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PRUNING

One of the interesting things about plants is that if you cut back the “suckers” you will get new growth. It seems strange that it takes cutting away to bring growth, but that is the way it works.

I love to grow things. I have my kitchen window bordered with different plants. As they grow, I often must cut off a branch that is growing in the wrong direction. Pruning brings it back into shape. Whether it is an avocado pit that needed it or a philodendron, all plants require pruning at some stage.

In our yard we have some palm trees, and they also have branches that need pruning. All nature understands that it is part of the process to make things grow better.

Then there is me. I have had to go through pruning many times. I may have gotten off on a tangent that is unfruitful in my life, and God allows the cutting away of those things that are hindering my growth. Sometimes it includes people. You know the ones, those that would drain you daily if you let them. Often, we must shut off relationships to remain physically and spiritually healthy.

In this season, God is drawing us closer to him. To do that, there must be a cutting away or pruning of things that are hindering our walk with him. They may be big things, like addictions, or small things like being lazy and not spending time with him. Whatever the case may be, when we want to be more like the Lord, the pruning shears will come.

John 15:2 says, ***“Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: (prunes) and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it (prunes), that it may bring forth more fruit.”*** Do you want more fruit in your life? Then pruning will have to happen.

I suggest you don't fight God's pruning shears, because the cutting away will allow new growth to come into your life. You may not realize how important pruning is until later when you see how you have changed and grown for the better. God never prunes us without assuring us that it is for our own good.