



REBOUND!

Before we begin our lesson, we must make sure we are filled with the Holy Spirit. If you are a believer, and if you have any sins to confess, privately name your sins to God the Father. Then you will be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is rebound - 1 John 1:9.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I believe!

If you are an unbeliever, before you can be filled with the Holy Spirit you must believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior. You must believe that on the cross He paid the price for everyone's sins and was resurrected from the dead. If you believe that you will spend eternity with God in heaven! John 3:16

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



John 15:1-2 I am [deity] the true vine [Humanity], and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch [believer] in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away [disciplines]; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes [suffering for blessing] it so that it may bear more fruit.

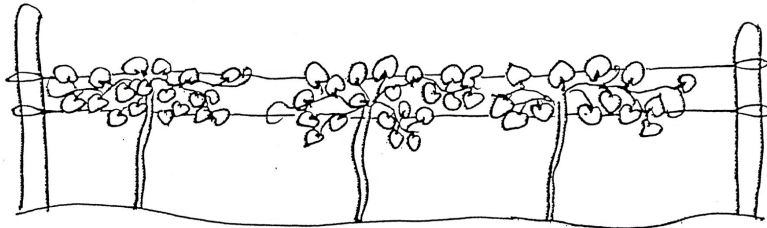
God the Vinedresser takes away, or disciplines, branches - believers - that don't bear fruit. He does this so that they can start producing good fruit! He prunes the branches that bear fruit - positive believers - so that they will produce more fruit! It is way more important for God to teach us who He is than to take away "pruning", or suffering. God wants us to know more about Him so we can be closer to Him. Suffering is one way He uses to teach us because we must keep our eyes on Jesus Christ in order to get through the suffering! He will never give us more than we can handle, and He'll always give us a way to get through it! Adversity and suffering will always be a part of everyone's life; we can either go through it alone - HELP! Or, we can go through it with God - AHHH!

Jesus Christ, the Vine, produces life in His branches, believers, through the power of the Holy Spirit. When we stay in the Vine, stay in the thinking of Jesus Christ, we have the life of Jesus Christ. What a life! God wants us to experience "good fruit" in time as well as in eternity. He wants us to experience the fruit of the Holy Spirit! (Galatians 5:22-23) He wants us to rely less on ourselves and more on Him! The Vine is patient with His branches. We must be patient with ourselves, with others, and with God's timing. He - God - Who began a good work in us will complete it!

For more information, go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *God's Vineyard, Part 1 and 2.*

Pee Wee Light

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit and producing fruit, God will prune us. This means that He will give us suffering for blessing so that we can grow spiritually. If everything always goes well, we won't grow up! God loves us with an infinite love; that's a lot of love. He wants us to be a branch full of life with lots of fruit. What a life!



I'm going through some adversity.
If I stick in God's plan He will help me through it. God will help me to grow spiritually and to know and love Him more and more.



Lighthouse Bible Church

The Vinedresser Prunes the Branches

Lesson#9