

Day 4: The Gift of the Pruning Season

Devotional

Nobody enjoys being pruned. It is uncomfortable, sometimes painful, and it rarely makes sense in the moment. But here is what a gardener knows that the branch does not: pruning is not punishment. It is preparation. It is what happens to branches that are already bearing fruit, because the gardener sees even more potential.

Moses spent forty years in the wilderness before he led a nation. David spent years running from Saul before he became king. Those were not wasted seasons. They were the seasons that shaped who God needed them to be. Your hard season may be doing the same thing in you.

If you are in a difficult stretch right now, resist the urge to only ask why. Start asking what. What is God cutting away? What is He strengthening? What is He preparing you for? The pruning is not a sign that He has forgotten you. It is actually a sign that He is deeply invested in your growth. A gardener does not prune a branch he does not care about.

Bible Verse

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit." - John 15:1-2

Reflection Question

Is there a difficult season in your life right now that, instead of asking who is to blame, you could begin asking what God might be shaping in you through it?

Quote

I would like to challenge you today to embrace the pruning of God.

Prayer

Father, help me to trust You in the pruning seasons. Give me the courage to embrace what You are cutting away, knowing that You are preparing me for something greater. Amen.