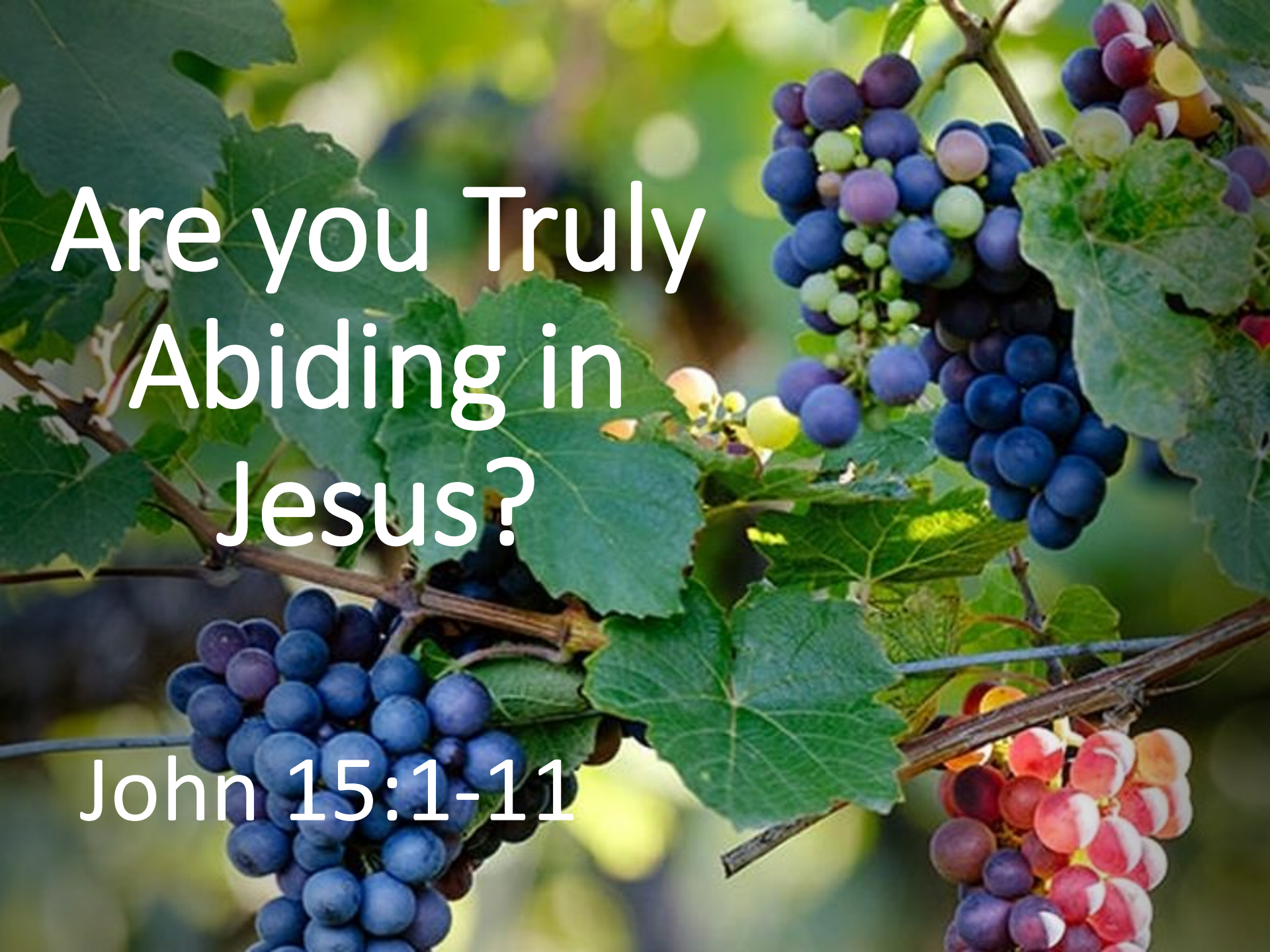




