

Part 4

Dependency on Christ

Message notes:

The Father uses the knife for one purpose—to keep the vine _____.

There are parts of you that God will _____ because they are sucking the life out of your ability to abide.

The Father is _____ of pruning.

God will prune parts of me because we are never meant to _____ off of the fruit.

The pruning always brings us back to _____ on the Vine.

It is dangerous when our friends _____ the vine to us.

God always prunes with a _____—you will be healthier after the pruning.

Jesus makes us strong in such a way that we always need to _____ for more strength.

Additional notes:

John 15:1-4

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I will abide in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must abide in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in me.

John 5:19

Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

Discussion Questions:

What are the differences between being disconnected from God, ignoring Him, and resisting Him?

Share about times that the Father has pruned areas of your life. Looking back now, can you see the Father's faithfulness in the pruning?

How should we respond when God prunes our life?

What did Pastor Jamie mean when he said that we aren't meant to live off of the fruit of the vine?

How does dependency on Jesus enable us to have fruit?

Why is it dangerous to wallow in our ugliness? How do you balance being ugly with being dependent on Jesus to produce fruit?

How can we have a better attitude/acceptance towards God's pruning in our lives?

Ministry Time Questions:

Is anyone in the middle of a painful time of pruning that you need grace for?

Is anyone angry with the Lord because of things that He has pruned out of your life?