

SCC Small Group Study – August 13, 2023
Rev. Rick Dietzman
John 15:1-8

Getting Started:

Comment on what this statement means to you: “We all want our lives to count, to bear fruit, to have meaning.”

Can you think of an example when you believed God was working through you in another person’s life or in a specific circumstance?

Searching the Scriptures:

- A. What do you think Jesus means when he talks about being "pruned for greater fruitfulness" in John 15:2? How might challenges and hardships in our lives contribute to this process?

- B. How does the idea of being "rooted and built up in Christ" (Colossians 2:6) relate to the concept of growing deeper with Jesus and others? How does this connection impact our daily lives?

- C. In Romans 12:2, how does the idea of not conforming to the world but being transformed align with being optimistic for change?

- D. Galatians 6:9 encourages us not to give up in doing good. How do you interpret the promise that we will reap in due season? How does this encourage perseverance?
- E. Proverbs 15:22 and Hebrews 10:24 emphasize seeking counsel and stirring one another to love and good deeds. How do these principles contribute to our ability to bear fruit in our lives?
- F. How do passages like 2 Peter 3:18 and Philippians 3:14 highlight the idea of continual growth and pursuit of Christ-likeness in our lives? How does growth relate to bearing fruit?
- G. How does Colossians 1:9-10 connect the knowledge of God's will with living a life worthy of the Lord and bearing fruit in good works? What role does knowledge and understanding play in this context?

Application of Scripture:

- A. How would you describe the "fruit of the Spirit" mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23, and why is it significant in our journey as disciples of Jesus?
- B. In what areas of your life do you feel the need for "pruning" or discipline in order to experience greater fruitfulness? How can you embrace these challenges as opportunities for growth?