

"ABIDE" JOHN 15:1-8

READ PASSAGE TOGETHER

In this passage, Jesus is teaching his disciples. They are following him and now He is walking them through what it looks like to be connected to a growing relationship with him. It's important to understand that the life of a believer starts with being connected to the vine who is Jesus. That's step one, salvation! For us to continue to grow in Christ we must remain connected to the Vine. What this looks like is to stay close to Him through His word, through prayer and through His church (community). A branch that is separate or apart from the vine is useless so therefore, a Christian separate and apart from Jesus is useless.

Questions:

- 1. What is one major point that the Holy Spirit revealed to you in reading this passage?
- 2. How can you practically abide in Christ on a daily basis?
- 3. In what areas of your life do you feel the need for pruning or refinement?

In the sermon we learned 4 tenants of the faith. This is how we continue to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

- 1. Knowledge- This is gaining knowledge of who Jesus is and the purpose he has for our life.
- 2. Obedience- This is actually doing what God tells you to do through his word.
- 3. Spirit led- As you walk in obedience, and are connected to the vine, you will begin to experience the power of his Holy Spirit. When you place your faith in Jesus, He marks us with his Holy Spirit. And if you have His Holy Spirit, he will lead and guide you!
- 4. Missional living- The Holy Spirit is the gas that fuels the mission. The church was created because there's a mission! And the Holy Spirit will lead you towards the mission every time.

Ask your group these questions:

- 1.Am I growing in my knowledge or relationship with Jesus?
- 2. Am I living in obedience to what his Word says?
- 3. Am I allowing the spirit to lead my life?
- 4. Do you desire to tell others about Jesus?
- 5. Do you desire to see God's will done?
- 6. Are you making disciples? Who?
- 7. Based on your answers to these questions, do you think that you are connected to the vine (Jesus)? Why or why not?

Announcements:

We will be spending about 6 weeks in the book of Malachi. Encourage your group to spend time reading and studying this book before we start this series.

