

THE Storyteller

— the PARABLES of JESUS —

“Staying Connected”

Getting Started

This last weekend was youth Sunday and Chad talk about the memorable times they had at camp. Take a moment to talk about a memorable time you had at camp or camping growing up.

Have you ever experienced a time in your life where you had a “camp high” or a “spiritual high”. Explain to the group that time in your life

Why do you think most people fall down after a “spiritual high” like that?

Going Deeper

Take a moment to review [John 15:1–10](#).

What words or phrases jump out at you regarding staying close in your relationship with God

What are some ideas or habits we connect ourselves to that lead us away from God?

In [John 15](#) Jesus refers to God as a gardener who cuts away the dead branches and prunes the ones that are bearing fruit.

Why is that a scary thought to most Christians?

Take a moment to talk about this thought. "**God only wants to cut out of our life dead things that will make us more dead.**"

What are some old habits and patterns that you wish God would cut out of your life?

These verses seem to indicate that if we want to grow, we have to stay connected with God and stay connected with the other branches.

Read [Hebrews 10:23-25](#). What do these verses say about staying connected to people?

- How are you better when you stay connected to Godly people?
- What action steps can you take to include better time with other branches?

- What are some things you can do to stay connected with other Christian people
- What are some ways that you can do to stay connected with God?
- What difference do you notice in your life when you stay connected to God?
- What aspects of your life are harder when you are disconnected?

Closing Prayer

Ask God to help you create intentional time with Him and other believers so you can continue to grow in your faith. And ask God to help you pay attention to opportunities around you so you can share your faith story with others that don't know God as their Lord.

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