

SPRING MORNING BIBLE CLASS 2022

JOHN 15:1-16 part 7

"Abiding"

John 15:4 WUEST: "Maintain a living communion with Me, and I with you. Just as the branch is UNABLE to be bearing fruit from itself as a source unless it remains in a living union with the Vine, so neither you, unless you maintain a living communion with Me."

DEEPER STUDY #1

1. **Fruit bearing—ABIDE:** There are 4 stages of fruit-bearing given:

1. _____ (v. 2)
2. _____ (v. 2)
3. _____ (v. 3) and
4. _____ (v. 5 & 8)

2. **NOTE ALSO the CONDITIONS for bearing FRUIT in LIFE:**

- ✓ _____ (v. 3)
- ✓ _____ in Christ (v. 5), and
- ✓ _____ (v. 10 & 12)

3. A true Christian is a person who _____ does abide in Christ. 1 John 2:10 AMP says, "The one who loves and unselfishly seeks the best for his [believing] brother lives in the Light, and in him there is no occasion for stumbling or offense [he does not hurt the cause of Christ or lead others to sin.] " John said that "to abide in Christ" means 8 things:

- I. A person walks in _____ confession before God. He walks through life opening up his life to God; he confess all known sin. He does not walk in sin, and he does not allow any sin to go UNCONFESSED. (1 John 1:6-10)
- II. A person _____ and _____ with Christ. he lives and moves and has his being with Christ. He communes and lives in a _____ of God's presence, and from God's presence, he _____ of God and he draws the strength and authority to live _____ day by day. (1 John 2:6, 2:27)
- III. A person continues in the _____; he has not gone out from the church. (1 John 2:19)
- IV. A person possesses confidence, an _____ in life, that prepares him for eternity. (1 John 2:28)
- V. A person does _____ walk in continuous sin. (1 John 3:6) He _____ constant victory over sin.
- VI. A person _____ surrenders himself to obey God's commandments. (1 John 3:24)
- VII. A person experiences the indwelling presence and _____ of the Spirit. (1 John 4:12-13)

VIII. A person dwells in _____ and _____ and _____ with all other believers. (John 17:21-23, 1 John 4:16 and 20)

DEEPER STUDY #2

4. “**Abide—Abiding**” defines: “to abide, to dwell, to continue, to stay, to sojourn, to rest in or upon”. It is being set and fixed and remaining there, continuing on and on in a fix state, condition, or being. It should be noted that the more a branch abide in the Vine, that is, the closer the branch abides to the heart of the Vine, the more nourishment a branch draws from the vine and the more fruit it bears. Other translations say:

- ☞ “stay united with Me” (CJB)
- ☞ “stay joined to Me” (CEV)
- ☞ “live in Me” (GW)
- ☞ “must go on growing in Me” (Philips)
- ☞ “take care to live in Me” (TLB)
- ☞ “make your home in Me” (MSG)
- ☞ “maintain a living communion with Me” (WUEST)
- ☞ “remain united with Me” (REB)
- ☞ “be in Me at all times” (BBE)

John 15:4 KJV: “As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me.”

5. We all know the meaning of the word ‘except’ or ‘unless’. The word ‘except’ defines ‘but, only, otherwise than’. The word ‘unless’ defines ‘except under that circumstances that, except, but, save’. There is only one way for the branch to bear fruit, there is no other possibility—it must abide in _____ communion with the Vine.

6. It is such a wonderful privilege to be called and allowed to abide in the Heavenly Vine. Christ knows so well how much a _____ of ‘self’ this “abide in Me” implies. Jesus knows how strong and universal the tendency would be to seek to bear fruit by our own _____. Jesus realizes how difficult it would be to get us to _____ that actual, continuous abiding in Him is an absolute necessity!

7. Let us learn the lesson. “**Abiding**” is to be an _____ of the will and the whole heart. But, it does not all at once master and fill our whole being. This comes as a matter of _____ and _____.

8. Our blessed Lord desires to call us away from _____ and our own _____, and draw us to _____ and His _____. Abiding in the Vine then come to be nothing more nor less than the restful surrender of the soul to let Christ Jesus _____ all and _____ all—as completely as in nature, the branch knows and seeks nothing but the Vine.