



Four Portraits, One *Savior*



That you may
have *life*

**It's Not About Going/Doing - It's About
Abiding**

John 15:1-6



1. *Christ's vision to grow His Church is about to unfold.*

A. *Father God – the “vinedresser” (gardener).*

B. *Jesus His Son – the “vine.”*

C. *Christ-followers – the “branches.”*

D. *The fruit of the branches – new growth..*



Imagine Christ as the **Conductor**; believers are the **musicians** and their **instruments**; the sheet music is the “**will of God**”; the beautiful music is the **fruit**.





2. *Spiritual growth is Christ's objective – to not be growing is to **not be abiding**.*

A. *To be **pruned** is to abide. V2.*

- ***Live branch.***
- ***Deliberate.***
- ***Not punitive.***
- ***Redirects** energy from “less living” to new life.*

B. *To not abide (“remain connected”) has spiritual consequences. V6.*

- *To be of no use.*
- *Cast away.*

C. ***Can a dead branch be restored?** Ask Simon Peter.*





3. *Bearing fruit is what abiding is all about. Fruit bearing is not about working harder, although abiding believers do work hard.*

Jn. 15:1-6.

A. No fruit. V2.

B. Fruit – already present. V2.

C. More fruit – from pruning. V2.

D. Much fruit – results from abiding. V5.

E. Much more fruit - glorifies the Father; proves discipleship. V8.

- Leads to a transformation in heart; from seeking, to serving to calling.*

*Your instrument is waiting for you.
Are you ready to sit in the chair?*





Call to Action

1. *Why not make today the day you say “yes” to Jesus? His invitation is unique to each one of us, but the response is the same for each one of us just like it was for each of His original disciples.*
2. *I have found that memorizing scripture allows me to plumb the depth of God’s love more than anything else. Would you consider memorizing John 15:1-6 this next week? As you do, put your name in each verse.*