



Silverdale Baptist Church  
7 Commands of Christ ~ 2. Abide in Christ  
John 15:1-8 ~ 04/14-15/2024

### Big Idea

We are called to stay connected to Jesus.

### Big Question

**What does it look like when Jesus' life is flowing through you because you are connected to Christ?**

**What is going on in your life that shows people around you the life of Christ flowing through you?**

### Getting Started

**When was the last time you bought flowers? Who did you buy them for?  
How long did they last?**

**Why didn't they last longer?**

### Learn

| HAVE SOMEONE READ JOHN 15:1-11.

#### 1. Jesus is my source of life

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)*

*Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you. (Ex 3:13-14)*

| HAVE SOMEONE READ EXODUS 3:13-14

**How does God introduce Himself?**

**What does the name "I AM" imply?**

**We would all say, "Jesus is my source of life." But what in your life gives others around you the idea that you would die if you were cut off from Christ?**

## 2. Abiding in Jesus results in fruit.

*Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. (John 15:4-5)*

*As the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you. Abide in My love." (Jn 15:9)*

*"I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete." (John 15:11)*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Gal. 5:22-23)*

| HAVE SOMEONE READ GALATIANS 5:22-23.

**What is the fruit of the Spirit?**

**What is the relationship between staying connected to Christ and the fruit of the Spirit?**

**In an honest evaluation, *how* do you see Jesus producing the fruit of the Spirit in your life?**

*"Fruit is the outward expression of the inner nature of the tree."*

*-Pastor Tony*

## 3. Pruning leads to more Fruit

*Every branch in me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. (John 15:2)*

*<sup>10</sup> For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. <sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb 12:10-11)*

**What has God used in your life to prune you?**

**How have you seen personal growth because of the pruning?**

*“The hand of the Gardener is never closer to the branch than when He is pruning the vine. During those times when God is cutting away on you, He is simply letting you know that you matter.” -Pastor Tony*

#### 4. I must abide in Jesus.

*“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in Me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in His love.*

**In verses 1-10, what is the key repeated word?**

**What is your responsibility in this passage?**

The command is to abide in Christ. The question is, "How?"

#### How do I abide in Christ?

*Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. (John 15:3)*

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you (John 15:7)*

- I must get into the Word.

*Stats from Center for Bible engagement.*

**What difference does Bible reading make in the average person’s life?**

1-2 days a week – 0 difference.

3 days a week – a very slight improvement

4-7 days a week – Feelings of loneliness – down 30%

Anger issues dropped 32%.

Bitterness in relationships dropped by 40%.

Alcoholism dropped 56%.

Pornography dropped 61%.

Sharing your faith increases by 200%.  
Serving and giving yourself to others increased by 230%.

**What did you think about Pastor Tony's stats on daily Bible reading?**

**How is the fruit of the Spirit related to anger, bitterness, alcoholism, and pornography?**

**What would change in your life if you read your Bible 5 days a week?**

- I must call out in prayer.

**What is the difference between being Christ-dependent and self-dependent?**

**If regular Bible reading makes such a drastic change in our lives, what will daily prayer do?**

## **APPLY**

**How are you abiding in Christ? What active steps are you taking to stay connected to Jesus?**

**What has the Holy Spirit shown you?**

**What will you do with what you have learned?**

## **Pray**

Father, we often miss the simplicity of living in surrender, connected to Jesus, and letting His life flow from us. We know that to change the world, we must abide in Christ. Please drive us to prayer and Bible study. Remind us daily that life is found in abiding in Christ. In Jesus' name, amen.