



When All Else Fails, Abide in Me

John 15:1-11

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Jan 8, 2023



Knowing God (KG) Youth Group





Opening Question





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What is the Purpose of the Christian Life?



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- To Know God and to Make Him Known



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What is the Purpose of the Christian Life?

- **To Know God** and **to Make Him Known**

How well do you know God? How are you growing in Him? How often do you spend time alone with Him?

→ The Importance of **ABIDING in Christ Alone**







John 15:1-11

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.



John 15:1-11

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; **apart from me you can do nothing.** ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



John 15:1-11

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ **If you keep my commands**, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and **that your joy may be complete.**



Roadmap

When All Else Fails: Abide in Me John 15:1-11

1. Jesus is the **True Vine** (v 1-3)
2. We are the **True Branches** (v 4-7)
3. The Father is the **True Gardener** (v 8-11)



I. Jesus is the True Vine

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- The image of the vine has always depicted **the people of Israel**. Israel is the vine and God is the Gardener



Isaiah 5:4-7

What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, **why did it yield only bad?** Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, **and it will be destroyed**; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.⁶ **I will make it a wasteland**, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.”

The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.



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- The Disciples and Jewish people would immediately know that: **In Jesus they would be saved**. He is not just a good teacher, but he is divine! God is His Father!
- His main role is to nourish us but also **to PRUNE US!**



I. Jesus is the True Vine

- John 15:2 → "He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, **he prunes** so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. "



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Pruning is constant. It is all for our holiness and sanctification







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Pruning is a painful process but a **NECESSARY ONE**

And Jesus is saying that he will not only save us..
**BUT HE WILL ALSO REFINE US AND MAKE US
MORE HOLY AS HIS BRANCHES!!**

- JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE THAT **SAVES US AND SANCTIFIES US!**



II. The Disciples as the True Branches

John 15:4-6

⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; **you are the branches**. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.



II. The Disciples as the True Branches

Our Christian responsibility is to “**abide**” in Christ. John uses the term (meno) **over fifty times** in his writings; **eleven times in chapter 15**. Underlying the meaning of this term is the idea of belief and faithfulness.

For the disciples growing in an agricultural society, they would know inherently that a **vine and a branch are intimately** tied together.





Jesus the True Vine and God the Gardener

There is **NO LIFE** without being connected to the vine. Abiding is not an option, but **an essential requirement for our Christian walk.**



II. The Disciples as the True Branches

- **“Abiding in Jesus means hour by hour trusting him to meet all your needs and to be all your treasure.”**

- John Piper

Abiding means to orient your **WHOLE LIFE** around Jesus Christ. He becomes your everything. And you would despair of life itself if you didn't have Jesus. He is your life source, he is where you get your joy, and he is the one that **SATISFIES!!**

II. The Disciples as the True Branches

Are you a branch or a stick?





II. The Disciples as the True Branches

John 15:7 ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.



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John 15:7 ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

When we properly abide in him fully, we will only want to do his will and whatever he asks us to do!



II. The Disciples as the True Branches

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³ **That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.**



III. The Father is the True Gardener

John 15:8-11 → ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ **If you keep my commands,** you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ **I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.**



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Luke 22:42 “*Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.*”



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Everything Jesus did.. was to **ABIDE and to live for the father...** That was his sole purpose on earth.

A BRANCH HAS ONE JOB: To bear fruit by abiding in the vine. The fruit is for the joy of the gardener.



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WE BEAR FRUIT that honors Him. In pruning, in blessings, **we abide** and give all praise and worship to Him!



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- 2. Do not cling to False Vines.** He is the life-giving vines that turns sticks into branches.



Conclusion

- 1. Jesus alone is the only one who can save us and sanctify us.** Jesus wants an intimate and loving relationship with us. In Him we find Life.
- 2. Do not cling to False Vines.** He is the life-giving vines that turns sticks into branches.
- 3. Let's abide in His Word TOGETHER AS A CHURCH.**

