



**#1**

***Abide in Christ: See the Possibility of Abiding***



**#2**

John 15:1-4 (NKJV)  
"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 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. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 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."

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**#3**

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Matthew 11:28 (NKJV)  
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***Coming to Christ is much more than forgiveness and pardon of sins.***

Coming to Christ involves intimacy of fellowship.

***Jesus said: "Abide in me."***

***Abiding in Christ involves the loss of self, and self-centeredness.***

***Abiding involves Christ-centeredness.***

***Many people have never realized the joy of entering into this relationship with the Blessed Savior.***

They are living on the fringe of relationship.

***They are barely hanging on to the Savior.***

In that condition they are not able to produce fruit.

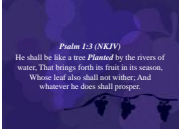
Remember God is interested in the fruit.

**#4**





**#5**



*Psalm 1:3 (NKJV)*  
He shall be like a tree *Planted* by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit at its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

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**#6**



*We gain all of our value by abiding in Christ!*  
*Did Jesus really mean that we could abide in Him?*

*If we can abide in Him, what does it mean to abide, "dwell constantly," in Christ?*

*Abiding in Christ is a living union with Him.*

This is a daily and hourly abiding.

*Abiding in Christ is just as possible as His atonement and pardon through His blood.*

If we can be saved, we can abide in Him.

It is fullness of joy when sins are forgiven.

*Forgiveness of sin is not the same thing as abiding in Christ.*

*Abiding in Christ takes us into the presence and power of Christ in life.*

*We need to come to the place where we are aware of the presence of Christ in our lives.*

This is when we become productive in Christ.

*We must develop an awareness of Christ.*

You cannot abide in Christ without participating in the power and purity of the flow of His grace and Spirit.

*This is part of the joy of Abiding.*

*When we constantly abide in Him, we yield fruit.*



*That fruit is sweet.*

*The fruit bears the nature and character of the Vine.*

***"The abiding Life possible!"***

We are partakers of His Joy, Peace, and Love.

We are to be partakers of His Person, Life, and Victory.

We will enjoy He is strength, power, and might.

We will rejoice in His Goodness, Grace, and holiness.

***This promise and precept is meant for us.***

**Jesus said: ABIDE IN ME**

***Grace is provided to enable us to obey this-- Abide in me.***

***Let's look at the unspeakable blessings that flow from Abiding in Him.***

Begin right now.

Count the blessing of abiding in Christ.

Accept in faith everything that Jesus offers us in Him.

***This is where we find true fruitfulness within our life.***

You will bear inner fruit when you allow God to nurture you.

He will produce Christ-like qualities in your life.

The fruit of the Spirit will abide and abound in you.

You will bear inner fruit.

You will bear outward fruit when you allow God to work through you to bring Him glory.

The Holy Spirit will make the Word to be spirit and life.

#7





The Word of Jesus will become the power of God unto salvation to you.

**#8**

*This is a Divine imperative for the believer.*  
2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)  
And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

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***We must learn to yield to His abiding presence.***

**#9**

John 15:16 (NIV)  
You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

***John 15:16 (NIV) You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.***

It is one thing to be chosen, it is another thing to yield to Him.

It is one thing to be forgiven; it is another to yield to His slightest inclination.

**#10**



***If it is impossible for us to produce fruit that brings God glory, we must learn to yield to His will so that we may produce it.***

***When we learn to yield to Him, we are always able to do more.***

We are here to fulfill God's dream.

We are not here to just fulfill our own dreams and wishes.

We are placed here to bring Glory and Honor to God. When we follow His desire, bidding, and will He always will do abundantly more than we can imagine.



His joy is always fuller.  
His grace is always greater.

***If it was critical to God's plan that we produce fruit, you would think it would happen automatically.***

***It does not work that way.***

***For the vineyard to really produce, the branches have to respond to the attentions of the vinedresser.***

We have to yield to His grace and power.

God wants to keep us united with Himself.

**#11**



***Ephesians 2:10 NIV*** “we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works”

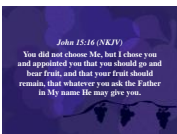
This abiding in Him produces His fruitfulness in us.

***He will bring fruit out of you.***

You don’t have to struggle to be productive.

Fruitfulness is maintained by constantly abiding in Him.

