

THE GOOD HURT

John 15:1-8,16

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INTRO:

A. THE PERSPECTIVES OF THE VINE

1. The designation of the **gardener** (v. 1-2)
2. The description of the **vine** (v. 1-2, 5)
3. The distinction of the **branches** (v. 2,5)
4. The definition of **fruit** (v. 2-8,16)

B. THE PLANS OF THE GARDENER

1. Basket #1: **No Fruit** (v. 2a)
2. Basket #2: **Fruit** (v. 2b)
3. Basket #3: **Much Fruit** (v. 8)
4. Basket #4: **Abundant Fruit** (v. 16)

C. THE PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLINE

1. The **practice** of discipline (John 15:2)
2. The **process** of discipline (Hebrews 12:5-6,11)
 - (1) God is the **source** of all disciplines. (v. 12:5)
 - (2) God always disciplines us out of **love**. (v. 12:6a)
 - (3) God disciplines all His **children**. (v. 12:6b)
 - (4) God disciplines for us to **bear** much fruit. (v. 12:11)

CONCLUSION

TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

1. Take time to read John 15:1-16 and observe significant themes and parts of the passage. What are the significant horticultural terms in this passage and what does each term represent?
2. How many times is the word “fruit” mentioned in this passage? God is described as the “gardener” (vinedresser) in the passage, what is His ultimate plan for all of us?
3. The words “good works” and “fruit” are often times used interchangeably to mean the deeds that God has prepared for us to do. Read the following passages: Titus 3:14; Psalm 1:3; 2 Corinthians 9:8 and Matthew 6:19-20. Why is it important to interpret ‘abundance fruit’ to the ‘good works’ God has prepared for us to do and not the materialistic and the American Dream many aspire to achieve?
4. Discipline is the first stage for us to live a life of abundance. Read Hebrews 12:5-6 and 11 and share the different insights of God’s process of discipline.
 - God is the source of all disciplines. (v. 12:5)
 - God always disciplines us out of love. (v. 12:6a)
 - God disciplines all His children. (v. 12:6b)
 - God disciplines in order for us to bear much fruit. (v. 12:11)
5. Can you describe a time when you weren’t living the way God wanted you to but sensed that He was at work to motivate you to return to Him? Share this experience to the group.
6. As you close your meeting, share to the group what God wants you to do in order to move forward into fruitfulness in your life.