God’s Vineyard

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A healthy vineyard has rows and rows of beautiful, brown grape vines with lush green branches and leaves. The vine is the part of the plant that gives life and nourishment to the branches. It supplies the branches with all they need to grow and produce fruit. The vineyard is weeded regularly and the soil is rich with nutrients.
A vinedresser, the one who takes care of the vineyard, consistently cares for the vine and the branches. The work takes a lot of knowledge. He makes sure the soil, climate, and nutrients are all right. In order to have good, healthy branches, the vinedresser will prune or cut off branches that aren’t necessary. When everything is right, a good crop of grapes will be produced.
We can compare our spiritual life to a vineyard. We are in God’s vineyard. God the Father is the Vinedresser. The Vine is the Lord Jesus Christ. Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are the branches. God the Father is looking over the vineyard, working with the Vine and the branches. In His omniscience and omnipotence He designed a spiritual growth plan for the branches in the Vine. God makes sure that we have the right “soil, climate, and nutrients” for our spiritual growth.

John 15:1 “I [Jesus Christ] 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 it so that it may bear more fruit.”
Jesus tested the soil, climate, and nutrients - or the plan of God - during His life on Earth. He was indwelt with the Holy Spirit so He always had the power of the Spirit to use in His spiritual life. He learned, believed and used God’s word. He had more tests and problems than we will ever have! Jesus obeyed His Father’s will and lived in His plan. The plan worked. Jesus made it through very difficult times through the power of the Holy Spirit and the word of God. He experienced the fruit of the Holy Spirit to the max!

Hebrews 12:13 For consider Him Who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart.
What is the fruit of the Holy Spirit? Well, it isn’t some exotic fruit like papaya, or some common fruit like apples. The fruit of the Spirit is: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. It is something which God the Holy Spirit produces or grows in the life of the believer who is following the plan of God. It means that while we are learning, believing and using the word of God, the Holy Spirit is growing in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law [we can’t do works to get them; we study and the Holy Spirit grows them in us].
John 15:4 “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.”

We, the branches, get life through the Vine, the Lord Jesus Christ. We get all that we need to grow in the spiritual life from using the same plan of God that Jesus, in His humanity, used: the power of the Holy Spirit; and learning, believing, and using the word of God which is the thinking of Jesus Christ. What an awesome form of energy! The Vine gives life to its branches!
John 15:5  “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.”

Believers are in union with Jesus Christ; we are indwelt by Him and will never be separated from Him. However, we are commanded by God to abide or live in the Vine, the Lord Jesus Christ. That means to live in His love through the power of the Holy Spirit. John 15:9-10 Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. The Lord Jesus Christ abides or lives in us by our thinking being the same as His thinking. His thoughts become our thoughts. Great thoughts to guide us!
As we are growing in the spiritual life, God allows us to be pruned. This means He will allow suffering for blessing so we can grow spiritually. If everything always went well for us, we wouldn’t grow up spiritually. We need pruning so we will rely on God; God will always give us the power to go through the suffering or pruning. He loves us with an infinite love; that’s a lot of love! God wants us to be branches living in His love, full of His life, experiencing a great abundance of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. What a life!

John 15:2 “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.”
Let's enjoy God's beautiful vineyard! We have God the Father as the Vinedresser; the Lord Jesus Christ as our Vine; us as His branches; and the Holy Spirit producing His fruit in our lives. We have the BEST ABODE ever so let's abide (live) in it!

Glory be to God!

John 15:8 “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.”