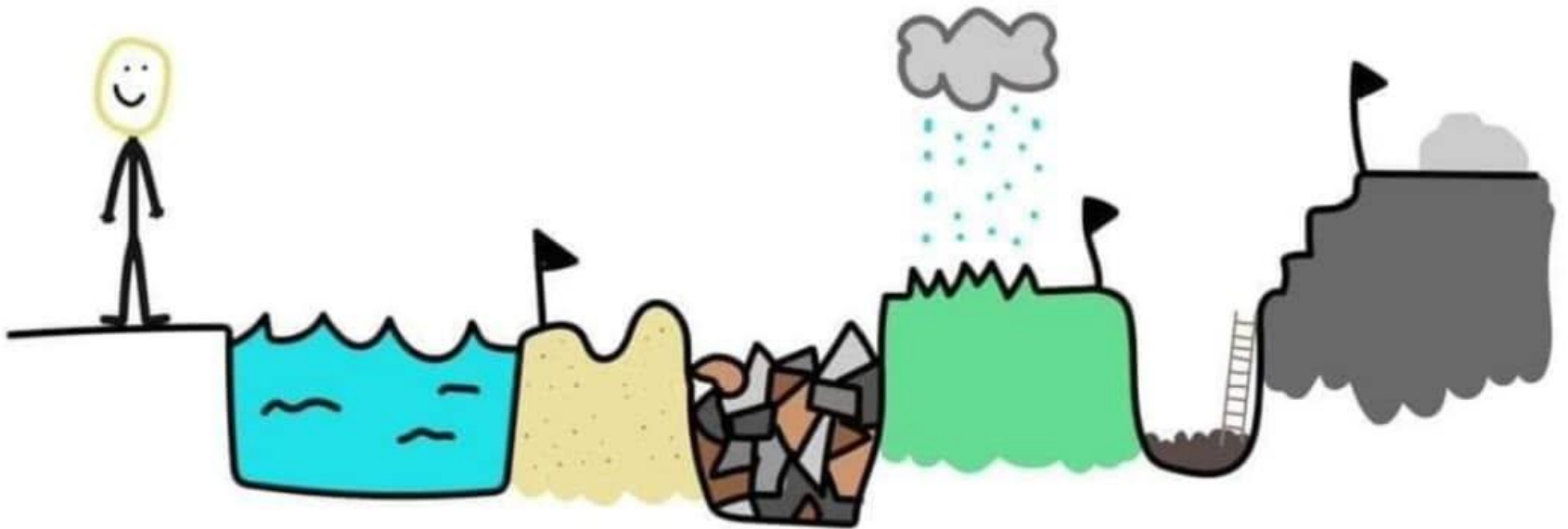
Are you Truly
Abiding in
Jesus?

