

Introduction:

1. The Role of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:1, 5).

- The vine \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
- The vine \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The Role of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:1-3).

**Two Functions of the Vinedresser**

A. He \_\_\_\_\_ fruitless branches (15:2).

B. He \_\_\_\_\_ fruitful branches (15:2-3).

- Pruning refers to God's \_\_\_\_\_ of his children (Heb. 12:4-11).
- Pruning refers to God's \_\_\_\_\_ of our character (1 Pet. 1:6-7; Rom. 8:28-29).

3. The Role of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:4-8).

- A. A life marked by much \_\_\_\_\_ (15:5, 7-8).
- B. A life ending in \_\_\_\_\_ (15:6).

Conclusion:

**Community Group Questions**

1. When you think about spiritual fruit in your life do you tend to think about fruit as something you produce, or fruit that comes from abiding with Jesus? What is the difference? Why is abiding with Jesus the best way to see real fruit?
2. How active is the Father and the Son in a believers life according to John 15:1-8? In what ways do we find the Father (the Vinedresser) and Son (the Vine) actively at work?
3. What is the role of the Father or Vinedresser in John 15:1-3?
4. What does it mean for the Father to prune you (15:2)?
5. Can you think of a time in your life where you knew the Father was pruning you? What was that like? How did you feel? How did you grow?
6. Why is it important for believers to understand that the Father is active in pruning us? What happens to a new believer when they do not know about pruning?
7. What should be your posture before God in a season of pruning?
8. John 15:2 tells us that the Father prunes us so that we may bear more fruit. What is the fruit referred to in John 15:7, 10, 12, 16?
9. What does it mean to 'abide' in Jesus? Would you say you are abiding in him?