
Abide #3 – The Disciple’s Identity: Christ In You

NOVEMBER 23 – 30

Lean In

How hard is it to live the Christian life? What areas of the Christian life do you find the most difficult? Where do you struggle the most as a Christian?

Look Down

- Reread John 15:1-8 printed in last week’s homework. Circle all the places it says that “abide in you.” Who or what is to abide *in us*?
- Read Colossians 1:15-20. List everything you learn about Jesus.
- Read Col. 1:24-27. What is the mystery that is made known now?
- After looking over the list you created from Col. 1:15-20, what does it mean to you that *Christ is in you*?
- What does the Holy Spirit do in your life? See Ezek. 36:26-27; John 14: 16-17, 26 ; John 16:7-8, 13-14; Rom. 5:5; Rom. 8:9-14, 16, 26-27; Rom. 15:13; Gal. 5:22-23, Eph. 3:16-17, 19-20.
- If the Holy Spirit does all of these things, what is our responsibility? See Rom. 8:4-6; Gal. 2:20; Gal. 5:16-18; Eph. 5:18-20; Col. 1:29; 1 Thes. 5:19;
- How did Jesus live? See John 14:10.

Look Out

- Take a look in any bookstore and you will find many different self-improvement books. How does the transformation that Holy Spirit does in your life exceed any effort at self-improvement?
- How does a life of abiding in Christ and He in us differ from how life is lived around us at home, at work or even at church?

Look In

- In what ways have you tried to live the Christian life *for* the Lord Jesus, instead of allowing Him to live it through you?
- For any activity in your life, how can you go about assessing whether you are pursuing it in dependence on Christ instead of in the energy of the flesh?
- In what areas of your life do you need to let Christ take over?

Live it Out

- Share with your group how you did with your homework this week. Be honest!! If it was a struggle, what is one thing you could do differently this week? Who in your group will pray for you?
- What is one thing you did this past week to know Jesus more? Was it easy or hard?
- As you think about areas in your life that you tend to take control, what is one area that you could give to Jesus this week? How will you do that?
- Get the phone number or email of a member of your life group that you can encourage or check in with during the week.

Look Up

As you pray with each other, consider the following:

Praise:

- for Christ's life in you!,
- that you don't have to live the Christian life in your own strength

Pray:

- for areas in your life that you need to yield control to God,
- to trust Him that He will do it,
- for time to do the homework,
- for other needs and cares on your heart,
- the Christmas party for Teen Challenge next week

Discovering....Christ in Me! By Bonnie Hain

Discovering daily who God really is,
Thanking Him daily He's mine and I'm His,
Discovering daily God's great love for me;
Such mercy, forgiveness, amazingly free.

Discovering daily that God really cares,
Discovering daily He does answer prayers,
Discovering daily what grace really means;
Unmerited favor beyond all my dreams.

Discovering daily God speaking to me;
He speaks through the Bible. Once blind, now I see.
Discovering, discovering each day that I live
That all that I need, He freely will give.

Discovering daily Christ working through me,
Accomplishing daily what never could be.
Discovering daily; I can't, but He can;
Thanking Him daily for my place in His plan.

Discovering daily how really life can be
When I'm living in Christ and He's living in me.
Discovering daily a song in my heart
With anticipation for each day to start.

Delighting and basking in love so divine,
Secure in the knowledge I'm His and He's mine.
Besides mere contentment, excitement I see!
A daily adventure; *Christ living in me!*

Taken from *The Indwelling Life of Christ: All of Him in All of Me* by Major W. Ian Thomas