

# ABIDE Series – Week 2

## The Care of the Vinedresser (John 15:1–2)

### Icebreaker (Light + Personal)

What's something in your life that you thought was a loss at the time... but later realized it was actually for your good?

*(If solo: just reflect or journal this for a minute.)*

### Scripture

Read:

John 15:1–2  
(Optional) James 1:2–4  
(Optional) Psalm 145:14

### Big Idea

**God is so committed to your fruitfulness that He will lift you when you're weak and prune you when you're growing.**

### Observation (What does the text say?)

In John 15:1–2, who is:  
The vine?  
The vinedresser?  
The branches?  
What is the Father's goal for the branches?  
What are the two things the Father does in verse 2?

### Understanding (What does it mean?)

What stood out to you most from this message or passage?

Why do you think we tend to associate **blessing with God's love**, but struggle to see **loss as His care**?

The message said:

*"Fruit is not what you produce for God... it's what grows in your life when you're connected to Jesus."*

How does that change the way you think about spiritual growth?

## **Application (Where does this hit your life?)**

### **1. God Lifts You Up**

Have you ever experienced a season where you felt "down in the dirt" spiritually—dry, stuck, or unfruitful?

What did that feel like?

Looking back, can you see any ways God was actually lifting or restoring you?

### **2. God Prunes You Back**

Is there anything in your life right now that feels like it's being "cut back"?

A relationship?

A plan?

An opportunity?

Even something good?

Why is it so hard to trust God in those moments?

How might your perspective change if you believed:

*"What feels like loss may actually be God preparing you for more fruit."*

## **Personal Reflection (Great for solo time)**

Take a minute and ask honestly:

Do I feel like I'm in a season of being **lifted** or **pruned** right now?

Then ask God:

**"What are You doing in me in this season?"**

Write down whatever comes to mind.

## **Prayer**

You can pray something like:

“God, thank You that You are not distant, but actively at work in my life.  
Thank You that when I am weak, You lift me... and when I am growing, You shape me.

Help me to trust You—  
not just when You give...  
but when You take away.

Give me eyes to see Your care, even in hard seasons.  
And help me remain connected to You, so that my life would bear real fruit.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.”



## **Take-Home Truth**

**The same God who lifts you... is the God who prunes you... and both are His care.**