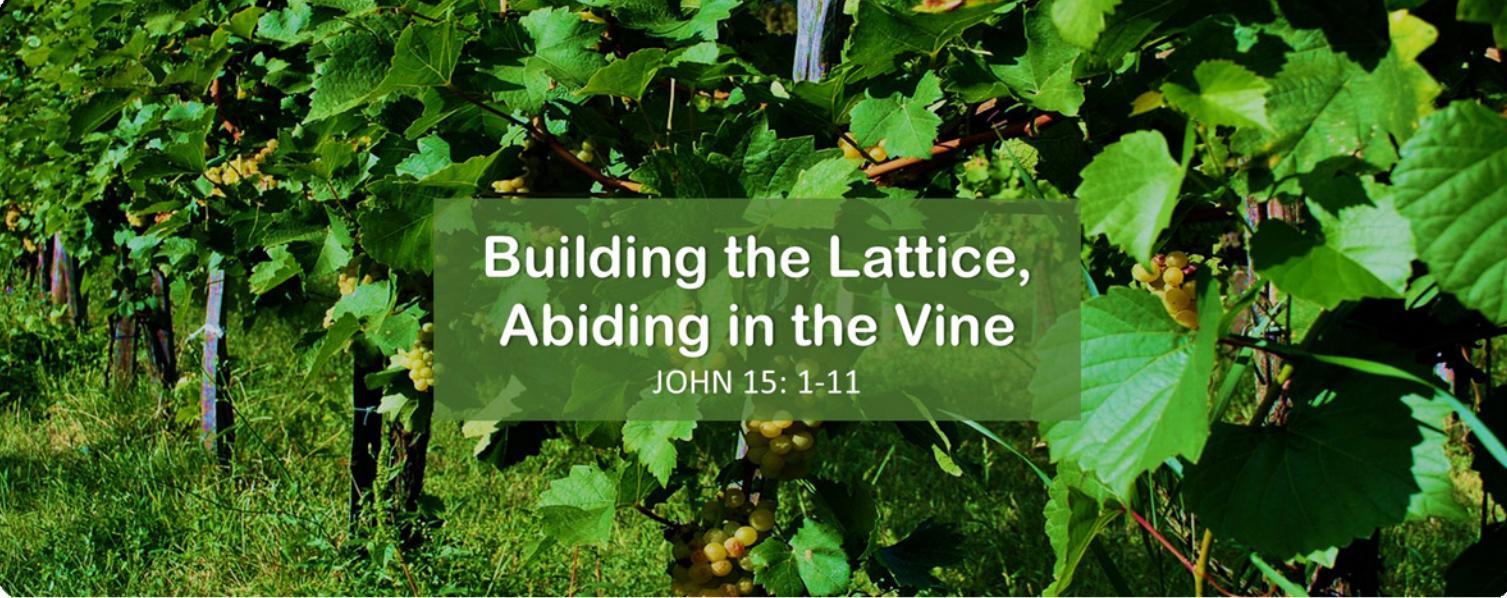




Life Group  
Sermon Guide Questions  
4 JANUARY 2026



**Building the Lattice,  
Abiding in the Vine**

JOHN 15: 1-11

**Read John 15:1-11**

Conversation starter: Name one “wild vineyard” sign you’ve felt lately—too many demands, too little margin, scattered attention, or a nagging sense that you’re carrying weight you weren’t meant to carry alone. Where are you feeling it most right now?

1. What image or line from the sermon or John 15:1-11 stayed with you most (wild vineyard, trellis/lattice, “remain,” lifting, pruning, joy)? Why do you think that was the one?
2. If your life right now were a vineyard scene, what would it look like: orderly rows, tangled overgrowth, heavy branches sagging, or a pruned vine with new growth? What makes you say that?
3. Jesus says, “I am the vine; you are the branches... apart from me you can do nothing.” What do you think we get wrong when we try to live like we’re the vine (the source), not the branch (the receiver)?

# Building the Lattice, Abiding in the Vine

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4. The sermon distinguished the heavy branch (lifted up) from the withered branch (thrown away). What's the difference between heaviness and deadness spiritually? How can you tell which one you're experiencing?
5. Where are you most likely to "sag into the dirt" in this season—spiritually, emotionally, relationally, or physically? What would it look like for the Father to "lift you up" there (not in theory—practically)?
6. What's one "good thing" that might be draining sap from the "best thing" for you right now (a side commitment, habit, screen pattern, overwork, even a ministry lane)? What is one clean, specific prune you could make this week—and what support would help you keep it?
7. Pray in three movements (keep it simple, one person can lead or go around):  
Reception: "Jesus, we admit we are branches, not the vine. We receive Your life."  
Honesty: "Father, show us where we're sagging and what needs pruning."  
Support: "Holy Spirit, help us remain—give us a trellis: daily reception, Scripture communion, and shared life that refuses isolation. Lead us into Your joy. Amen."



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