

Sermon Summary
5th Sunday in Easter
6th May 2012

- The parable of the vine is part of the farewell discourses in which Jesus makes a number of promises to his disciples.
- It includes references to abiding (15:4) which seem odd in an agricultural metaphor.
- Abiding is a major theme in John. Consider the famous 14:2, so often read at funerals
- Most of us are lucky: we have not known the pain, loss or fear of being refugees or homeless. Within a few minutes of this church there are people who live in such circumstances.
- Not knowing where one is to stay, or to have that security may be a major source of stress and strain.
- Much of our identity (our sense of who we are and of our own worth) is connected to where we live and where we call home.
- It is this basic human need which is addressed in the parable.
- It reminds us that our home is in Christ, and that we always have a place to be secure through him.
- In Christ, we find a constant source of identity and self-worth.

6th May 2012