Read: John 15:1-17

1. Spend some time slowly reading Psalm 80 and Isaiah 5. Pay special attention to the verses that describe God's relationship with the vine. Do those verses bring comfort or discomfort? Don't judge what emotions or thoughts emerge, but do prayerfully share them with God.

2. Do you sense there are any "counterfeit" vines getting in the way of giving Jesus more attention in your life? If any come to mind, spend some time prayerfully naming them to Jesus and ask for his help in drawing closer to him.

3. Where do you sense God pruning in your life? What outcomes do you think he is working to produce in you and through you?

4. What spiritual practices have been most helpful in drawing you closer to Jesus? Are you including them in your daily rhythms? Are there any spiritual practices that you have grown through that you have not made time for recently? Is there a way to bring them back into your routine?

5. Is God calling you to show love or offer forgiveness to someone you have been resisting? What might need to grow in you for that to happen? Ask Jesus to increase your capacity in this way.