John 15:1-11

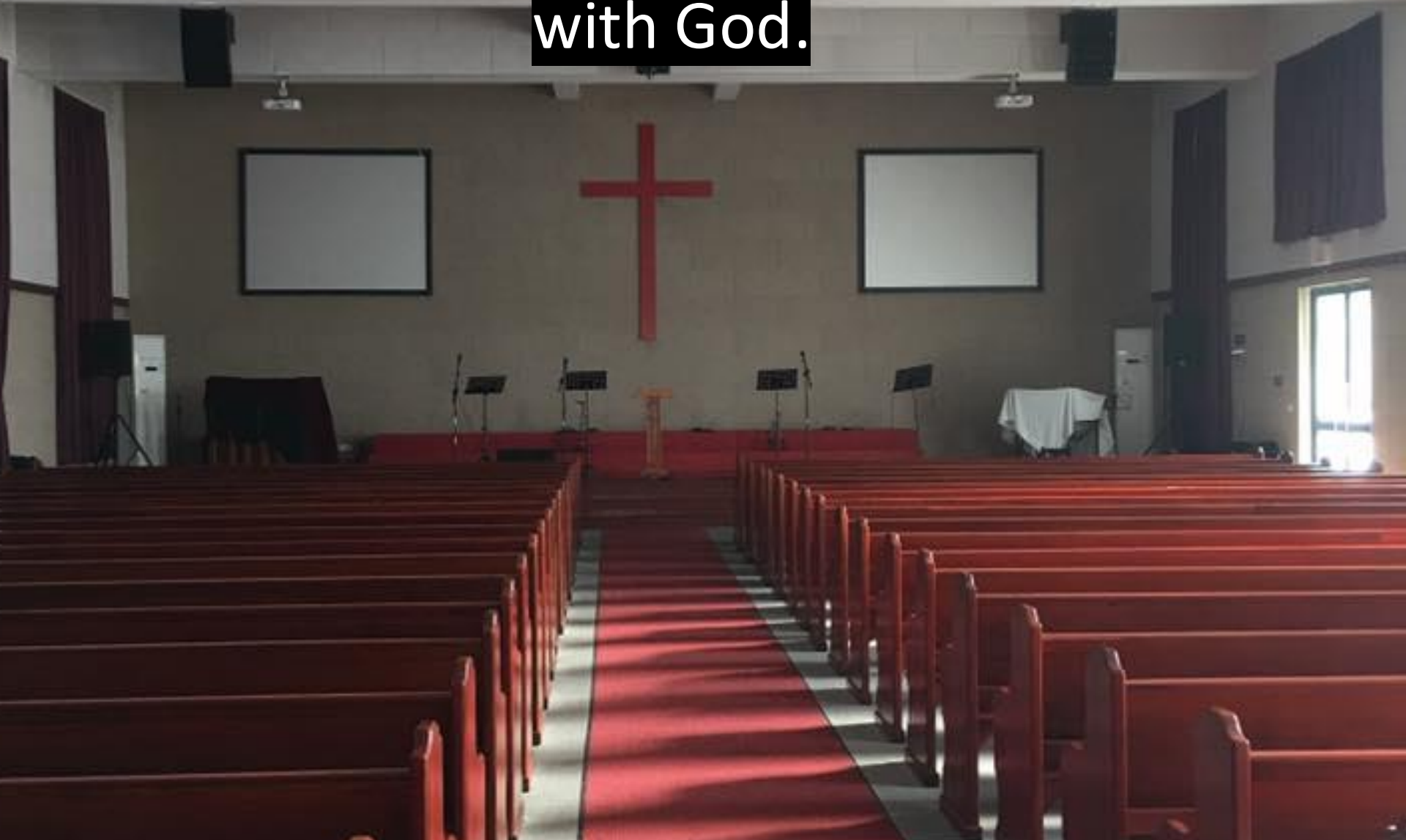
My path:



Reality:



Spending time alone
with God.



Exodus 14:14

“The LORD will fight for you; you need only **to be still.**”

Psalms 46:10

He says, “**Be still, and know that I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”



*Bondsman
of Christ*

“I am no longer anxious about anything, as I realize the Lord is able to carry out His will, and His will is mine. It makes no matter where He places me, or how. That is rather for Him to consider than for me; for in the easiest positions He must give me His grace, and in the most difficult, His grace is sufficient.”

HUDSON TAYLOR

Opening Question

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

Are you Abiding in Jesus?

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

Verse 1 → "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

- The image of the vine in the OT has always pointed to **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.

I. Jesus is the True Vine

In contrast with Israel being the vine.. The New Testament shows that **Jesus is the true vine**. He is the better Israel!

An important Truth:

Jesus' main role is to nourish and fill us, but he will also **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."





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."

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

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

As Disciples, our responsibility is to **abide** in Christ.

“**meno**” μένω- To remain, endure, live, keep, abide, to **be inseparably united** with someone or something.



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 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.