**#12**



***John 15:16 (NKJV) You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.***

***Take a look at the level of your response to Christ!***

***The level of response produces a level of fruitfulness.***

***Are you responsive to Him?***



**#13**



*Heather French was a Lieutenant Governor's wife in Kentucky. On October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003, she was in a hurry to get home from the mall. Then she said she*

*heard the Holy Spirit tell her to stop at this store. She argued with that because she was in a hurry to get home.*

*A few moments later she said the Holy Spirit urged her to take an alternate route home. But, Once again, she said I am in too big of a hurry to get home, and she continued on her normal route. She reached a stoplight where she was to turn left and had to stop behind several cars waiting for the light to turn.*

*When the light turned, she followed the other cars in her lane. When she was just about around the corner a lady, whose first name is Korola, drove her bicycle out in front of Heather's car. She did not have time to stop. When she hit her with her car, Korola died.*

*Heather French said: "It has forever changed my life," she said. "I don't know how you get beyond something like that."*

*Several times the Holy Spirit spoke to her, trying to prevent the accident, but she was too busy to listen. "I had the chance not to be there. That's what I live with—knowing when to listen, and when to shut up."*

*The hardest part for Heather is knowing that Karola's children are without their mother.*



*She says: "My heart is actually broken for them. I don't know how to make it better for them. I can't make it better. I can't bring her back. But I will always live with her. If you could feel the pain in my chest, it's like having a broken heart, every single day."*

**#14**



*How sensitive are you to the Holy Spirit?*

*How hard is it for God to get you to obey Him?*

*Your individual level of response will determine your level of yield.*

*Remember we are looking at the level of fruit production in our lives.*

*Jesus said there were four distinct levels of eternal yield.*

*That yield is a direct response to the Father and the Son.*

The production of fruit in our life is in direct response to the Vinedresser and the Vine.

*God has a plan to conform you into the image and likeness of Christ.*

You will bear His likeness in good times and in bad times.

His character will be manifest in you.

His nature will be seen in you.

His presence will become real.

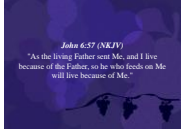
*Do not expect to abide in Christ if you will not give Him the time that is necessary.*

This is a day-by-day time with Jesus and with God.

You must live through Jesus, and feed on Him.



**#15**



**John 6:57 (NKJV)** "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me."

**#16**



***We must thoroughly take in and assimilate that heavenly food that the Father has given.***

We must maintain living contact.

We must specifically and consciously yield to Him.

Give Him the opportunity of taking hold of you.

Give Him the opportunity of pulling you close.

Give Him the opportunity of keeping you safe in His almighty life.

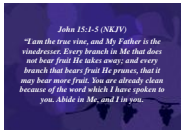
Allow Him to be your portion.

Allow Him to be your daily portion.

Constantly improve on your fellowship with Him.

***Draw aside from the things of the world that entangle you and press in to a greater fellowship with Christ.***

**#17**



**John 15:1-5 (NKJV)** ***"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 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. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you.***

**#18**



***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."***



**#19**



***God expects to receive baskets full of glory from you.***

Jesus tells us of four different levels of fruitfulness.

**(Look at and examine the four baskets of grapes.)**

- Basket 1 –“no fruit” (These people do not respond to Him.)
- Basket 2 -- "fruit"
- Basket 3 -- "more fruit"
- Basket 4 -- "much fruit"

***The Father is examining everyone to see what manner of fruit we will produce.***

***You need to see Him carefully examining your life.***

- ***Some people produce no fruit.***

The Father carefully examines each branch.

It is important that He find fruit.

- ***Some produce fruit.***

At the time a harvest, the basket will have something in it.

There is not much to get excited about some fruit.

It is not an adequate testimony of the life and power of Christ.

- ***Some will produce more fruit.***

*This is a strong indication that God is comparing the production of fruit in our lives.*

*There is hope when we began to see more fruit.*

*More fruit is a testimony of a vital connection to the vine.*



➤ ***He wants to see much fruit.***

*Much fruit indicates that he is actively involved in your life.*

*He is tending your life.*

*He is moving you from barren to a productive branch.*

*He is moving you from an empty to an overflowing basket.*

***How much fruit are you producing?***

***Bruce Wilkinson says that only 5% bear a lot of fruit.***

***Can you really get that?***

***5% of all Christians bear much fruit.***

***God has chosen you to produce much fruit.***

***He wants you to bear fruit.***

***If Jesus chose us for abundance... why not?***

***If He expects abundance... why not?***

***He created us to deeply desire bearing His image and fruit...***

***How could we ever find fulfillment in a half empty basket?***

***If your branch shows little or no fruit, it is time for you to yield, respond positively, to God's invisible hand..***