

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1**ABIDE JOHN 15:1-11****John 15:1–2** ¹“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.²Every 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.

- **As we cont. = John 15:4-11** Jesus uses word **ABIDE = ten times**
- Heart of the gospel = **BECAUSE = entire secret** of salvation / holiness
 - fruit-bearing / success / victorious living / end-time readiness
- **What does it mean to ABIDE ??**
- Original Greek word = **meno** = means:
 - remain / stay / dwell / continue / not depart / live in union
- Abiding = **not** momentary visit to Jesus
 - Not = one-day-a-week experience in church
- Abiding = living in continual union w/ Christ

John 15:4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **abides** in / vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in Me.

- Question every honest believer = has asked at some point:
 - “How can I know that Christ is in me
 - and that I am dwelling in Him?”
- We know = not based on feelings / circumstances / human merit
 - But based on = sure Word of God

CHRIST IN YOU / FOUNDATION OF EVERYTHING**Christ lives in us by Holy Spirit = dwells in us by faith****Ephesians 3:16–17** ¹⁶that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷**that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

- When connected to True Vine = Christ Jesus
- Holy Spirit indwells us = **strengthened w/His “dunamis” power**
 - **transforming power within**

- Holy Spirit = SAP of vine = Spiritual Anointing Power
 - **Flows from Him = into us**
- **OUR PART** = Ask daily to be filled = to be led / taught by Holy Spirit
Luke 11:9–10, A/S/K how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Christ in us = guarantee = dev. His character / eternal life

Colossians 1:27 "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

- Our hope is **not** our **performance** = Our hope is His **presence**
- **Christ in you produces transformation**
2 Corinthians 5:17 "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."
- Christ doesn't enter / heart = and leave it unchanged
- He indwells us = and His life begins to reshape ours

John 15:5 "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.

- Fruit of Spirit = LOVE/JOY/PEACE = PATIENCE/KINDNESS/GOODNESS
 - FAITHFULNESS / GENTLENESS / SELF-CONTROL
- Fruit doesn't grow by effort = Fruit grows by connection
- A branch bears = fruit of vine / to which it belongs
- If you belong to Jesus: His life / His righteousness / His power
 - will begin to flow thru you
 - by power of Holy Spirit = SAP (Spirit's Anointing Power)
 - Not by willpower = Not by self-improvement
 - But you possess His Spirit's presence / power
- **OUR PART** = Branch has only one job = **Stay connected to vine**
Galatians 2:20 "Not I, but Christ lives in me."
- Christ's indwelling presence is His work = **Our work is to abide**
 - Remain / not to depart / dwell = live in union
- Christian life is not about trying harder = It's about abiding deeper
- **Abiding is trusting His power / not ours**

John 15:6 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.

- Warning = Eschatological = destruction / second death / lake of fire

John 15:7 If you **abide** in Me, and My words **abide** in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

- **OUR PART: Daily devotional time = Word/Prayer**
- **Colossians 3:16** Let word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom
- **1 Thessalonians 5:17** pray W/O ceasing = PRACTICE HIS PRESENCE
- **Let Him talk to you thru Word = Pray His promises back to Him**

John 15:8 ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- ABIDING = union = that transforms = A life that glorifies God
- A walk that prepares you for = soon return of Jesus

John 15:9-10 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.

ABSG: The love of Jesus is the most compelling cord that draws us to Him, and when we know this love, we will be deeply moved to respond with love to God and to others.

- **Abiding continues thru obedience**
- Obedience doesn’t save us = Obedience = **fruit** of abiding
- Respond Quickly to Conviction = Delayed obedience is disobedience
- **OUR PART begins w/ daily surrender = yielding to His Will**
- **Luke 22:42** “Not my will, but Yours be done”
- “Lord, live Your life in me today.” CHOOSE CHRIST OVER SELF

John 15:11¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

- Abiding brings joy = to Christ / to us
- **Psalm 16:11** You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

1 John 2:6 “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

- Two things: **Abide / Walk**
 - Two sides of the same coin = Inseparable realities
- You cannot walk like Christ = unless you first **abide** in Christ
- And if you truly abide in Christ = you **will** walk like Christ
- **Abiding produces walking = AS WAY OF LIFE**
- Christ in you = produces Christlikeness thru you

Watch 3ABN WORSHIP HOUR SERMON:

“ABIDE: The Secret to Success”