

Study Notes --

Have you ever had a garden or orchard? If so, describe some of the things you'd do to prepare for a good crop.

How would pruning a plant look to someone who knew nothing about growing plants? How would you explain the actual purpose of pruning?

Thinking back to Sunday's message, what spoke to you, inspired you, encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you?

Draw a line from the word on the left to the correct word on the right:

VINE	THE FATHER
VINEDRESSER	THE BELIEVER
BRANCH	JESUS

Give a description of what each does or is supposed to do.

What does it mean to abide in Jesus?
How do you think this looks in your life?

What are the results of abiding in Christ?
What can we accomplish on our own?

What are some of the things that might draw a believer away from deeply abiding in Jesus?

Read the words of Joshua, Elijah, and Jesus in...

Joshua 23:15

1 Kings 18:21

Revelation 3:15-16

What choice are God's people called to make in each passage?
Why does God want an exclusive and genuine commitment from those who say they love and follow Him?

We are not called to be fruit inspectors of other's fruits, but how can we be better at inspect the fruitfulness of our own lives?

GRACE NOTES

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Series: I AM

Message: I Am the Vine

Scripture: John 15:1-8

- 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.**
- 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.**
- 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.**
- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.**
- 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.**
- 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.**
- 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.**
- 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.**

The key to the fruitful life is abiding or remaining deeply _____ to Jesus.

Abiding in Jesus not only guarantees fruitfulness, it also enhances our _____ to be fruitful.

