



Vine - Gardener - Branches - Fruit  
 Jesus The Father Christians Good Works



πᾶν κλῆμα ἐν ἐμοὶ μὴ φέρον καρπὸν αἶρει αὐτό  
 every branch in me not bear fruit \_\_\_\_\_ he  
 αἶρω (*airo*) - 101 times in New Testament -

My Father the gardener lifts up every branch in me that bears no fruit... You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you.

John 15:2-4

**Grapes don't grow on the ground!**



My child, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord chastens those He loves, and He *severely* punishes everyone he accepts as a child.

Hebrews 12:5-6

Levels God uses to get us out of the dirt

1. rebukes
2. chastens
3. severely punishes (Greek word is flog/scourge)



# ENCOUNTER QUESTIONS

Spiritual Growth Small Groups at Emmanuel Reformed Church

Even if you are *in* Jesus, we can find ourselves in the dirt. God is the one who can lift us up and clean us off, but we have to cooperate to get fruitful.

When you were disciplined growing up, in general, did you only need a word (rebuke), or did you need consequences (chasten) or even more severe punishment to get the point? Do you see any correlations from how you were as a child and your maturing in your spiritual life with God?

Grapes don't grow on the ground. Why can't we produce fruit if we are staying in sin? Think about what sin is, and what fruit is (from last week's sermon).

Discipline does not feel loving when it is happening. How can keeping this imagery of being taken up from the dirt, washed off, and sent in a new direction help?

Read **Hebrews 12:5-12**. What do you see? How are love and discipline related? What is our role?

Many painful things in our life are not discipline from God. How might we tell what is God's discipline versus other causes of pain and discomfort?

What reasons do you have for staying in the dirt sometimes?

How do they sound when you say them aloud?

Where is God calling you to repent and turn to His ways?

**KIDS** – Write one important thing you heard in the sermon.

(you can also make a drawing related to the sermon 😊)