

**Sermon Series by**

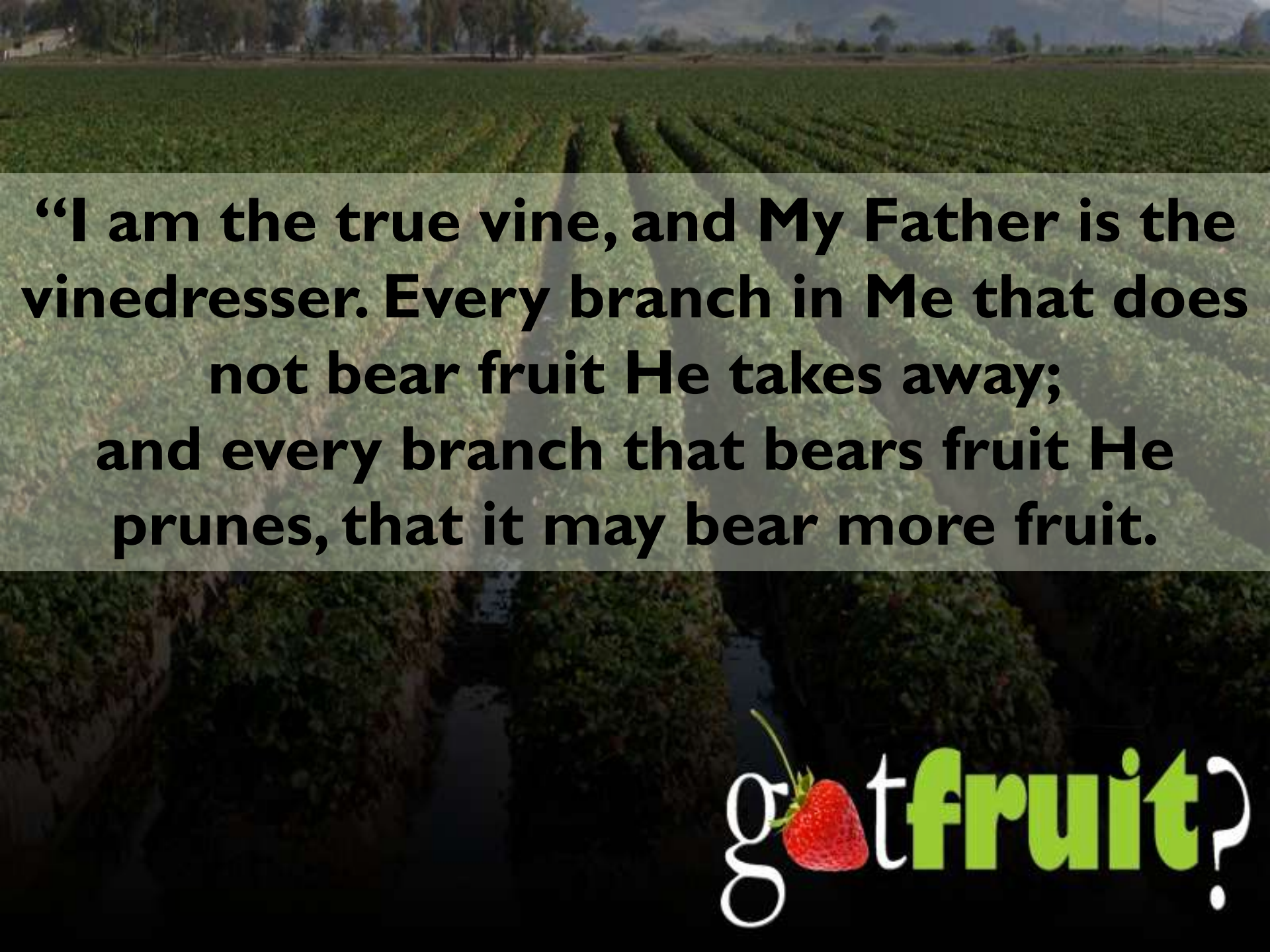
**Dr. Michael Lewis**

**g**  **tfruit?**

**He who abides in Me...**

**bears much fruit.**

**John 15:5**



**“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.**



**You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.**



**“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**



**If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.**

***John 15 : 1 – 8***





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**The Vision of Plant City's  
First Baptist Church is to  
"bear lasting fruit"  
by leading people to ...  
Know Christ, Grow in Christ, and  
Show Christ's love.**





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# **I. Spiritual Growth is a Process.**

**a. Jesus is the Life-giver.**

*Verse 1 - “I am the true Vine”*



# I. Spiritual Growth is a Process.

## a. Jesus is the Life-giver.

*Colossians 2:3*

*2 Peter 1:3*



**I. Spiritual Growth is a Process.**

**b. The Father is the Care-giver.**

*Verse 1 – “My Father is the vinedresser...”*



# I. Spiritual Growth is a Process.

## c. The Follower is the Fruit-bearer.

*Verse 2 – “Every branch in me...that bears fruit...”*

*Verse 5 – “you are the branches”*





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**Video**



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## **2. Spiritual Growth involves Pain.**

### **a. Picking up Fruitless branches.**

*"Every branch in Me  
that does not bear fruit He lifts up"*



## **2. Spiritual Growth involves Pain.**

### **a. Picking up Fruitless branches.**

***“Seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.”***

***Colossians 3:1b,2***



## **2. Spiritual Growth involves Pain.**

### **b. Pruning fruitful branches.**

*Verse 2b – “every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”*



## **2. Spiritual Growth involves Pain.**

### **b. Pruning fruitful branches.**

*Verse 3 - "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken unto you."*





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### **3. Spiritual Growth is to be a Priority.**

**a. Abiding in Christ produces fruit.**

**b. Separation from Christ produces failure.**





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# Deterrents to Abiding in Christ

- Pride
- Being too busy
- Being focused on others
- Spiritual laziness
- Loss of Passion
- Unanswerable questions
- Spiritual Warfare



# 4. Spiritual Growth Produces Lasting Fruit.





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