

#### My Story

1. What plant best describes you now: Towering Oak? Weeping Willow? Tumbleweed? Crab apple Tree? Other? Explain.

#### Digging Deeper

2. God the Father takes away unfruitful branches and prunes those that do bear fruit, so that they may bear more. Read Gal. 5:22-23. What might it look like for God to prune us to bear more fruit in any of these areas?
3. Abiding in Christ produces fruit. Why is the order (abiding, then fruit) important? How long must we abide in Christ before we can bear fruit? Can a person bear spiritual fruit apart from Christ? Why/why not?

4. What does Jesus mean in verse 9 when He says, “abide in my love”? What sort of love is Jesus talking about? What does verse 10 contribute to your answer?

#### Reflection

5. How would seeing your challenge(s) as God pruning you to produce fruit in your life change your perspective of your struggles?
6. Have you experienced God’s pruning in your life before? Was it easy/comfortable, or difficult/uncomfortable? How have you seen it help you bear more fruit?

# SERMON NOTES

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Abiding in the Vine – John 15:1-11

## Taking the Next Step

What do you see in your own life that needs pruning? Take it before the Lord in prayer and ask for His help to bear more fruit in your life in that area. Then trust Him to do the work.

## Praises / Prayer Requests

