

A Contemporary Parable

1. _____
"I am the vine; you are the branches." -John 15:5a

2. _____ of _____
"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me." -John 15:4

A. _____

B. _____

3. _____ or _____?
"He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." -John 15:2

Are you bearing fruit?

Fruit ___ Relationship ___ Religion ___ Prune ___ Connection ___

Small Group Study Questions:

Ice Breaker: How many times do you use Google, Siri, or Alexa each day? Tell of one of your favorite responses to a query.

READ: John 15:1-17

1. Discuss each of the pieces of this analogy: Vine, Branch, Gardener, Fruit. Who or what are they? What does the analogy say about each one? Are there places the analogy breaks down or could be pushed too far?

2. What does Jesus mean by "bear fruit"? What does bearing fruit involve?

3. Read vs. 6. Describe or discuss the type of person who is in danger of being thrown into the fire.

4. Read vs. 7. How do we correctly understand this verse?

5. Read vs. 11. How does remaining in Jesus by obeying his commands lead to his joy in us and our joy being made complete?

6. What action will you take in response to this teaching of Jesus?