

Small Group Discussion Questions

John 15:1-17

(Sunday 27th September)

Optional Ice-breaker: what is your favourite thing about your home town

Read the passage: John 15:1-17

Suggested Discussion Starters:

1. Pool your knowledge: what do you know about vines and vineyards?
2. What are the main points Jesus is trying to communicate through this allegory/parable?
3. Why does the Father prune us? What's the point?

(Note: your initial reaction to when things get tough is 'what have I done wrong?' Whereas, if we follow Jesus here, it is the fruitful branches that get pruned, so perhaps we should ask 'what am I doing right?')

4. What form does this pruning take? How does He prune us? Can you give examples of how he has done this in your life?

(Note: v3 – the word 'clean' is the same as the word 'prune'. So Jesus says these disciples have been pruned by His word. That is a major way God prunes us: through His word –challenging us, convicting us, bringing things to our attention.)

5. What does it mean to abide in Christ? How do you do it? What keeps you close to Christ? (Other references: 1 John 4:15; 1 John 2:24)
6. What do you think a fruitful Christian life looks like?
7. What fruit are implied in this passage?

(Love for God and others, obedience, prayer, joy, friendship with God)

Suggested Songs

My Saviour, Redeemer

Jesus My Only Hope