
Abide #2 – The Disciple’s Identity: You in Christ

NOVEMBER 16 – 23

Lean In

Think of a character in a book, movie or T.V. show that came to know their true identity. How did it change them? Was it a temporary change or a permanent one? How did it happen?

Look Down

- Read the following passage, John 15: 1-8 (NASB)

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me. **5** I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and *so* prove to be My disciples.

- According to this passage, who is:
 - Jesus:
 - The Father:
 - Us:
- In verse 3, the word “clean” means “free from impure admixture or spotless”. How can someone be clean already? Look up the following verses and record your insights below. Notice where it says “in Christ”.

Is. 61:10	2 Cor. 5:17-21
Rom. 8:1-4	Gal. 3:27
1 Cor. 1:30	Phil. 3:9

- Look up the following verses to find some other benefits of being “in Christ”?
 - Rom. 6:11, Col. 2:10, Eph. 1:3-14, 2:5-6

- Underline or highlight the phrase “abide in Me”. Fill in the following chart with what you learn from looking at that phrase.

If You Abide in Him	If You do not Abide in Him

- Look at verse 8. What are the results of abiding in Jesus?

- Look up and read John 15:9-11. What else are we to abide in? How are we to do that? What is the result? See also: John 8:31-32, 1 John 2:4-6, 1 John 3:24, and 1 John 4:16.

Passage	Abide In...	How?	Result?
John 15:9-11			
John 8:31-32			
1 John 2:4-6			
1 John 2:10			
1 John 2:28			
1 John 3:24			
1 John 4:16			

Look Out

- Do you think many believers live their lives in an attempt to “clean” themselves, not understanding they are “already clean” in Christ? What would that life look like?

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- According to what you have studied, what is the purpose of abiding? If that is so, why do some Christians live the Christian life for self-consumption? What should a disciple's outlook be?
 - Abide means to stay (in a given place, state, relation, or expectancy), to continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, and being still. What are some practical ways to abide in Christ?

Look In

- Are you “clean already”? How did you come to be in Christ?
- What things or thoughts threaten your identity in Christ? What do you need to start believing?
- Have you been abiding in Christ? What has been your perspective about being a Christian? What have you learned this week about being a disciple?

Look Up

Pray with your group of three:

- Praise God for His love.
- Thank God for Jesus and what He did on the cross to make you clean.
- Confess the lies you have been believing, or how you have not been abiding.
- Pray for each other that we would be women who know who we are and stay in that truth.

Live it Out

- What truth do you need to remember this week? How can you keep it in front of you?
- What needs to change in your life this week to abide in Christ?
- Come ready to share with your group next week how you did with these two areas!