

**PRUNING**  
**The Lord's Supper, Pt.10**  
**March 6, 2022**

*John 15:1-8*

*John 15:2 (NIV)*

*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.***

Pruning is cutting away part of a plant or tree so that it will grow \_\_\_\_\_ fruit.

The \_\_\_\_\_ is like that.

Jesus makes it very clear what His Father, the gardener, wants:

*John 15:8 (NASB)*

*"By this is My Father glorified, **that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.***

Pruning is parting from anything that \_\_\_\_\_ from being all the Lord saved me to be and from anything that gets in the way of serving Him.

Sometimes what the Lord needs to prune away are the obvious evil things like a grudge, hatred, pornography, drunkenness.

But the Lord will also, at times, set to pruning neutral or even good things like a good job, a valued relationship, circumstances that we would prefer to stay in.

The Lord prunes us because He wants \_\_\_\_\_.

The Lord does what He needs to do, to help us become all we are meant to be.

(over)

**How does the Lord do pruning in our lives?**

**First, He prunes us through \_\_\_\_\_**

*Hebrews 4:12*

He tells you to let go. You have to make the choice.

*Luke 6:38*

**Second, He prunes us as a part of His calling to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Him**

*Matthew 9:9*

Jesus disciples: *John 15:3*

God's call, and the pruning that goes with it, can come in many different forms.

Whatever we give up, we get much \_\_\_\_\_ and keep it \_\_\_\_\_.

**Third, He prunes us through the pain and suffering of \_\_\_\_\_.**

*James 1:2-4*

This, almost always, means some kind of \_\_\_\_\_.

Pruning is often \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul:

*2 Corinthians 12:9-10*

Prayer

"Lord, I acknowledge that my life is about bearing the fruit of reflecting you more and more and of making disciples. Lord, do whatever you need to do in my life to bring that about. Prune away whatever is interfering with glorifying You in my life and accomplishing what You want. I surrender myself to You."