

# Come Abide

**John 15:4-10** **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. 5 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. 6 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. 7 If you **abide** in me, and my words **abide** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **Abide** in my love. 10 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. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ESV

- ▶ Jesus Christ became the human living word to reveal the Father to us. He is now inviting and appealing to us to join Him as the Living word in **KNOWING, STAYING, GROWING, LOVING with HIM!**
  - ▶ **Psalm 119:89-96 (The Message)** His Word is as permanent as the heavens and never goes out of fashion!
  - ▶ **BUT GOD'S WORD IS DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER BOOK...**
    - Hebrews 4:12 Amplified Bible (AMP)
    - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 Amplified Bible (AMP)
  - **There's life in God's word that can change us when we come into contact with it.**
  - **Consume God's Word Like Your Life Depends On it! Because it does.**
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## ▶ Bread in the Wilderness

▶ **It is not what you know that you know, it is what you think you know that you don't know that is the problem!**

## ▶ **BiOY**

- 49 Questions - Do You Know?
- Surely you know!
- Tell Me If You Know All!

▶ The point of God's questioning is to demonstrate the fact that there are certain things that we do not know as human beings – the 'secret things' belong to the Lord our God.

## ▶ 2. Digest It!

- ▶ David 5 times in Psalm 119, Meditate
  - Psalm 119:23-24 Even princes sit and speak against me, but I will meditate on your decrees. 24 Your laws please me; they give me wise advice.
  - Psalm 119:27 Help me understand the meaning of your commandments, and I will meditate on your wonderful deeds.
  - Psalm 119:48 I honor and love your commands. I meditate on your decrees.
  - Psalm 119:52 I meditate on your age-old regulations; O Lord, they comfort me.
  - Psalm 119:117 Sustain me, and I will be rescued; then I will meditate continually on your decrees.

## ▶ “Building A Generational Legacy”

- The law is the revelation of God’s plan for men. It’s the architectural design that brings structure to man’s life. The law is the mystery of Christ clothed in commands, ceremony and culture. Meditation on the law is an invitation to enter the mind and heart of the father.
- If you’re interested in neuroscience, the book *How God changes your Brain*, will reinforce how meditation produces positive change in your thinking patterns. Just remember God gave us a prescription long before neuroscience produced the research. (pg. 59)
- What I am writing is a life-long accumulation of wisdom and understanding. I have struggled with memorization and meditation and I’ve been tempted to quit many times. But I can testify to the truth; it has deepened my devotion to the father; enriched my love for my wife; strengthened my commitment to invest in family; and broadened my vision for the Church and strengthen my resolve to “die climbing.” (pg. 60)

## ▶ Meditation

- To meditate means to have a mental, spiritual and emotional mastication on God's word. Just as a cow chews grass and then swallows it to stomach for greater digestion and absorption so we need to allow time, energy and focus to be put on God's word so that it has adequate time to renew, recharge and reconstruct our minds.
- ▶ **Psalm 119:97-104** Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long.
- ▶ 98 Your commands **make me wiser than my enemies**, for they are my constant guide.
- ▶ 99 Yes, **I have more insight than my teachers**, for I am always thinking of your laws.
- ▶ 100 **I am even wiser than my elders**, for I have kept your commandments.
- ▶ 101 **I have refused to walk on any evil path**, so that I may remain obedient to your word.
- ▶ 102 I haven't turned away from your regulations, for you have taught me well.
- ▶ 103 **How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey.**
- ▶ 104 Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. NLT

## ▶ What about Solitude?

- While it was still dark, He went out to a lonely place and there He prayed.” (Mark 1:35)
  - Jesus made it a daily discipline to be alone with His Father to commune with Him and His word in prayer and reflection.
- ▶ If you look at scriptures Jesus used solitude a lot during His life and ministry. He did not get by Himself in order to get away from people, but I think to hear the Divine whisper of His heavenly Father. Here are some places we find Jesus in solitude:
- Jesus began His ministry with 40 days alone in the desert, Matthew 4:1-11
  - Before He chose the 12 disciples, Luke 6:12
  - When He received the news of His cousin John the Baptist’s death, Matthew 14:13
  - After the feeding of the 5000, Matthew 14:23
  - Following the healing of a leper, Luke 5:16
  - Before the Transfiguration, Matthew 17:1-9
  - Before His arrest, trial, and execution on the cross, Matthew 26:36-46

