

TO GO

1. Have you ever had to maintain a long-distance relationship? What contributed to the health of that relationship despite the long distance?
2. Read John 15:1–2. What metaphor does Jesus use to help describe what it looks like to maintain relationship with him even though he’s soon to depart? Define the various subjects within the metaphor (vine, vinedresser, branches, fruit).
3. Read John 15:2, 6. How ought we consider the reality that dead branches get tossed? Why is this important? How does fruit factor into our consideration? How much fruit is enough to keep a branch out of the fire?
4. Read John 15:2–8. In what ways do branches abide in the vine? What are the benefits? How about the challenges?
5. Read John 15:9–17. How does Jesus subtly change the setting beginning in v9? What are the characteristics of the beloved who abide in Jesus in this section?
6. Read John 15:16–17. Consider two aspects of your life that could be corrected given what we’ve studied today. How can you remain more connected to Jesus? Humble in your relationship with him? Missional in your fruit-bearing? Ask Jesus to help you toward those ends today.