



Ed Satterfield, our Executive Pastor, preached on the great agricultural metaphors for the church, focusing on the Field from 1 Corinthians 3 and the Vine from John 15.

READ

1 Corinthians 3: 6-7

John 15: 1-8

REFLECT

1. Near the beginning, Ed explained fruitfulness as both the individual demonstrating growth, showcasing aspects of a holistically good life and also the adding of other people into this life. Given Ed's description of bearing fruit, how would you characterize your fruitfulness? Are you currently bearing fruit? How so?
2. Ed spoke about the field and vine as corporate metaphors, that we are called to bear fruit not only as individuals but as a community. Have you experienced this sort of cross-pollination partnership in your life?
3. Ed told a powerful story of an Evangelist named Becky - who by allowing another woman to witness her pain and vulnerability provided a chance for her neighbor to see Jesus. Becky acted as a real life example of 2 Corinthians 12 where God is "made perfect in (our) weakness." Are you being honest, open, and vulnerable with those around you or are you maintaining a facade that you have everything under control?

PRAY

- + Confess to God how often we credit ourselves for our growth and bearing of fruit, how we think of these things as individuals instead of considering others.
- + Thank God for doing the work, for making us bear fruit, for growing us, and for allowing us to tend the fields and participate in the process.
- + Pray for renewal in our Church, our Community, and our City.

PRACTICE

- + Ed discussed this call to live authentically and vulnerably. What would this look like in your life?
- + In the conclusion, Ed spoke about the individual and corporate practices that help us to abide or dwell in the Vine. Spend some time brainstorming what it would mean to follow both perspectives of this metaphor. What does it look like to dwell individually and corporately in God, allowing him to produce fruit and growth in your life? What would it look like to tend the field, to water your neighbors and co-workers, to plant your children and friends?