



Jesus says

“Abide in Me, to Bear Fruit”

John 15:1-3

I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.



John 15:4,5

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me. you can do nothing.



John 15:5,6

If anyone does not abide in Me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.



John 15:7,8

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.



Jesus' Vineyard Metaphor

- Father — the vinedresser
- Jesus — the true vine
- Disciples — the branches
- Goal — abundant fruit



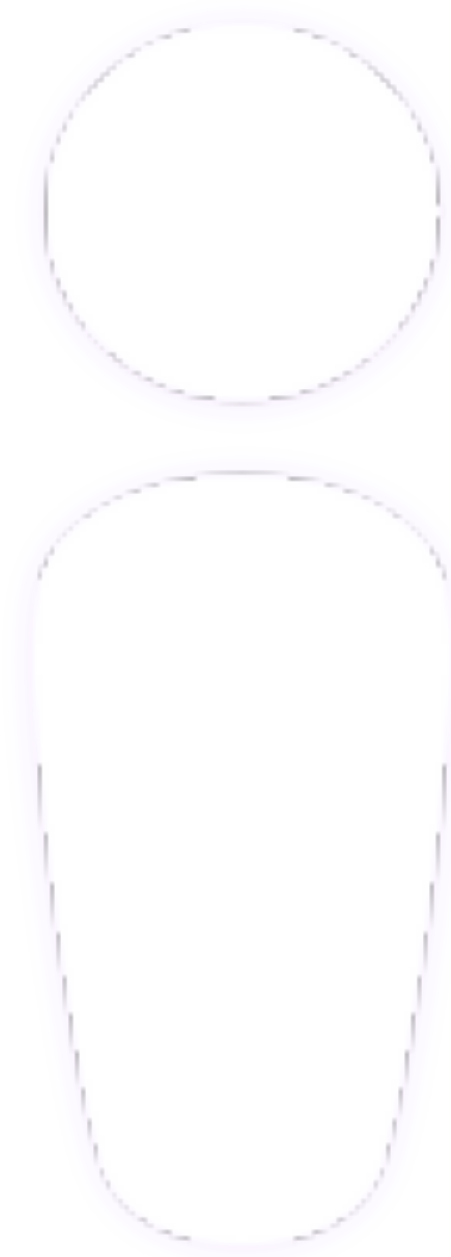
The Fruit God is Producing In Us?

● Christ-like character (Gal. 5:22-23)

- ▶ love, joy, servanthood, obedience to God's Word (John)
- ▶ helping with urgent needs (Titus 3:14)
- ▶ doing good works, acts of service (Col. 1:10)
- ▶ worshipping & giving praise to God (Heb. 13:15)
- ▶ giving to God and the poor (Rom. 15:28, Phil. 4:17)
- ▶ making new disciples (John 4:36)

We Cultivate Fruitful Lives by...

remaining
connected
with Jesus



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John 15:4

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"by this My Father is glorified that you bear much fruit"

John 15:1,2b

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praying to
grow more
Christ-like

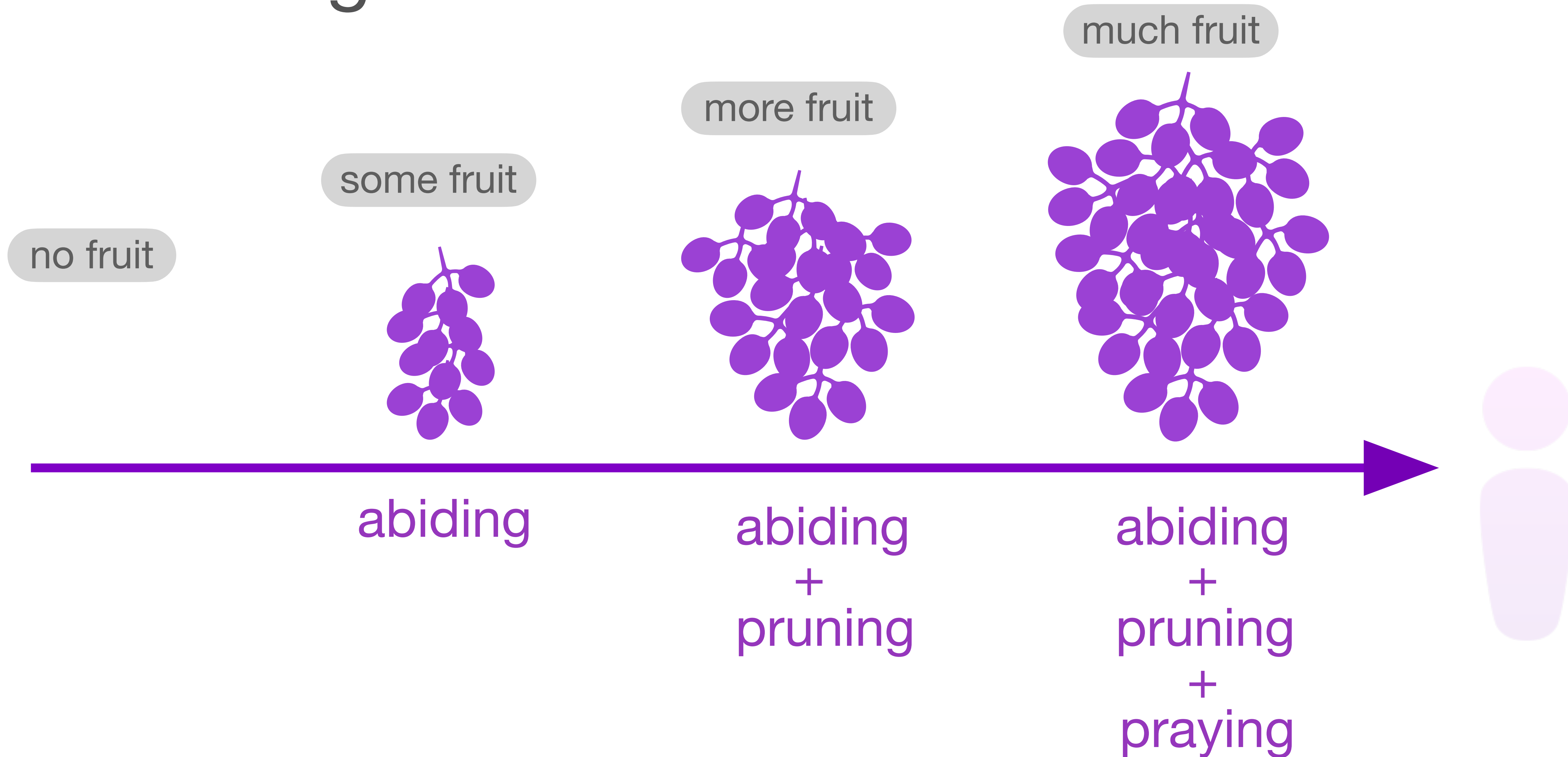
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Fruit-bearing continuum



Reflection Questions

1. Is my life vitally connected with Jesus, “the true Vine”?
2. Jesus said, “abide in Me and I in you”. How much energy do I give to the second half of this imperative?
3. Where on the fruit-bearing continuum do you think the Jesus would place you (no, some, more, much?)



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