

GOOD & GROWING NEWS

JOHN 15:1-2 – ERIC SIMPSON – MARCH 3, 2019

John 15:1-2

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

Gardner = God the Father

Vine = Jesus

Branches = Christians

Fruit = spiritual growth, good works

prune = *kathairō* (kath-ah'-ee-ro) = make clean by purging the undesirable elements

Good news = Jesus is the true vine—He will be for us what we can't be for ourselves.

Growing news = God prunes.

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness and self-control.

God prunes with...

- **Scripture**

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

- **Suffering**

John 13:7

Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."