

"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. You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. John 15:1-4 (NLT)

Pruning

You have not been a fan of pruning. You haven't liked it when I have pruned the dead wood out of your life. You would have preferred to remain comfortable and untouched, is that right? You are right, I have not been a fan of pruning. Pruning is no fun. Pruning has caused me some real pain and great discomfort. It would never be my choice to go through pruning. **I doubt that.** Why do you say? **I know you don't like the pain of pruning. I know that you would like the alternative far less.** What's the alternative? **That's a good question.**

Let me review what I have heard you say to me. I'm listening. **You have said that you want to know me intimately. You have said that you want to know my will and walk in my ways. You have said that you will leave your old life behind so that you can live a completely new life with and for me. You have said that you want to be on fire to passionately serve me with all your heart and mind and soul and strength. You have said that you want me to use you to accomplish my purposes and fulfill my plans. You have said that you want to shine brightly as a witness for me in the darkness of this world. Have I heard you correctly? Have you said these and many similar things?** Yes, I have said all these things. I want to fully live the life that you have called me to live. **Well, none of these things would be possible without some pruning in your life. Does that surprise you?** No, I know that I am far from perfect. There is a lot of dead wood and barrenness in my life. I do need pruning.

So, if you want to move forward with me, your life will experience some pruning. Not a day will go by that I won't be molding and shaping your life. Day-by-day I will be pruning you. Day-by-day I will be purifying your life. You know that you have been forgiven of all your sins and cleansed of all your righteousness. Yes, I do. You have been made righteous because of all that my Son has done for you. You have been made new and fresh and clean in Him. You now have a new life to live. Day-by-day, I will help you to live fully for me as I prune and purify your life. Every day I will be working in and through you to make you to be more and more like my Son. Will you welcome my work in your life? Will you allow me to prune and purify your life as you love, follow and serve me? Yes, Heavenly Father, I will. **That will be very good.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for pruning and purifying my life. I know you will continue to prune and purify my life so I can produce fruit I will remain in Christ and rely on Him so I can bear abundance of fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen'

God's Word*Already Clean*

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 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. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

NIV

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Are Clean*

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

ESV

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Pruned And Purified*

"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. You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

NLT

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Already Clean*

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

NKJV

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Already Been Cleansed*

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

NRSV

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Pruned Back*

"I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken. "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

MSG

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Cleansed And Pruned*

I AM the True Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanses *and* repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more *and* richer *and* more excellent fruit. You are cleansed *and* pruned already, because of the word which I have given you [the teachings I have discussed with you]. Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me, and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me.

AMP

John 15:1-4

God's Word *Tended You By Pruning You Back*

"I am the true Vine, and my Father is the Gardener. He lops off every branch that doesn't produce. And he prunes those branches that bear fruit for even larger crops. He has already tended you by pruning you back for greater strength and usefulness by of means the commands I gave you. Take care to live in me, and let me live in you. For a branch can't produce fruit when severed from the vine. Nor can you be fruitful apart from me.

TLB

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Already Clean*

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me.

NASB

John 15:1-4

God's Word*Already Clean*

"I am the true vine; my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch of mine that does not produce fruit. And he trims and cleans every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already clean because of the words I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch cannot produce fruit alone but must remain in the vine. In the same way, you cannot produce fruit alone but must remain in me.

NCV

John 15:1-4

Pruned And Purified

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

God's Word – John 15:1-4

In Context: *Read John 15*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"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. You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. John 15:1-4 (NLT)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"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. | You | have already | been pruned and | purified | by | the message | I have | given you. | Remain | in me, | and I | will remain | in you. | For | a branch | cannot | produce fruit | if it | is severed | from | the vine, | and | you | cannot | be fruitful | unless | you remain | in me. John 15:1-4 (NLT)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, thank you for pruning and purifying my life. I know you will continue to prune and purify my life so I can produce fruit I will remain in Christ and rely on Him so I can bear abundance of fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has the word of God made you able to live your life with and for God?

How has God used His word to prune and purify your life?

What has God removed from your life as He has pruned and purified you with His word?

What fruit has your Heavenly Father made you able to bear for Him?

How are you making it your plan and practice to remain in an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ?

Why will you never be able to bear fruit unless you continue to remain in Christ?

What has the Lord done in and through you what you could have never done on your own?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord to continue to use His word to prune and purify your life so you can bear fruit for Him

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will continue to use His word to prune and purify your life so you can bear fruit for Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group what fruit your Heavenly Father has made you able to bear for Him.

Close With Prayer: ***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you welcome God to continue to use His word to prune and purify your life so you can bear fruit for Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I welcome your to pruning and purifying my life so I can bear fruit for you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how do you want to continue to prune and purify my life so I can bear fruit for you?
