

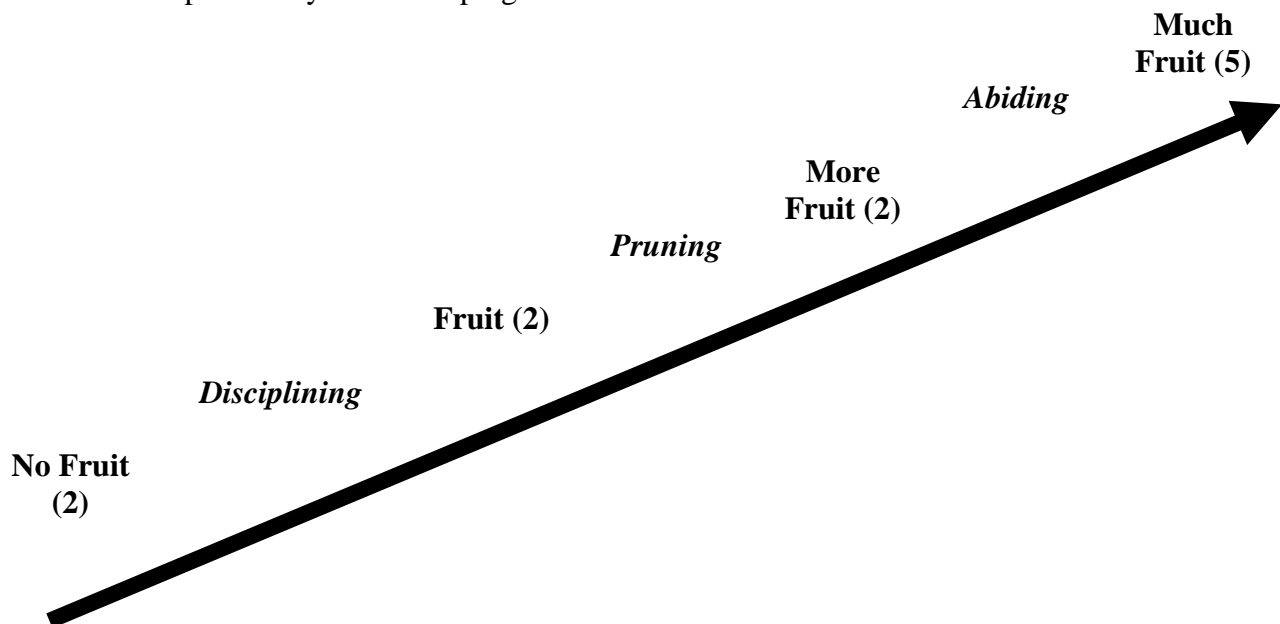
‘12 Resolutions **John 15:1-11**

¹ “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹

Stay connected to Christ to become more fruitful

➤ **God’s desire is for all believers to be fruitful (1-6)**

God takes responsibility for developing fruit in our lives



A vital connection is required in order to bear fruit

Abiding/remaining is a reciprocal relationship

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. 2001 (Jn 15:1–11). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.

➤ **The results of a fruitful life (7-11)**

When we are fruitful, we will:

Pray with confidence (7)

Prove we follow Christ (8)

Be confident of God's love (9)

Live in obedience (10)

Live joy-filled lives (11)

ISSUE	DISCIPLINING	PRUNING
<i>How do you know it's happening?</i>	Pain	Pain
<i>Why is it happening?</i>	You're doing something wrong	You're doing something right
<i>What is your level of fruitfulness?</i>	No fruit	Fruit
<i>What is the vinedresser's desire</i>	Fruit	More fruit
<i>What needs to go?</i>	Sin	Self
<i>How should you feel?</i>	Guilty, sad	Relief, trust
<i>What is the right response?</i>	Repentance (stop your sinning)	Release (give God your permission)
<i>When does it stop?</i>	When we stop sinning	When God is finished

Chart is taken from *Secrets of the Vine*, by Bruce Wilkinson. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2001, p. 66.