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## The Joy of Abiding

John 15:9-11

### I. How Much Does the Father Love the Son? (v. 9a)

- A. A love that was before \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn. 17:24)
- B. A love that gives Him all things (Jn. 3:35)
- C. A love that has revealed to Him all things (Jn. 5:20)
- D. A love that was \_\_\_\_\_ at His baptism (Matt. 3:17)
- E. A love that overshadowed Him at the transfiguration (Matt. 17:5)
- F. A love that was present at the cross (Jn. 10:17)
- G. A love that is intra-\_\_\_\_\_ love (Jn. 17:23, 26)

### II. How Much Does the Son Love You? (v. 9b)

- A. He loves you the \_\_\_\_\_ way God loved Him (Jn. 17:6-8)
- B. He loved you enough to \_\_\_\_\_ for you (Eph. 5:2)
- C. He loves you enough to challenge you (Jn. 13:34; 15:12)
- D. He loves you enough to make you a \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 8:35-37)
- E. He loves you to the very \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn. 13:1)

### III. How Do You Abide in Christ's Love? (vv. 9c-10)

- A. By \_\_\_\_\_ true to Christ (Gal. 2:20)
- B. By \_\_\_\_\_ Christ's commandments (Jn. 14:15, 21, 23)

#### TWO LIES ABOUT KEEPING CHRIST'S COMMANDMENTS:

1. To the unbeliever: "You have to keep Christ's commandments to be \_\_\_\_\_"
  2. To the believer: "You don't have to keep Christ's commandments to be \_\_\_\_\_"
- C. By \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ's example (Jn. 8:55; 14:31; 17:4)

### IV. How is Your Joy Made Full? (v. 11)

- A. Jesus wants \_\_\_\_\_ to be in you (Jn. 17:13; Heb. 12:2; Ps. 16:11)
- B. Jesus wants \_\_\_\_\_ to be in Him (Phil. 4:4; 1 Jn. 1:3-4; Acts 16:25)

#### TAKE HOME

- What does it mean for Jesus to **love** you as He has been loved by God?
- What do you think about the "two **lies**" pertaining to keeping Christ's commandments?
- How is it that your joy can be made **full** on a daily basis?

## **STUDY QUESTIONS**

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a small group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please visit our website at [placritachurch.com](http://placritachurch.com).

1. Read John 15:1-8. What is that passage about? Who is the Vine? Who is the Vinedresser? Who are the branches?

2. Read John 15:9. How much does the Father love the Son? Explain which point or passage shows this most clearly in your opinion.

3. Read John 17:6-8; Eph. 5:2; Jn 13:34; 15:12; Rom. 8:35-37; and Jn. 13:1. What do these passages teach about Christ’s love for you?

4. Read the end of verse John 15:9 and verse 10. How do you abide in Christ’s love? Why is it so important to keep Christ’s commandments?

5. Which one of the “two lies” about keeping Christ’s commandments do you think people struggle with the most? Why?

6. Read John 15:11. What is this verse teaching? How is your joy made full?

7. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live differently this week based on what you have learned?

*“Man’s idea of joy is to be as happy as he can by leaving God out of his life. The Lord taught that real joy comes by taking God into one’s life as much as possible.”*

- William McDonald, *The Believer’s Commentary*