



## Ice Breaker (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

It's back to school week so - share about who one of your favorite teachers was growing up - and why you appreciated them?

## Talk About it!

### QUESTION 1

#### Jeremiah 17:7-8 New International Version

7 "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in him.

8 They will be like a tree planted by the water  
that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes;  
its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought  
and never fails to bear fruit."

#### Discuss:

How does this representation of a 'blessed life' affect you? On a scale of 1-10, to what degree are you experiencing what is depicted in these verses? In what ways are you experiencing something like what this passage depicts?

### QUESTION 2

#### John 15:1-3 New International Version

15 "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. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

#### Discuss:

Share about a season of pruning that you've been through where it was clear that God was pruning you; what was the net effect, as you look back? Are there any specific areas in which you sense that God wants to do some pruning in your life even now?



### QUESTION 3

#### John 15:4-5 New International Version

4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

#### Discuss:

What is attractive to you about remaining or abiding in Jesus? What would the positive effects be if you were to cultivate more of a life of abiding in Christ?

### QUESTION 4

#### John 15:5 New International Version

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

#### Discuss:

In the message there were seven ways to cultivate abiding: Repent, Rest in His provision, Receive from The Vine, Reject my self-reliance, Read His Word, Recalibrate in the transitions, Reach for breakout and breathe in; did one jump out at you as something you need to actually do more? What is it?

### QUESTION 5

#### John 15:6-8 New International Version

6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

#### Discuss:

As you think about being fruitful for the Father's glory, what are some areas of your life - spiritual, practical, professional, or relational, where you hope to bear new, better fruit - and what would that fruit be?