Grace Group Discipleship Guide

"From Less to More"

For the week of February 18 - February 24, 2018

Main Passage:

"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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 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)

Main Lessons:

- As we live connected to Jesus, we will bear much fruit.
- Periodically, God will prune us to increase our fruitfulness showing us that less can be more.
- Pruning involves cutting away dead and decaying excess to make way for new growth.
- The pain of pruning will prepare who we are in character for what He will give in blessing.
- We go from much to more by abiding or remaining in a close walk with Jesus.
- Continually refusing His call to closeness will lead to fruitless withdrawal of favor.
- Remember: Jesus allowed His full divinity to be pruned so through His humanity (crucifixion), He could purchase our salvation.

Reflection:

- When have you felt especially pruned before? What happened and how has that grown you?
- How can you tell you are losing intimacy with God? Talk about a time you drifted and returned. What made the difference?

Application:

• From this discussion, what do you feel most led to do?

For Prayer:

- Pray for one another to embrace God's pruning while believing for the increase He desires.
- Pray for God to use you to bring a person who has drifted from God back to Him.

Communications

Discipleship Track

This class is four weeks long and happens weekly starting on Wednesday, March 7th, and Thursday, March 8th from 7:00pm-9:00pm at our Main Campus (ENLI 1). Our classes are designed to lead people to healthy relationships with God and others. Our new classes will give you a deeper understanding of the gospel which will transform your life, equip you for ministry in the church and for influence in the world. Sign-up at pearlside.org or through our Pearlside App.

