

Christians  
are like  
fruit-bearing  
trees. We were  
created  
to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

How have you seen  
God's pruning in your  
life produce good fruit?

When have you asked  
for God's help to  
produce His fruit and  
He's come through?

We cannot bear fruit  
with our own  
\_\_\_\_\_. We must  
\_\_\_\_\_ the Vine to  
produce  
His fruit in and  
through us.

Christians  
are identified  
not by what they  
\_\_\_\_\_ but by  
what they  
\_\_\_\_\_ and the  
\_\_\_\_\_ that results.

How have you seen  
that doing it God's way  
has produced good  
fruit and fullness of joy  
in your life or others?

We were created for one primary purpose: to bear fruit. But here is the catch—and it's where we usually trip up—we cannot produce that fruit through our own grit, discipline, or effort. Just as a branch is simply a vehicle for the vine's life, we are just vehicles for the life of Jesus. Apart from Him, we can do absolutely nothing of true value. Let's stop trying so hard and start trusting harder; quit trying to "do better" on your own and start "remaining" in Him. When we stay connected to the True Vine and lean into the Spirit He's given us, His life starts showing up in our world, and that is where the real joy begins.

As the Gardener prunes, remember He isn't cutting things away to hurt you; He's doing it to bring you more life. We all have attitudes and actions that need some work, and God loves us enough to take away the growths that are just sucking up nutrients without producing anything good. He wants you to be fruitful because that's when He is glorified and when the real you He's created you to be can shine.