



## Hello My Name Is Part 2 :: *A Branch Growing* :: Jarrett Stevens

### INTRODUCTION

We experience change all the time. Changes in technology, changes to our financial plans., and changes to our physical bodies. We live in a world that is constantly changing. But what about changes to our souls? Are we expecting changes to happen on the inside? Or do we settle for being the same person day after day?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back over the last 10 years. What changes have you witnessed throughout the cultural landscape? What has changed in your life?
2. What pleasant and/or painful circumstances have shaped you recently that have caused changes in your life?
3. Read John 15:1-8. God is the gardener; Jesus is the vine; and we are the branches. Using this imagery, do you believe that God has the best in store for His “garden”?
4. Think about your experience with gardens or any type of yard work. In what ways is the vine/branch/fruit imagery analogous to the circumstances of your life?
5. The practice of pruning is critical to growing healthy, plentiful fruit. Can you identify areas of your life where God is pruning you?
6. What do you need to do in order to “remain in Christ”?

### THINK ABOUT IT

John 15:1-8 reminds us that we are created to bear fruit. Moreover, the only condition for bearing fruit is to remain in Christ. In other words, if you stay – if you remain – you will grow. We were created by God to grow.

### WHAT WILL YOU DO?

This week, find someone in your life that knows you and ask what parts of your life need pruning in order to grow.



## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

John 15:5