



## **Read John 15:1-11**

### **Discussion Questions:**

How does the concept of God pruning those who bear fruit challenge our understanding of spiritual growth and comfort?

In what ways might we be resisting God's pruning process in our lives, and how can we learn to embrace it?

How does the story of Joseph's years in prison illustrate God's timing and purpose in difficult circumstances?

What are some practical ways we can shift our focus from praying for changed circumstances to praying for personal transformation?

How does the idea of God using both circumstances and conviction to prune us impact our view of hardships and spiritual conviction?

In what ways might our modern desire for instant results conflict with God's often lengthy pruning process, as illustrated by the vineyard example?

How can we develop a healthier response to God's discipline, moving from defensiveness to acknowledgment and growth?

What role does community play in helping us recognize our blind spots and respond to God's pruning?

How does the image of God 'longing to be gracious' to us contrast with common misconceptions about His nature?

In what ways can we cultivate a perspective that views God's pruning as an act of love rather than punishment?