

Discussion Questions for
“Sustainability – The Vine and the Branches”

John 15:1-8 on March 27, 2022

(You may not want to read these until after you've heard the sermon.)

1. What are some of the rewards that come from gardening or growing house plants? What are some of the challenges?
2. Read John 15:1-8. Who do you think is represented by the vine, the gardener, and the branches? What do you think Jesus was trying to teach His disciples through these three representations?
3. What do you think the fruit symbolizes? Explain. (Consider Galatians 5:22-23 and Ephesians 5:9.)
4. Verse 3 says that the gardener prunes the branches that are already bearing fruit. Why wouldn't the gardener just leave those branches alone? What are some examples of specific ways that God does His pruning in the lives of believers? (Consider 2 Corinthians 1:8-9)
5. In your own words, explain what you think verse 4 means by “remain in me” or “abide in me.” What are some practical examples of how we can do this?
6. Verse 5 says that apart from Christ we can do nothing. Would you agree that we sometimes try to bear spiritual fruit on our own, apart from Christ? Explain.
7. According to verse 8, how can we bring God glory?