



Sunday, August 12, 2018

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

John 15:4-5 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**. ⁵ **I AM** the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in **Me**, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without **Me** ye can do nothing.

I. Jesus’ PARABLE of Abiding (John 15:1-8)

A. The PROVIDENCE of Fruit-bearing (1-3)

Remember that God lovingly cuts and cleanses—He lovingly prunes and purges—it is with love that He takes us through the difficult times of life seeking to produce fruit to His honor and glory.

B. The PAIN of Fruit-Bearing (2)

C. The PRINCIPLE of Fruit-Bearing (4-6)

OUR ABIDING IN CHRIST IS NOT ABOUT DOING MORE, IT IS ABOUT YIELDING MORE—IT IS SUBMISSION TO THE WORK OF CHRIST IN YOU.

D. The _____ of Fruit-Bearing (v. 7-8)

God's desire for each of us is that we live lives of prayer.

Christ emphasized to His disciples the need for prayer (Luke 18:1).

The early Church gives us plenty examples of corporate prayer as they met together specifically to pray (Acts 1:14, 2:42).

1. The _____ of the Fruit-Bearing Prayer (7a)



a. Be _____ upon Christ—“*If ye abide in Me*”

This word, “*abide*” is a command which speaks not just to our union with Christ but our communion with Him. It carries the idea of a continual, living, vital, spiritual connection.

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of **God**;

b. Be _____ to Christ—“*My words abide in you*”

Job 23:12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of **His** lips; I have esteemed the Words of **His** mouth more than my necessary *food*.

Notice the resulting confidence that we can have (1 John 5:14-15).

Our **DEPENDENCE** and **DEVOTION** to Christ is evidenced in our _____—our choosing to *abide in Christ* and *in His Word*.

2. The _____ of the Fruit-Bearing Prayer (7b)

John Phillips – The key to getting what we want is wanting what He wants.

1 John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of **Him**, because we keep **His** commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in **His** sight.

John 9:31 Now we know that **God** heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of **God**, and doeth **His** will, him **He** heareth.

Answered prayer comes through **abiding in Christ** and **abiding** comes through obedience to Christ.

3. The _____ of the Fruit-Bearing Prayer (8)

a. The Father is _____ (8a)

John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall ask in **My** name, that will I do, that the **Father** may be glorified in the **Son**. **14** If ye shall ask any thing in **My** name, I will do it.

b. The Disciple is _____ (8b)

John 8:31 Then said **Jesus** to those Jews which believed on **Him**, “If ye continue in **My Word**, *then* are ye **My** disciples indeed;



The path to fruitfulness continues with communing with God in prayer which yields the God-honoring fruit of answered prayer.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: *Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!*