

WARM UP QUESTION

How would you describe a true friendship?

- **Read John 15:1-2.** Who is Jesus speaking to (go back to <u>John 13</u> for context)? If Jesus is the vine in this passage and God is the gardener, who are the branches? What does the fruit represent in verse 2? Review <u>Galatians 5:22-23</u> for examples of this fruit. When have you gone through a season of pruning? How did you grow? What did you learn?
- **Read John 15:3-5.** What is the message Jesus is referring to in verse 3? How does the Word of God prune and purify? Who produces fruit in disciples of Jesus? What does it look like to remain in Jesus? Consider whether you are currently abiding in Him.
- **Read John 15:6-8.** According to Jesus in verses 7-8, what are the markers of a true disciple? What is the purpose of bearing much fruit? Is fruit being produced in you? What fruit are you bearing?
- **Read John 15:9-11.** How did Jesus love His disciples? With Jesus as our example, how does verse 10 explain the way to abide in the love of Jesus? What does Jesus promise we experience by remaining in Him through obedience? What could keep Jesus' disciples from being filled with His joy?
- **Read John 15:12-17**. We are to look to Jesus as our example for loving others. How is the way our world talks about love different than the way of Jesus? Do you think of Jesus as your friend? What are the implications of a friendship with Him?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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