

A Useless Vine Branch

- I. God's Word to Ezekiel
 - A. Ezekiel 15:1-2 – What is useful in the wood from a vine branch?
 - B. Ezekiel 15:3 – You can't make anything with it; you can't even hang anything on it.
 - C. Ezekiel 15:4-5 – It provides fuel for a fire but is useless afterwards.
 - D. Ezekiel 15:6-8 – Jerusalem is the useless vine.

- II. Not Greater
 - A. The question in verse 2 could be seen as the vine branch thinking it was greater than the vine.
 - B. Ezekiel 2:3-4 – The people had rebelled against God and followed their own way.
 - C. The same happens today. People's beliefs, identities, desires become more important than God. They follow self over God.
 - D. James 4:4-10 – We must seek humility. We must exalt God in our lives.

- III. Productive
 - A. The wood of the vine finds its value in helping produce the fruit of the vine.
 - B. John 15:1-2 – Branches are only as good as the vine they are connected to. Jesus is the true vine.
 - C. Bearing fruit becomes the standard for good branches.
 - D. John 15:5-6 – When connected to Jesus, we are productive. The rest are thrown into the fire and burned.

- IV. Useful
 - A. Jerusalem had become useless to the Lord. They rejected Him.
 - B. There may be times when we feel useless to the Lord.
 - C. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 21-26 – We all belong. We are all important. We all need each other.
 - D. In Christ we are useful. In Christ we have a purpose, a family, and a future.