

Two Choices

John 15:1-8

¹“I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. ³You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. ⁴Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

⁵“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. ⁷But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! ⁸When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

Transformed by the Truth

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Read John 15:1-8 in at least two different Bible versions. What observations can you make about what the passage says? What questions do these observations raise?
2. Read John 15:2. When and how has God “pruned” you? What effect did that pruning have on you?
3. Read John 15:4-5. What do you think it means to “remain in Jesus”? How do you know if you are doing it?
4. Read John 15:7. When has God answered your prayers most obviously and powerfully?
5. Read John 15:8. What do you think Jesus meant by “fruit” in this passage? How would you assess your present fruitfulness? How do you think you can produce more fruit?