Become An Abiding Branch

John 15:1~11

John 15:1

New American Standard Bible

¹ "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.



- ◆ These men had believed that Israel was the true vine (Isaiah 51:1~7)
- ◆ True blessings and connection with God would come through Christ now
- How many of us miss Christ because He's not the Jesus we want?
- ◆ Don't be troubled; you have Me and I am the true source of blessing and the true way to God
- Verse 1 already calls for a response to Christ



John 15:2

New American Standard Bible

² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.



- ◆ Jesus is talking about a living union with a living God through Christ
- ♦ Lots of talk about fruit here; specifically, how fruitful we are
- A progression to much fruit
- ◆ Don't be troubled ~ the whole point of you being here is to bear much fruit through pruning

Titus 2:14

New American Standard Bible

who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.



- Pruning is talked about a lot
- Being cut back (the healthy and the unhealthy) to produce more fruit
- We are troubled about our meaning here/in life because:
- We don't want to be pruned
- We resent pruning
- We try to avoid pruning



- How does God prune us?
- ♦ Time~ Isaiah 43:18
- Exposure~ Psalm 139:23~24; I Cor. 4:5
- ♦ Conviction~ John 16:8
- ◆ Providence~ Job 1:21 [Job!]
- Suffering~ James 1:2~4
- ♦ God's "severe mercies"
- ♦ Don't be troubled~ our Father is using all of these things to cause us to bear much fruit



John 15:3~4

New American Standard Bible

³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me.



John 15:5~6

New American Standard Bible

⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.



- ◆ Abide: To draw life from something; a place of existence/dwelling; of rest and shelter at all times
- ♦ How do we know if we are abiding?
- Bearing fruit
- Pruning

- Vibrant prayer life
- Deeper love for Christ
- ◆ Joy
- ♦ Don't be troubled ~ living everyday with Me gives meaning to you by bearing fruit
- Seeds of reproduction nourishment for others



John 15:7

New American Standard Bible

⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.



- His words abide in us
- If Christ is in us, He speaks with authority
- ♦ Memorize
- ♦ Believe
- Let it be alive with deep roots
- Jesus in us valued above all others
- Prayer isn't for us; it's for us to be committed to God's designs



- Does pruning always hurt?
- ♦ Yes ~ by design and with a purpose

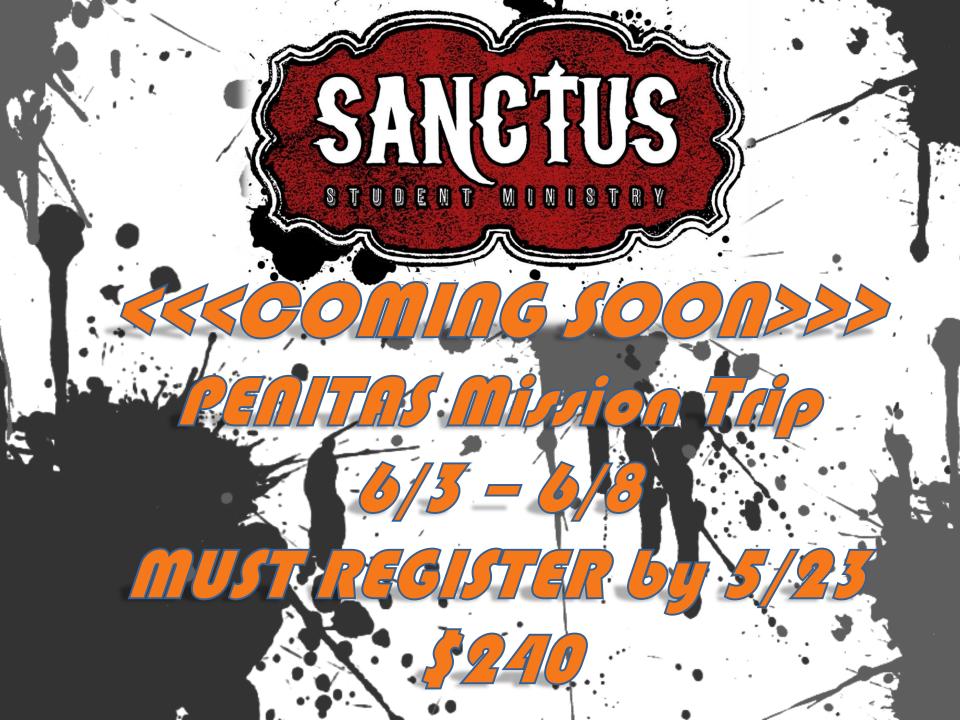
- What is troubling you?
- Do not let your heart be troubled
- Abide:
- Are you abiding with Christ?
- Is God's word abiding in you?

- Pruning:
- Are you being pruned?
- Are you being fruitful?
- Are you desiring God's glory through the products of your life?



Marriage and Family Ministry ちしいドドストリング

Roundtable Discussion CONTINUES May 6! Weekend to Remember May 18-20 @ a Group Rate See the bulletin for all the details...



If you are interested in baby or family dedication, Please email us by tomorrow

We will continue next Sunday with dedications!

info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com

SENIOR RECOGNITION

Sunday, May 27

Congrats to the Class of 2012!

Email us to participate...

info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com