Title: “The Vineyard of Victory”
Text: John 15:1-7

Target: The abundant life of a believer is found in the vineyard between the upper room of the Lord’s last supper and the garden of Gethsemane. Learning the “Secret of the Vine” will allow you to live in the power of the Empty Tomb.

1. The Explanation of the Facts (vs.1-2)
   - The Vine: Trunk of the Plant
   - The Vinedresser: Tends the Plant
   - The Branch: Tethered to the Plant
   - The Fruit: Treasure of the Plant

   ▶ Evidence of Salvation: Matthew 7:20
   ▶ Expression of Salvation: Galatians 5:22

2. The Examination of the Fruit:
   - Basket #1: No Fruit: Stagnant (vs. 2)
   - Basket #2: Fruit: Stifled (vs. 2)
   - Basket #3: More Fruit: Smothered (vs. 2)
   - Basket #4: Much Fruit: Sweet (vs. 5)

3. The Enrichment of our Faith: (vs.2)
   A. The Vinedresser Lifts: “Takes away” is the Greek word “airo” meaning to “lift or clean” versus “dispose or sever”.
   Degrees of Discipline: Hebrews 12:5-11
   - Rebuke: Verbal Warning
   - Chasten: Emotional Discontent
   - Scourge: Physical Intervention
   B. The Vinedresser Prunes: In order to bear much fruit two forms of pruning must take place to make room:
   - External: Interests - Commitments, Activities, & Priorities.
   - Internal: Identity - Worth, Value, & Significance.

4. The Encouragement for Flourishing: (vs. 5)
   - Basket #1: Repent: Choose to obey the Conviction.
   - Basket #2: Reorganize: Seek First the Kingdom.
   - Basket #4: Rest: Not doing more for Jesus, but choosing to be more with Jesus.