



I AM THE VINE and

YE ARE THE BRANCHES

Abiding in Christ's Love



John 15:9-11

9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

**God is delighted
when we both abide
in His love and keep
His commands.**

1. The COMMAND to abide.

*v. 9 As the Father has loved me,
so have I loved you. Abide in my love.*

John 6:28-29

28 Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?”

29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”



2. The PROOF that we are abiding.

*v.10 If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my
Father's commandments and abide in his love.*

The 10 Commandments:

- ☐ Exodus 20
- ☐ Matt 22:37-39
- ☐ Romans 13:8-10

1 John 1:7-10

⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Abiding in His love is not some mystical experience. It is simple obedience. It is when a man keeps Christ's commandments that he abides in Christ's love.

Leon Morris

1 John 4:15

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

1 John 3:24

24 Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him.

1 John 4:7-8, 16, 19-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

What is spiritual maturity about?

LOVING God or

OBEYING God?

... secular academics have the most trouble wrapping their minds around the intense personal guilt that Luther felt during his early years. His fear of God's wrath paralyzed him, and he constantly looked over his shoulder for the Lord to strike him. He froze during the consecration of the Communion elements during his first celebration of the Mass due to His awareness of His unworthiness before God.

Moreover, he got on the nerves of his monastic supervisors, confessing every trivial sin he could think of and yet never finding his guilty conscience assuaged.

RC Sproul, regarding Martin Luther

Love, and do what you will: whether you hold your peace, through love hold your peace; whether you cry out, through love cry out; whether you correct, through love correct; whether you spare, through love do you spare: let the root of love be within, of this root can nothing spring but what is

Augustine of Hippo

The keeping of his precepts is the proof of genuine discipleship. Apart from the Spirit no keeping of precepts is possible. One must have them and keep them....

William Hendrickson

1 John 3:23-24

²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

3. The RESULT of our abiding.

v. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Two results stem from this relationship: obedience and joy. Obedience marks the cause of their fruitfulness; joy is its result.

ESV Study Bible notes

To submit to Christ is no hardship. Rather is it the road to liberation. It therefore brings joy, the joy of Christ's presence welling up in our hearts...the reference to joy in the context of the fruit of the vine is appropriate...

The connection to fruit-bearing is obvious, for the joy of the Lord in the lives of his people is supremely attractive to the non-christian world.”

Bruce Milne









