



# GROWTH GROUP

## Confirmation

Week of 6/7/2020

Through faith in Christ's sacrifice for us, we are connected to the Risen Savior as a branch is connected to a grape vine. The result of being connected to Jesus is that we will now bear fruit. The fruit of a Christian is a life of love. Out of thanks for God's love, we now seek to love others in many ways, including telling them the good news of Christ. As believers we seek to show love not only in what we say, but also in what we do.

### Getting Started

What is the extent of your gardening and pruning experience? Hopefully someone can offer some experiential insight to the imagery Jesus is talking about in John 15. If this question is a dud, ask about everyone's confirmation day.

### Into the Word

Read **Deuteronomy 11:18-20**.

By being a part of this Growth Group, you demonstrate that what this verse talks about is something you want for your life. As a group, discuss practical ways to accomplish more of this. The group can offer each other tips on what has worked for them, or brainstorm together to come up with new ideas. What have you done to keep God's Word in front of you at all times? Put it on the walls of your house, on a mirror, tattoo, set routines that remind your to read, etc.

Read **John 15:1-12**.

What does Jesus say has made us clean? (v. 3) **Simply because of the Word he has spoken to us.**

By being connected to Christ through faith, we are saved and produce fruit. How do we stay connected to Christ? **We stay connected to Jesus through his Word and Sacrament.**

Is it important that a Christian produce fruits of faith? Why or why not? **Is breathing important? The fruit doesn't earn you anything. In that way, they're not important. If your faith is healthy, the fruit will come. In that way, they're vitally important.**

What does Jesus say will happen if we keep his commands? (v. 11) **Our joy will be complete. It's for our benefit, not God's.**

### Apply

What connections do you sometimes find yourself choosing over a connection with Jesus through his Word?

What has God pruned out of your life that has made you more faithful today?

What does God need to prune out of your life so that you will be more fruitful?

### Around the Room

Share your highs and lows for the week.

### Pray

**Prayer suggestions:** For the confirmands, those upset by civil unrest, those who are sick, those who serve, fruits of faith in our lives

