

When God Causes Pain

John 15

Introduction: Types of Pain

God's Goal for Us: _____

God's Method to Accomplish This Goal: _____

God's Purpose in Pruning:

1. Cut away _____

Picture: More aware of _____ or _____

Result: _____

2. Cut away _____

Picture: More aware of _____

Result: _____

My Prayer to Respond to God's Pruning

Dear God, How often I've resisted Your work in my life, seeing only the personal "loss" to me and not the permanent gain for eternity. But now I see that all your ways are kind and loving and faithful. Forgive me for choosing my priorities, my desires, and my ways over Yours. How foolish and wasteful. You are the Mater Vinedresser. I surrender my whole life to You. Please accomplish Your perfect plan for me. Prune me in the way and for the time You know to be best. Reshape me to be like Your Son, Jesus so that I can bring great pleasure to You, and so that my life will bear great fruit for Your glory. I praise You and thank You for Your love. Amen.