

The Fruit of Discipleship Scripture: John 15:1-8

View Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXVikF97w0g>

Opening Reflection:

- Have you ever started something new with excitement, only to find that enduring and sticking with it was the real challenge?

The Vine and the Branches

- Jesus says, “I am the true vine.” What does this tell us about our dependence on Him?
- What happens when we try to bear fruit apart from the vine? How have you experienced this in your own faith journey?

The Process of Pruning

- Jesus teaches that the Father “prunes” the branches that bear fruit so they will be more fruitful. How do you respond to the idea of God pruning your life?
- What are some attitudes, beliefs, or habits in your life that may need to be pruned for you to bear more fruit?

Remaining in Christ

- How does our connection to Jesus impact our prayers (v.7)?
- Who in your life helps you stay connected to Jesus? How can we encourage one another in this?

The Role of Community

- How does viewing the church as a **body** rather than a **voluntary association** change our understanding of commitment to one another?
- How can we better support and remain with each other in our faith journeys?

Closing Application:

- What is one step you can take this week to strengthen your connection to Jesus?