When we **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.**

III. The Father is the True Gardener

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

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

III. The Father is the True Gardener

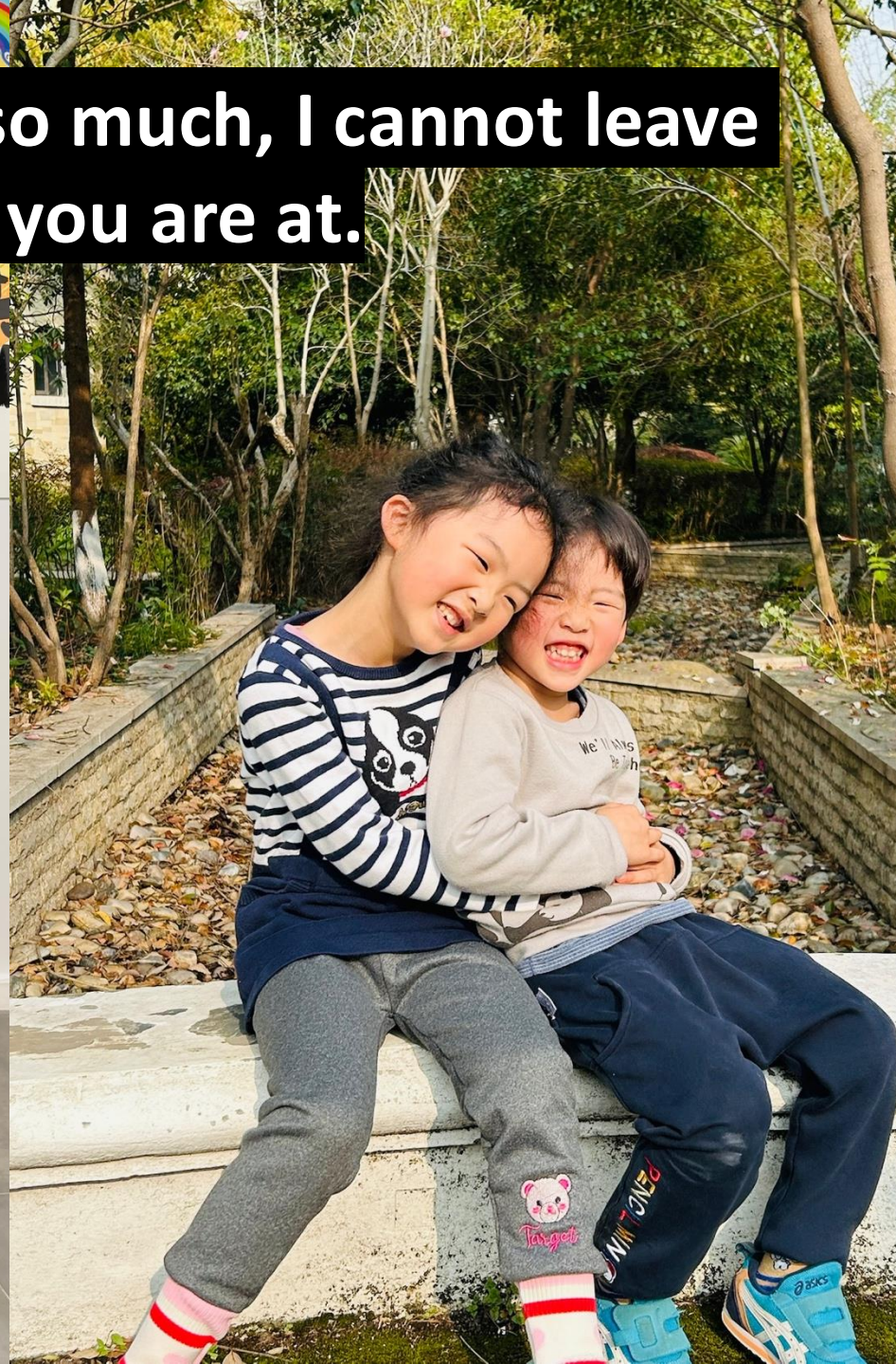
WE WANT TO GIVE GLORY TO GOD

John 10:10 → “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the fullest.”

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



I love you so much, I cannot leave you where you are at.



Conclusion

1. Jesus is the only one who can save us and sanctify us.
2. Submit to God's pruning/cleansing
3. Let's Abide in His Word and Obey His commands TOGETHER AS A CHURCH.



¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.