**3-19-19 ABIDING HANDOUT**

1. Think of the things in your life. Even good things can sap your energies, time, and talents; but are not ultimately important to God. Name a few in your life.
2. Pruning helps us to reorder our priorities. Name 3 priorities in your life now that often compete for the number one spot.
3. When God prunes us, it often takes place through tests and trials. The distress we experience helps us identify affections, activities, or attitudes that God is trying to prune. Have you ever experienced a trial that you later realized was directly related to your clinging to something that God was trying to prune away? Describe what happened.
4. Are you in a season of Discipline, Pruning, or Abiding? How can you tell?

**AM I BEING DISCIPLINED OR PRUNED?**

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| ISSUE | DISCIPLING | PRUNING |
| How do you know it is happening? | PAIN | PAIN |
| Why is it happening? | You have done something wrong. | You have done something right. |
| What is your level of fruitfulness? | NO FRUIT | SOME FRUIT |
| What is the Vinedressers desire? | SOME FRUIT | MORE FRUIT |
| What needs to go? | SIN | SELF |
| How should you feel? | Guilty, sad | Relief, trust |
| What is the right response? | Repentance, stop your sinning | Obedience |
| When does it stop? | When we stop sinning | When God is finished |