

Abide In Christ

Key Scripture: John 15:1-12

Introduction: What would be your last and final instructions to people who are close to you?

1. Stay connected to Jesus (The True Vine)

John 15:1 “I am the True Vine...”

- This is Jesus’s seventh and final “I am” declaration of Himself in John’s Gospel

“Jesus is not a resource, but the source of our life.”

- We must stay connected to Jesus in order to bear fruit John 15:2
- In Isaiah 5:1-7, Isaiah sings a song about God “the Beloved and His vineyard”
- What kind of fruit are we bearing?

“Jesus came to restore what was lost and be the “True Vine”,
the authentic real vine that would produce good fruit.”

2. Abide In Christ

John 15:4-6

- A branch cannot bear or produce fruit apart from the vine
- The purpose of a branch is to remain connected to the vine to produce fruit
- A branch cannot bear fruit of itself

Jesus reminds us of this in regards to our relationship with Him. **John 15:5**

- Without Jesus we can do nothing

The moment we stop abiding Jesus warns us what would happen. **John 15:6**

- This warning is not to scare us, but to wake us up.

The word Abide in the Greek is Meno, it means “to remain”

How do we remain connected to Christ?

John 15:7-8

- Abide in His Word
 - a. Be pruned (the cleansing process) John 15:2
 - b. Produce good fruit (be fruitful) Galatians 5:22-23
 - c. Know and hear the voice of God John 10:27-28

3. We Must Know the love of Christ

John 15:9-12

- In order to be effective, fruitful, disciples of Christ...
 - a. We need to know and experience the love of Jesus
 - b. He wants us to be full of joy
 - c. Know He doesn’t see us as servants but friends
 - d. We need to keep His commandment, love one another

Call To Action

1. Am I truly staying connected to Jesus, or am I trying to produce fruit on my own strength?
2. What is one area of my life where God is asking me to be pruned, remain in His Word, and produce better fruit?
3. How can I intentionally show the love of Christ to someone this week—not just by knowing His love, but by living it out?