



Sunday, September 16, 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**. <sup>5</sup>**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)



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**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]."

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1. The LOVE that He \_\_\_\_\_ (12)

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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)

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

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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)

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

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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)

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

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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.

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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.

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**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.



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## 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!