

**Grafted Into Relationship**

**A Video-Based Experience**

• **Say:** Jesus defined “presence” in botanical terms**—**we are dying branches in desperate need of attaching ourselves to a growing Vine, and the Vine is Himself (read John 15:5-6). Transformation happens when we draw near to Him—when we learn to be present to Him—because Jesus is the only one who can really change us.

• **Say:** This Branch-abiding-in-the-Vine metaphor involves what the Apostle Paul calls “grafting”in Romans 11. Our sin breaks us off from fellowship with God—the Vine. We need to be re-attached to find the life and relationship we need. Let’s watch this instructional video on grafting fruit trees—as you watch, think about this as a metaphor for how we become attached to, or present to, God, and what it means to stay present to Him…

• **Video:** Grafting Fruit Trees

• **Debrief *(Whole Group)*:** What are some comparisons we can make to grafting and our own life with Christ?

• **Say:** When we’re intentionally present to Jesus, we find life, and that life literally transforms us, and our transformation produces fruit, which looks a lot like the fruit of the Spirit, the same characteristics we’ve been told to “apply to our life.” In the Vine-and-branch version of growth, we produce fruit because of Who we’re attached to.