



Life in the Vineyard

Memory Verse: *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)*

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. (John 15:1-3)

Week #1 – You have been connected to the Life to _____ life.

Week #2 – If God can't reduce, you can't _____.

What does it mean to prune? _____, cleanse and _____.

It means to wash thoroughly and cleanse from all filth and remove any impurities.

Why does God prune you? He prunes you to produce _____ fruit.

- The vinedresser removes the excess from your life to _____ you to the vine.
- God has a _____ for everything He removes. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)
- Your spiritual maturity is a _____ not a one-time event.

How does God prune you? .

I have worked harder, been put in prison more often, been whipped times without number, and faced death again and again. Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea. I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not. I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have shivered in the cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm. (2 Corinthians 11:23-27, NLT)

- Problems can lead you to a greater level of _____ with the vine.
- You are pruned to _____.
- God uses unexpected problems to _____ you.
- He uses problems to _____ your life.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to _____ that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be _____ in our body. (2 Corinthians 4:7-10)

Personal _____

To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10, NIV).

- Great pain can produce great _____. (John 15:2)
- God allows you to experience pain to further _____ His presence.
- _____ often cause the greatest pain.
- Jesus' power is _____ available to endure every difficulty.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, NLT)

- God uses His word to teach truth and correct your _____.
- Purification involves removing your personal _____.
- Sin will always _____ you.
- God purifies you to get you _____ for a greater work.

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. (Hebrews 12:11, NIV)

- God lovingly disciplines you for personal _____.
- God helps _____ the wrong so you can live the right way.

How is God pruning you?

Problems	Personal Pain	Purification

If God can't reduce, you can't produce!



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Week #1 – You have been connected to the Life to deliver life.

Week #2 – If God can't reduce, you can't produce.

What does it mean to prune? Remove, cleanse and purify. It means to wash thoroughly and cleanse from all filth and remove any impurities.

Why does God prune you? He prunes you to produce more fruit.

- The vinedresser removes the excess from your life to point you to the vine.
- God has a purpose for everything He removes. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)
- Your spiritual maturity is a progression not a one-time event.

How does God prune you? .

Problems

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- Problems can lead you to a greater level of intimacy with the vine.
- You are pruned to produce.
- God uses unexpected problems to shape you.
- He uses problems to simplify your life.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. (2 Corinthians 4:7-10)

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- God allows you to experience pain to further expand His presence.
- People often cause the greatest pain.
- Jesus' power is constantly available to endure every difficulty.

Purification

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