

April 29, 2018
“Have You Been Pruned?”
(John 15:1-8)

The words of John 15 are directed to both _____ and to _____ church members.

We have but one job. That is to _____.

We are here to be nourished so that we may bear fruit in our _____, in our _____ and in the _____ for which Christ died.

Question of the day: “Where is your _____?”

What good is a grapevine without _____? What use is a fig tree without _____?

We are to bear fruit. That’s our job. Now how do we go about doing that? - - -

#1. – First of all, we produce fruit by staying _____ to the vine.

John 15:4-5 – “Remain in me, as I also 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. 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...”

The secret to bearing fruit is _____ connected to _____.

We must stay connected to the vine which is _____. He only is the _____ of our life.

#2. – But there is a word of _____ in this passage.

(over)

There are some people in every group who just aren’t _____ in bearing fruit.

“_____shoots” are branches that have no fruit but literally suck up the nutrients other branches need.

Sucker shoots greatly reduce the _____ and _____ of fruit the other branches can bear.

Even worse, there are a few people who are actually _____ to the group.

There is a tree in Caribbean countries that can actually kill you. It is the _____ **Tree.**

There are poisonous _____ in every group, including the _____.

They think they are harmless, but they are actually _____ of God.

A second group Christ talks about is, that even if we do bear fruit, life is not going to be a _____.

Pruning can be _____.

God can use any _____ event that occurs in our lives to help us _____ the kind of people He has called us to be!

It is only after we have been _____ that we can bear the most splendid fruit of all!

James 1:2-4 – “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything...”

Where is your fruit?
Have you been pruned?