of the pastor and the wayward member
- III. Back to the Original Question: Why or How is the Church Unique?
 - A. The purpose for which we exist
 - B. Abide with me
 - C. The answer is _____!