



Sunday, September 9, 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)
- II. Jesus’ PATHWAY of Abounding (John 15:9-17)



A. The LOVE of Christ (v. 9-11)

Jesus reminds us of the *wonder* of His love in that He loves us with the same love that the Father loves Him. He then spoke to His disciples about the *way* of His love which is obedience. Then He reminded them of the *word* of His love to help us abound in the fruitfulness of joy as we meditate upon these words.

B. The _____ of Christ (v. 12-17)

John 10:10 "...I AM come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly [overflowing]."

1. The LOVE that He _____ (12)

Matthew 5:44 But I say unto you, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

2. The LOVE that He _____ (13)

A MARK OF BEING A FRIEND OF CHRIST IS **LOVING** OTHERS.

1 John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of *God*, because **He** laid down **His** life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

Our love should be **obvious** and **active**. It should be on full display as we seek to meet the needs of others (1 John 3:17-18).

3. The LOVE that He _____ (v. 14-15)

a. The _____ of Christ's Friendship (v. 14)

A MARK OF BEING A FRIEND OF CHRIST IS CONTINUAL **OBEDIENCE**.

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;

b. The _____ in Christ's Friendship (v. 15)

i. A new _____ (v. 15a)

ii. A new _____ (v. 15b)

A MARK OF BEING A FRIEND OF CHRIST IS KNOWING DIVINE TRUTH.

4. The LOVE that He _____ (v. 16)
a. Abundant _____ (v. 16b)
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A MARK OF BEING A FRIEND OF CHRIST IS FRUITFULNESS.

- b. Answered _____ (v. 16c)

A MARK OF BEING A FRIEND OF CHRIST IS
CONFIDENT EXPECTATION IN PRAYER.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

5. The LOVE that is _____ (v. 17)

With these words, Christ sums up what He has been saying all evening. The *law of love* should determine our every action.

John 13:35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are **My** disciples, if ye have love one to another.”



Our pathway of abounding in fruitfulness is SERVICE—it is what Christ longs for. He desires that we would live the abundant life overflowing with the fruit of the Spirit consistently displayed in our lives in SACRIFICIAL SERVICE toward others.

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!*