



# **Abiding in Christ**

**John 15**



# John 15

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.



4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

6 "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.



7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

8 "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

10 "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.



11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.



# Reside in Christ

Vs. 4 “Abide in Me, and I in you.”

- Close contact, connection, Wuest: “Living union,” “Living Communion”
- Being plugged in
- Acts 21:8, KJV “And the next day we that were of Paul’s company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we *entered into the house* of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; *and abode with him.*”
- 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:27 “But the anointing which you have received from Him *abides in you*”



# How to Stay Plugged In

- Consistent Obedience
  - Vs. 10 "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."
- Regular Meditation
  - Vs. 7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you"



# Relying On Christ

Vs. 4-5 “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

- On our part: Dependence
- On God’s part: Supply
- Without it, we are useless >



# Relying On Christ

- Vs. 6 "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned."



# Remaining with Christ

Vs. 9 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.”

- To remain, to stay, continue
- Acts 17:31 “Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, ‘Unless these men *stay* in the ship, you cannot be saved.’”
- Command to obey
- Danger: Distraction – “Tyranny of the Urgent”
- Danger: Boredom
- Danger: Drawing from false vines >



# The Danger of Substitute Vines

- Vs. 1 "I am the *true vine*, and My Father is the vinedresser."
- Pseudo-vines
- Initially thrill us, then drain us



# The Blessings of Abiding

- Fruitfulness
  - Vs. 5 “He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit”
  - Fruitfulness is the overflow of abiding
- Joyfulness
  - Vs.11 “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”
- Answered Prayer
  - Vs. 7 “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”



# The Blessings of Abiding

- We Experience Christ's Love
  - Vs. 10 "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."
- God is Glorified
  - Vs. 8, NAS95 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit"
- Demonstrate Our Discipleship
  - Vs. 8, NAS95 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples."