

>What does it mean to abide in Christ?

>How do we abide in Christ?

- 1. We abide in Christ by**
- 2. We abide in Christ by**
- 3. We abide in Christ by**
- 4. We abide in Christ by**

>What does it mean to bear fruit?

- 1. We live a life of _____ love.**
- 2. We experience the _____ of his joy.**
- 3. We have a _____ peace.**
- 4. We are _____ in being a witness for Jesus.**

>One Practical Challenge

We hope this guide will help you go deeper into God's Word and spur you on in obedience to what God is teaching us today. Feel free to use all or part of it for your group discussion or personal study.

John 15 is a picture of the close relationship that a believer can have with Jesus. Jesus is the true vine, we (followers of Jesus) are the branches. Look up Ps. 80:8-16, Isaiah 5:1-7, Jeremiah 2:21, Ezekiel 15:1-8. According to these verses, Who is the vine? How do they describe this vine? God wanted the Israelites to live in this abiding relationship with Him to show the whole world what He was like. They failed miserably and served other Gods. As followers of the true vine Jesus, we have an opportunity to live like Jesus and bring glory to our great God.

- If Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches, what does this tell us about our relationship with Jesus?
- What does Jesus want to produce through the lives of believers?
- Our Father is the gardener. What does He do to produce more fruit in the life of the believers? Describe what you think that this looks like.
- What do you think that it means to abide in Christ?
- What does Jesus promise if we abide in Him?
- What does our life look like if we fail to abide in Jesus?
- According to verse 7, what do we need to do in order to abide in Christ?
- What does Jesus promise to do when we pray if we abide in Him?
- How many times is the word "abide" used in this chapter? How many times is the word "fruit" used?
- According to verse 9, how much does Jesus love us? Let this stagger your imagination.
- Verse 11 describes one of the aspects of fruit. What is it? Do you have this in your life?
- Verse 12,13 gives us another picture of fruit. How does Jesus describe the radicalness of love?
- Jesus says something very special in verses 14 & 15. What does He call us? Take a minute and think about how great this is.
- Look at verse 16, what did Jesus choose you to do?
- We see that abiding is having an intimate close relationship with Jesus. It is being dependent upon Him and connected to him. We also see that two aspects of the fruit are joy and love. In John 14:27 What else would be called fruit?
- In verses 18-27 Jesus tells us what we can expect if we follow Him. In a few words describe what these verses teach us.
- In spite of the opposition that we will face, What can we count on to help us get through every day? Look at verse 26-27.
- Jesus closes this chapter by telling his disciples, and us also, that He expects them to be witnesses for him. After his resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit they bore much fruit by proclaiming the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Two questions for you to ponder: are you abiding in Christ and is your life bearing fruit for Jesus? What will you do this week to make this true in your life?