PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 6/11/2022 Text(s): John 15:1—8

Sermon Title: Living a Fruitful Christian Life

Preacher: Dr Cheah Fung Fong

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

John 15:1-8 (NIV84)

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. In any vineyard, there are different types of branches. One type of branch is a fruitless branch. Jesus says the Father as the Gardener cuts off every branch that doesn't bear fruit. But the original Greek word for "cut off" means "lift up". How did the preacher explain the need to lift up a branch? Why is this important?
- 2. You might be asking, "Don't branches also need pruning in order for them to bear fruit better?" Yes, there is a type of branch that needs to be pruned. Pruning is important as gardeners care for their vineyard. What type of branches need pruning? Why is pruning important? How does pruning happen?

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

- 1. Abiding is a command, said the preacher. Remaining in Christ is God's will for us. Does the thought of this being a command makes it unpalatable to some of us? If yes, why is that so? If you're not uncomfortable with it being a command, how are you applying this command to your daily life?
- 2. Abiding is a relationship with communication. In a relationship, you long to be with the person. Do you agree or disagree with the preacher, that being in a relationship with Jesus means you desire to be with Him and to communicate with Him? If you agree, how do we practice this abiding?
- 3. Abiding is continuing in His presence. When can we be in God's presence? Are there specific activities that we must do in order to be found in God's presence?

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)
(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for monthly guide)

- Pray for one another to have a desire to be in a real and honest relationship with Jesus and to abide in Christ always.
- Pray for our church to be a people who practice the presence of God all the time and in everything we do, including while we are at work and at home.
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.