FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE PAIN OF PRUNING

Part 3 | November 15, 2026

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GOD IS NOT JUST INTERESTED IN ADDING THINGS TO OUR LIVES. SOMETIMES HE IS CALLING US TO REMOVE THINGS THAT DO NOT BELONG THERE.

READ TOGETHER

John 15:1–8. Jesus is the true vine, the Father is the vinedresser, and His disciples are branches. Fruitfulness flows from remaining in Christ.

FAMILY OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever watched someone trim a tree or plant? Why would cutting something away help it grow?

PRAYER

Father, help our family receive Your loving correction and remain close to Jesus.
Amen.

FOUR TRUTHS TO DISCUSS

1 THE FATHER KNOWS WHAT TO REMOVE

Read: John 15:2; Psalm 139:23–24; Romans 8:1

What attitude or habit might God be asking us to examine? How is His loving correction different from condemnation?

2 PRUNING HAS A FRUITFUL PURPOSE

Read: John 15:2; Hebrews 12:11

Why can correction hurt? What good fruit might grow when we respond with humility?

3 STOP FEEDING OLD HABITS

Read: Colossians 3:5, 8–10

What is one old habit we need to stop feeding? What new, Christlike habit can replace it?

4 REMAIN CONNECTED TO JESUS

Read: John 15:4–5; 2 Corinthians 5:17

What does abiding in Jesus look like at home, at school, or at work?

PUT THE WORD INTO PRACTICE

REFLECT

Each person privately names one habit, attitude, or distraction they want to surrender to God.

RESPOND

Choose one concrete act of obedience this week: apologize, forgive, tell the truth, set a boundary, or replace an unhealthy habit with prayer.

REMAIN

Set aside ten minutes each day to read John 15, pray, and listen for the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

RECONNECT

At the end of the week, share one way God helped you grow or respond differently.

MEMORY VERSE

John 15:5 — Jesus teaches that He is the vine, we are the branches, and apart from Him we can do nothing.

FAMILY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, teach us to abide in You. Give us willing hearts to release what hinders us and grow in holiness, love, and obedience. Let our lives bear fruit that glorifies the Father. Amen.