



3. Why is it important in our text for the listeners to see that Jesus is the true vine and the Father is the vinegrower? What are the similarities and what are the differences?
  
4. In Rev. Adkins' sermon he describes various ways he felt that his father tried to give him a better life than his father had. Has anyone in your life attempted to help you have a better life? If so, share your stories. On a larger scale, do you think God is trying to help us experience a better life? If so, how?
  
5. The disciples of Jesus are not the fruit, the end product, but the conduit for the vines' nourishment. Discuss what you think this statement means.
  
6. The vinegrower comes along to lift and clean the vine, pruning away the excess and dead growth. Jesus in our text refers to God as the vinegrower. What does this analogy tell us about God and our connection to God?

7. In *A Lamp for My Feet* Elizabeth Elliot says, "It is when we stop straining to paddle our own canoe and let another paddle it for us or give ourselves to paddle someone else's that we fulfill the law of Christ." Discuss what you think she means by this statement.
  
8. Describe what you think are the basic points the writer of John is trying to tell us about God and our relationship with God.
  
9. Jesus says in our text, "Apart from me you can do nothing." Discuss what Jesus is trying to tell us about God and our relationship with him through this statement.
  
10. Discuss the ways you personally have experienced a better life through your relationship with God.