*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

 **John**

John 15:1-2 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. (KJV)

(Williams New Testament John 15:1&2) 1. "I am the real vine, and my Father is the cultivator. 2. He cuts away any branch on me that stops bearing fruit, and He repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more.

When you accepted our Lord’s plan of salvation for yourself you tapped into a tree of life. This tree is Spiritual in nature, and so are all those that draw their strength from it. All scripture is given for you to profit from; and yes, sometimes besides just showing you the blessings the Lord will speak to you in the form of correction so that you can continue in the vine.

Hebrews 12:5-7 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? (KJV)

While watching a movie recently the statement was made, “my parents ruined the first half of my life and my children the second”. Well with that being said what kind of parents would not correct their child; and in the end, for those that have grown up in a godly home, are you not glad for the correction? The fact is that before your conversion in Christ you spent much more time in the realm of the flesh and were limited to just outward things that you thought would bring peace; and now for you to continue on this new found path of life you will find that the Lord’s ways and thoughts are so much higher than yours. It now means that you will have to learn to walk all over again, this time by faith.

Hebrews 12:8-11 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (KJV)

So do take it personal Church when going through changes in life; what may now be described as growing pains. You will find that the way you used to do things in the past will no longer work, but God will show you a better way. God bless and don’t let go of the Vine.