

Hot Testimony!



*“I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener.
He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and
he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce
even more.”*

Jesus Christ | John 15:1-2 (NLT)

You'd have thought it would go on forever. Year after year, like clockwork, the stately maple in front of the house I grew up in had produced abundant leaves and seeds. But after nearly 100 years, though leaves still formed, seed production had dwindled. One day a small gust hit, crash! A once mighty and fruitful limb lay still like a great warrior on a battlefield. Dead.

I feared the fate of the tree having lost so much. Yet, the following year new life emerged; leaves and a fresh batch of seeds forthcoming. An amazing testimony for life, perhaps this tree could go on forever!

The painful loss the tree experienced demonstrates the inevitable cycle every true follower of Jesus faces... why would the Father leave you unfruitful, lacking fresh testimony of Jesus at work in your life? Is he pruning you now?

*Reflect: **Has my Mission become unfruitful?***

Though the branch had once produced bountiful fruit, it had become primarily wood. Stately, proud, set in its ways... it looked good to the eye but, at its core, was failing to thrive. How productive is a seed from a long-ago harvest?

"Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did for me." Psalm 66:16

Consider your testimonies seeds of life, planted when shared

passionately. Have they become stale? Do you find yourself speaking largely about experiencing Jesus long ago? Listen as you share. Has your passion waned; your testimony grown cold? Though you look like a good Christian, are you failing to thrive at your core?

We'll never know if that tree felt pain as its limb was torn away, but certainly you will when you're pruned. Who looks forward to losing something that's been good? A job, a dream, a relationship, perhaps finances or good health...? Pruning hurts!

Even so, from God's view it's dead wood and he abhors it. Removing it produces hot testimony, a key to advancing his Kingdom and he spares nothing to create it.

"Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root." Isaiah 11:1

Having been pruned over and over, the stump of David's line was the perfect site for a new fruitful branch.

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives." Jesus Christ (John 12:24)

But even Jesus himself was pruned for the Kingdom's sake.

"We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we

have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us. We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.” The Apostle John (1 John 1:1-4)

Now this testimony burns hot!

Consider: Pruning makes my testimony burn hot!

Unable to prevent God’s pruning, we face a choice.

“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.” Jesus Christ (John 15:5-6)

Dwelling on the pain of pruning leads you away from God, rendering yourself a useless branch. Abiding in Jesus leads to fresh testimony of himself at work in your life. Which path will you take?

Imagine: Abiding advances my Mission, producing much fruit.

Consider pruning to be an unplanned Jump on your Mission Curve®. Perhaps you have ventured ahead on your own? Is the Father bringing you back to join Jesus? Could he want you to learn first-hand the truth of his words, *"For apart from me you can do nothing?"* The truth is, apart from Jesus you'll become like dead wood, useless. Embrace your pruning, abide in Jesus and he will realign you with your Mission. What could be better than to see it advance because the he has filled you with...

Hot Testimony!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- Take notice... How often am I sharing testimony of Jesus working in and through my life? How hot is it?
- What in my life is being pruned away? Am I focused on the pain or Jesus?
- Ask Jesus, "How could my being pruned lead me deeper into advancing my Mission?"

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Hot Testimony Bolsters Victory

“And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.

Revelation 12:11



[Share](#)



[Tweet](#)



[Forward](#)



[Share](#)

Don't know your Mission?

Get started by using our 40-day self guided devotional - Mobilize Your Mission.

Thought provoking and challenging, this devotional will lead you to discover your crystal clear, God given Mission, deepen your Intimacy with God, and get you moving down the path of adventure he made you for. You'll appreciate using this as a manual for ongoing support throughout your journey.



[Buy Mobilize Your Mission Now!](#)

Ready for a deeper dive?

Engage the Advisor Guided, **Reach New Peaks Workshop**. It will change your life. Guaranteed. Schedule a free consultation on how to start the process:

“

“If one is seeking direction in life and looking forward to new adventures, **this workshop is the perfect trail map** to get you to your destination!”

~ DAN B.
Life Mission: Shaping radical existence in the everyday



Mission Curve Process—Guaranteed

Adventuring with God

Blog Posts



Pray It Back

I remember hearing about a pastor who gave the same sermon 3 weeks in a row. After church that day, people asked him... [Keep reading](#)

[View All Blogs](#)



Copyright © 2022 Mission Curve Advisors, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Mission Curve Advisors
18160 Cottonwood Rd PMB 440
Bend, OR 97707-9317

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

