

## In the Vine- Session 4

### Bible Study

“If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.” John 15:6-10

The parable of the vine and the branches makes it clear that Christ did not believe “once in the vine, always in the vine.” Jesus gave His disciples a solemn, but loving warning that it is possible for true believers to abandon faith, turn their backs on Jesus, fail to remain in Him, which then result in them being cast / thrown into the fires of hell for eternity.

These scriptures show us that there is a foundational principle in regards to the saving relationship of Christ and the believer, it is never a stagnant relationship based on a past decision or experience. It is a progressive relationship as Christ lives in the believer and shares with that believer His divine life.

John 17:3 “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

Do you know Him? Keep in mind that an introduction is not knowing.

Colossians 3:4 “When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”

Is He, your life?

1 John 5:11-13 “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

There are three important truths taught in today’s text.

1. The responsibility of remaining in Christ is placed on the disciples (us). The way we respond to God’s gift of new life and power given at conversion. [John 15:4](#)
2. Remaining in Christ results in Jesus’ continued indwelling, the fruitfulness of the disciples (us), success in prayer and fullness of joy. [John 15:4](#), [15:5](#), [15:7](#) & [15:11](#)
3. The consequences of failure to remain in Christ are fruitlessness, removal from Christ and destruction. John [15:2](#), [15:4](#), [15:5-6](#)

“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” John 15:7

The [secret of answered prayer](#) is remaining in Christ. The more intimate that our life in Christ is through prayer, fasting, worship, meditation on and study of the scriptures, the more our prayers will be in line with the nature and words of Christ. Which will then make our prayers [effectual fervent](#) prayers.

John 14:13 “And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

John 15:4 “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.”

James 5:16 “Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

“Abide in my love”

Jesus calls us to a life of holy relationship and personal devotion to Him. This is possible because of God’s love for us, which He has poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. God demonstrated His great love through Christ’s dying for us while we were still sinners. We remain in Jesus’ love by pursuing spiritual relationship with Him, and by obeying His commands, just as He did with the Father.

Romans 5:5 “hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

Romans 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

John 15:10 “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”

[In the Vine – Series Introduction](#)

[In the Vine – Session 2](#)

[In the Vine – Session 3](#)

### **Bible Study**

1. Can you choose to leave the vine?
2. Can a branch have life apart from the vine? (John 15:3-8)
3. The life of what must flow through us to have life? (John 15:3-8)
4. What should we keep continually in our hearts and minds? (Isaiah 26:3)
5. Who or what should guide our actions and thoughts? (Proverbs 3:5-6 & Jeremiah 10:23)
6. How should we trust the Lord? (Proverbs 3:5-6)
7. If we are abiding in Him, what should our walk / life look like? (1 John 2:6)