

Key Takeaways

- Learn a few ways to assess the fruit of your church's disciple-making methods.
- See how pruning can be turned into a positive experience of connection and affirmation.
- Be encouraged to be honest with yourself about the fruit of your organization's ministries.
- Know that pruning requires personal sacrifice.
- See the importance of spending more intentional time asking questions, intently listening, and keenly observing what is being done.

Questions to Consider and Discuss

1. Is what we're doing producing disciples that can make disciples?
2. How can we strengthen our courageous and tenderhearted leaders to follow through with pruning?
3. Does our process of disciple-making demonstrate fruit and forward movement?

Actions to Implement

- *From Sherri Miles:* Coach your people through not holding too tightly onto a ministry or placing identity in that ministry.
- *From Derrick McNeil:* Look in the mirror and evaluate if you are making disciples. Don't ask people to be something that you aren't willing to be yourself.
- *From David Garison:* Just do it.
- *From Bob Reed:* If you're going to do the job of pruning, be tenderhearted *and have thick skin*. Listen and connect with people at a heart level.

Quotes to Remember

"You cannot ask the church to shift if you are not willing to shift personally." —Bob Reed

"We have to be honest with ourselves in asking: Do we change and tweak the ministry, or do we prune it?"
—Brandon Guindon

Chapter 7 Notes

Panelists

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