

2021 Suggested Theme Sermon

Abiding in Jesus

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Read John 15:1-11.

1 Jesus is the *true* Vine.

He's the only One who gives life to the branches.

Branches cannot survive disconnected from the Vine. He is our connection to the Father.

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6, ESV).

2 The Father is the Vinedresser/Gardener (John 15:1).

He deals with both fruitless and fruitful branches (verse 2).

He removes unfruitful branches.

He prunes the fruitful to bear even more fruit.

3 Jesus calls us to abide in Him, and He will abide in us.

Abiding in Jesus is the key to bearing fruit (verses 4, 5).

Without Jesus, we can do nothing (verse 5).

Abiding in Jesus is the key to prayer (verse 7).

When we live in Jesus and commune with Jesus consistently, our prayers align with Jesus' nature, and others will know us as His followers (verse 8).



4 Jesus calls us to abide, or remain, in His love (verse 9).

We abide in His love by obeying His commands (verse 10).

Jesus set the example in the way He obeyed the Father and remained in His love.

Jesus calls us to a radical love, instructing us to love others as He does, including our enemies (Matthew 5:44).

Conclusion

Abiding in Jesus brings us:

- Life
- Fruitfulness
- Answers to our prayers
- Alignment with Jesus as His followers
- Power to love as He loves
- Joy and fulfillment

"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, ESV).

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