

SCC Small Group Discussion
The Inviting God: Close to God

Derived from a sermon on September 20, 2026 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

What image comes to mind when you think of the word “abide” or “remain”?

Do you feel like you are bearing much fruit? How would you know?

Searching the Scriptures:

Read John 15:1-11

1. What is Jesus trying to communicate by calling himself the true vine?

2. How does “remaining” or “abiding” lead to bearing fruit? What kind of “fruit” is Jesus talking about?

3. Explain “Apart from me you can do nothing”. Does this statement need some clarification?

4. What does “cutting off every branch that bears no fruit” mean? How do we relate this verse to other ones that talk about assurance of salvation?
5. Describe a time in your life when God pruned you so you would grow closer to him.
6. Was it a good process? Why or why not? What was the result of the pruning?
7. How would you explain what it means to remain in Christ’s love?

Application Questions

In what ways have you benefited from remaining or abiding in Christ?

How have you seen Jesus’ joy manifest itself in your life?

Get discussion questions in word format & link to Bible App plan for this week at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads