

Abide PART 2

John 15:2

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Abiding in Christ means staying attached and connected to Him through daily fellowship, total surrender, and total dependence, especially when life doesn't go the way we expected.

Life can be **unfair, unpredictable, uncomfortable**, and **unsafe**, but abiding means to not give up on God when difficulties come. When we remain attached to Jesus as our source, He gives us the strength to persevere through every test and trial and continue producing fruit with our lives.

KEY SCRIPTURES & TAKEAWAYS

John 15:1-4 KJV I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.³ Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

- a. For Christ to abide in us is *grace*, for us to abide in Him is our *responsibility*.
- b. Abiding is total surrender to God and total dependance on Him. It means to remain, to never give up on God even in difficulties, in the waiting and in disappointments.
- c. There are 4 levels of fruit in the Christian life: **no fruit, fruit, more fruit** and **much fruit**.
- d. A Christian that does not bear fruit withers away, they do not reach their dreams, calling and miss God's will for their lives.
- e. Those that bear fruit must go through the process of pruning, being purged, molded to bear more fruit and much fruit. It is in the purging that we grow, move forward, don't stay stuck.
- f. The fruit that we produce reveals Christ to the world. It is by abiding in Him that we can get through the tough moments in our lives and not give up.
- g. God cleanses and purges through the Word, that's His best for us. But at times we learn through the difficult moments in life.

- h. Sunday is not enough, getting saved is not enough, we need to become His disciples, stay close to Him and connected to go through those seasons and come out stronger.

REFLECT & REVISIT

This week go back and read **John 15:2**. God wants to take us from fruit to more fruit, to much fruit, but growth requires us to cooperate with the pruning process. As you read, ask God to show you any attitudes, habits, perspectives, or priorities that He wants to correct or change.

Instead of resisting His correction or focusing on what someone else needs to change, make it personal: **“God, what do You want to change in me?”** Be willing to let His Word cleanse, correct, and adjust you. When we cooperate with the process, we make room for God to produce **more fruit** in our lives.