





## Our Goals

Remaining in Christ pleases God and produces more fruit.



**God our Father is the gardener**



**God attentively cares for His people**



**Christ is the vine**



**God builds up one's life to produce more fruits**



**We are the branches**



**Remaining close to the vine produces fruit**

Cross Training



Dependence & Fruitfulness

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## A God is the Gardener

He carefully cares for the vine

### 1) God Cares for His People

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener" (John 15:1).

### 2) God Deals with His People Differently

"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, he lifts up, and every branch that bears fruit, he prunes it that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:2).

### 3) God's Discipline of His Children

"For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines... It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?" (Hebrews 12:6-7)

**Fact #1:** God loves you. God doesn't stop loving you when you sin.

**Fact #2:** God disciplines all believers when they sin.

**Fact #3:** God lovingly uses discipline to bring His people out of sin.

Cross Training



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Identify difficulties in life. See if they are form of discipline.

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## B Producing More Fruits

He prunes it that it may bear more fruit

### 1) The Goal: Producing Fruit

• Branches must be regularly pruned or they grow out of control.

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you." John 15:16, NASB.

### 2) The Process of Pruning

• Removes diseased or dead branches.  
• Ensures greater production.  
• Eliminates wild growth.

**Pruning** takes those who are abiding in Christ and makes them more productive by some significant difficulty or life challenge.

**Discipline** takes those not abiding in Christ through hard times so that they will repent and return to the Lord.

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What might be draining your time/energy from your main focus?

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## C Staying Close to the Vine

Abiding in Christ produces much fruit

### 1) Abiding in Christ

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

To abide in Christ is to surrender your will and give Him your entire being: choosing to yield, obey, and receive all that He has for us.

### 2) Understanding His Promises

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7).

### 3) Chosen for a Purpose

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you" (John 15:16).

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Thank the Lord for privilege to bear fruit. Express willingness.

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