### ▶ **3. Let It Consume You!**

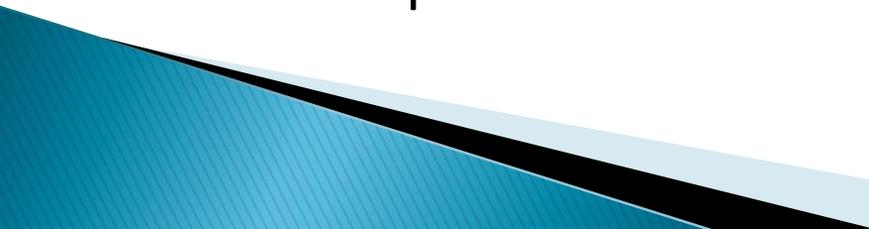
- “for the joy of the Lord is your strength”
- ▶ Picture of Ezra reading from the book of the law.
- ▶ **Nehemiah 8:6** Then Ezra praised the Lord, the great God, and all the people chanted, "Amen! Amen!" as they lifted their hands. Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.
- ▶ **Nehemiah 8:8-10** They read from the Book of the Law of God and clearly explained the meaning of what was being read, helping the people understand each passage. 9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were interpreting for the people said to them, "Don't mourn or weep on such a day as this! For today is a sacred day before the Lord your God." For the people had all been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.
- ▶ 10 And Nehemiah continued, "Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don't be dejected and sad, **for the joy of the Lord is your strength!**" NLT

# ▶ Invite him to move in and take up ownership of your life.

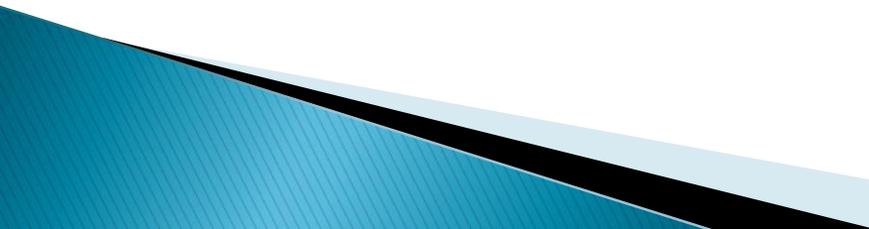
- **John 15:7** If you **abide** in me, and my words **abide** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ESV
- ▶ Welcome Jesus into our lives and make room for him to live, not as a silent guest with no opinions or commands, but as an authoritative guest whose opinions matter more to us than anyone else's and whose commands are the law of our life.
- ▶ Allow Jesus Christ and His word to frame your priorities, perceptions and reactions to all of life's situations. Often this means allowing the principles of Christ and His word to predominate your way of thinking. Abiding in Christ means that we are relying on His promises when we are pressed with all kinds of opposition, uncertainties and difficulties.

▶ 2 Peter 1:3-5 Everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know, personally and intimately, the One who invited us to God. The best invitation we ever received! 4 We were also given absolutely terrific promises to pass on to you — your tickets to participation in the life of God after you turned your back on a world corrupted by lust. 5 So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given, The Message

▶ It means that we seek the words of Jesus as living words--words that come not in the abstract but come from the heart and on the lips of a living Person whom we love more than any other person in the world.

- ▶ Abiding in Christ means that we are celebrating our fellowship with Him.
    - 2 Corinthians 13:14 The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you. The Message
  
  - ▶ Abiding in Christ means finding your primary fulfillment in Him. Jesus said, “You have a choice, “The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, kill and destroy but I came that you might have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)
    - Do whatever is necessary to keep the living voice of Jesus speaking with you through the words that he spoke in Scripture.
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The Word of God is living and active! It's actively at work in all areas of your life! Consider these few areas that the word of God is impacting and transforming your life!

- James 1:21- **Its' Saving your Soul**
  - Romans 12:1-2 – **It's Renewing Your Mind**
  - Hebrews 1:3-4 – **It's Sustaining Your Body**
  - 2 Timothy 1:7 – **It's Strengthening Your Spine**
  - Psalm 119:105 – **It's Stabilizing Your Steps**
  - Isaiah 55:11 – **It's Empowering Your Life/Mouth**
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# **It's Drawing Your Heart.**

It's key to know that while His word is living and actively working in your life and for you, it's also been given to us to draw our hearts closer to God and encounter His presence.

God's word isn't just teaching us about Him, it's an invitation to come close and know Him. The more you engage God's word the more you'll encounter His presence!



**COME ABIDE**

