

Message Notes

"From Less to More"

Sunday, February 18, 2018 • Pastor Norman Nakanishi

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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...⁴Abide 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.

⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." (John 15:1-7 ESV)

As we live connected to Jesus, we will bear much fruit.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides (remains) in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 ESV)

Periodically, God will prune us to increase our fruitfulness.

*"...every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear **more** fruit..."* (John 15:2 ESV)

The pain of pruning will increase the fruit of our character.

"...we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope..." (Romans 5:2-4 ESV)

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, **self-control**..."* (Galatians 5:22-23 ESV)

The more we remain connected to Him, the more fruit we'll bear through Him.

"...Whoever abides (remains) in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." (John 15:5-7 ESV)

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