

In Him We Live and Move and Have Our Being

John 15:5-11

⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Opening

1. In your own words, what does it mean to "abide" in Jesus?
2. What phrase or image from the sermon most stuck with you?

Life Without Jesus / Life Within Jesus

3. Jesus says, "Apart from me you can do nothing." Where are you most tempted to live as if you can do something without Him?
4. The sermon contrasts life without Jesus (separation, dissatisfaction) and life within Jesus (union, increasing satisfaction). Which best reflects your current spiritual experience?

Abiding by Receiving, Not Achieving

5. The sermon emphasizes that the Christian life works by receiving, not achieving. Where do you tend to slip into an "achieving" mindset with God?
6. Which do you most need to receive right now: Jesus' Word, Jesus' Love, or Jesus' Joy?
7. How does the image of a baby in the womb help clarify your role versus God's role in spiritual growth?

Application

8. What is one practical way you can more intentionally abide in Christ this week?
9. How does knowing you are loved with the same love the Father has for the Son shape your obedience and trust?