

Abide PART 1

John 15:1

MAIN TAKEAWAY

We live a meaningful and fulfilled life when we abide in Christ. Abiding isn't something we do only on Sundays. It is continuous, conscious fellowship with God. As we remain connected to Him, growth and fruit become a natural result of our relationship with Him. Our lives begin to reveal Christ to the people around us.

KEY SCRIPTURES & TAKEAWAYS

John 15:1 KJV I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

- a. Jesus is the origin and source of life. If we want a meaningful, abundant, and purposeful life, we have to stay connected to Him.
- b. We were created **by God, for God, and to do God's will** and when we understand that our lives originated with Him and were created for His purpose, it changes our perspective and our priorities.

Definition of abide: To be able to persevere, endure, be resilient and overcome every challenge, obstacle, difficulty life throws at you. Continuous, conscious fellowship with Him. Focusing on His presence power. Goodness and wisdom. To remain, never to quit or give up.

We are to:

- **Be conscious of His presence:** Abiding means living with a continual awareness that God is with us. Instead of allowing our focus to stay on our problems, pressure, people, or past, we can focus on His presence, His power, His goodness, and His wisdom. When we become more aware of His presence throughout our day, it influences our choices, attitudes, relationships, and actions.
- **Cultivate His presence:** We don't just recognize God's presence, but we intentionally create an environment where our fellowship with God can grow. Praise, worship, gratitude, reading the Bible, prayer, serving, and generosity. Abiding is unbroken fellowship with Him.

- **Cooperate** with His presence: Growing requires our cooperation, it happens when we stop resisting His work in our lives. When God speaks, corrects, convicts, or directs us, abiding means surrendering and responding to Him. Part of that cooperation is allowing God to work through the process of **cleansing, pruning, and correction**.

REFLECT & REVISIT

This week go back and read **John 15:1**. As you read it, remember that Jesus is your source and ask yourself: Am I being conscious of His presence, cultivating His presence, and cooperating with Him? Choose one area where you can become more intentional about abiding in Jesus this week and allow the fruit to flow naturally from your relationship with Him.