



Journey with Jesus

TITLE: PRUNED FOR PURPOSE

DATE: SEPT 14, 2025

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 15

OPENING THOUGHT

PRUNING CAN FEEL LIKE LOSS, BUT IN GOD'S HANDS IT IS PREPARATION FOR GREATER FRUIT. JUST AS A TREE THRIVES AFTER PRUNING, OUR LIVES FLOURISH WHEN WE REMAIN CONNECTED TO CHRIST AND TRUST THE GARDENER'S HAND.

KEY SCRIPTURE VERSES

- JOHN 15:1-8
- HEBREWS 12:11
- JOHN 15:16
- JOHN 15: 1-2 NLT - I AM THE TRUE GRAPEVINE, AND MY FATHER IS THE GARDENER. HE CUTS OFF EVERY BRANCH OF MINE THAT DOESN'T PRODUCE FRUIT, AND HE PRUNES THE BRANCHES THAT DO BEAR FRUIT SO THEY WILL PRODUCE EVEN MORE.

KEY POINTS

- GOD PRUNES BOTH DEAD AND FRUITFUL BRANCHES SO WE CAN GROW STRONGER.
- PRUNING IS NOT PUNISHMENT; IT IS PREPARATION FOR GREATER PURPOSE.
- STORMS AND STRUGGLES CAN ALSO SERVE AS PRUNING SEASONS.
- ABIDING IN CHRIST RESHAPES OUR DESIRES AND OUR PRAYERS.
- FRUITFULNESS, NOT BUSYNESS, IS THE TRUE SIGN OF DISCIPLESHIP.

5 DISCUSSION QUESTION'S

1. SHARE A TIME WHEN GOD "PRUNED" SOMETHING FROM YOUR LIFE. WHAT FRUIT DID YOU SEE LATER AS A RESULT?
2. HOW CAN YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING "BUSY" AND BEING "FRUITFUL"?
3. WHY IS IT DIFFICULT TO TRUST GOD'S PRUNING IN THE MOMENT? HOW CAN REMEMBERING HIS FAITHFULNESS HELP?
4. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR YOU PERSONALLY TO "ABIDE" IN CHRIST?
5. HOW CAN OUR CHURCH EMBRACE PRUNING SEASONS SO THAT WE BEAR MORE FRUIT AS A COMMUNITY?

CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT

PRUNING MAY FEEL LIKE SUBTRACTION, BUT IT ALWAYS LEADS TO MULTIPLICATION WHEN GOD IS THE GARDENER. STAY CONNECTED TO CHRIST, TRUST HIS HAND, AND LOOK WITH HOPE TOWARD THE FRUIT THAT WILL COME. YOU ARE BEING PRUNED FOR PURPOSE.