

Peace for the Journey ... May 6, 2010

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-8

In the garden, we learn that healthy development (of a plant) includes both growing and pruning. Not only do plants need fertilizer, sun, and water to grow, but they also need to be trimmed and pruned in order to make room for additional growth and development.

It is no different with the life of the Spirit. We are fed by the Holy Spirit as we worship, pray, read and study Scripture, serve, give, and practice our faith, but our lives also need pruning. Some of our material possessions, some of our activities, some of our relationships get in the way of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Sometimes we need to say "no" before we can say "yes." Sometimes the "no" is harder than the "yes."

Remember: God is eagerly desiring to have control of your life. But the only way God can have control is if you willingly give up control.

Spend some time in prayer today. Afterward, make list of your commitments. Take note of everything that has a claim on your time, energy, and material resources. Ask yourself if any of your current commitments interfere with your relationship with God. Ask yourself if anything on your list needs to be pruned from your life in order to make room for new growth in faithfulness.