

PART 5: Who Are You Connected To?

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START

If you have ever gardened you know that it takes a lot of care to get a great crop. It takes hours of planting, pruning, cultivating, and watering. Jesus declares that He is the vine and His father is the gardener. Jesus is the source of life and His father tends the garden by pruning, cultivating, and watering the garden.

- If you grow something or try to grow something, how much work is involved?
- What feelings have you experienced if you have successfully grown something or failed to grow something?

READ

[John 15:5-6](#) (NIV)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."

THINK

As the vine, Jesus urges His followers to stay connected to Him so that we can bear fruit. The go-to list of the fruit that we are to bear is found in [Galatians 5:22-23](#). The list contains love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

- What spiritual fruit comes easy for you?
- What spiritual fruit do you find difficult to produce?
- How does the fruit we bear show evidence of our relationship with Jesus?

In John 15 Jesus continually says to stay connected to Him so that we can bear fruit and have an abundant life in Him. We stay connected by listening to Him, leaning into what we hear from Him, and living out what He has called us to?

- How do you cultivate listening to Jesus in your life?
- What do you need to lean in towards regarding your relationship with Jesus?
- What is God calling you to live out?

PRAY

"God, help me to remain in you. To listen for your voice, to lean in towards your word, and to live out what you are calling me to live out."

ACT

This week, take some time to listen to God and lean into what He is telling you, and live out what He is calling you towards.

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