

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

How Great Thou Art, This is the Day You Made, How Deep is the Father's Love, The Wonder of Your Love

WELCOME

My Love. What are the things that you love?

WORD

JOHN 15

⁹*Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.*

For a branch to produce fruit, it has to be connected to the vine. Jesus is the True Vine and we are the branches. We are designed to bear much fruit.

Jesus chose and appointed His disciples to bear much fruit. The problem with a lot of people, even Christians, is that we sometimes connect to the wrong source. Whenever we connect to the wrong source, we might still bear fruit, but it is more of a temporary kind of fruit and not the fruit that will remain. The fruit that Jesus offers will remain (**v.16**).

ABIDING IN JESUS

Abiding in Jesus is a constant daily dependence on Him. It means allowing His word to remain in us and us abiding in His love (**v.7**). Abiding in His love means keeping His commandments (**vv.9-10**). If we love Him, we will keep His commandments.

Abiding in Jesus means:

1. *He is all that I need.* When a branch is attached to the vine, it gets all its nutrients from the vine. When we are abiding in Jesus, we are like saying, "Jesus, You are all that I need. Nothing in this world can fulfill my greatest need apart from You. This is why I am abiding, remaining and staying in you. I am going to follow you."
2. *He completely satisfies.* Jesus alone can satisfy all our needs, in the same way that a branch is completely satisfied while attached to the vine. The nutrients come through the vine to the branches and this causes it to bear fruits.
3. *He is in control of my life.* Being fully connected to the vine is allowing the vine to take full control so that the branch can bear much fruit. By abiding in Jesus, we are submitting to His control of our life.

Trusting that He is the One who will make fruits grow.

As we abide in Jesus, we continue to totally depend on Him and obey Him in everything. We grow from the spiritual nutrients of His word that enables us to mature and to bear fruit.

As disciples of Jesus, we are to bear much fruit in our character, in living out good works, in discipleship and in loving others.

LOVING OTHERS

One of the fruits of a disciple abiding in Jesus is loving others.

God is love and He is the author of love. He understands what true love is, for He created it. Therefore, if we want to love others the right way, then we should abide in His love.

For us to abide in His love, we need to keep the commandments of God (**v.10**). The reason why it is hard sometimes for us to obey the Lord is because we are not abiding in Him. But when we are abiding in Jesus, obedience becomes easier. Obedience and loving people becomes natural. The more we stay in Him and obey Him, the more our heart changes and transforms.

Jesus repeatedly commanded His disciples to love one another to prepare them for the world because the world will hate them (**vv.17-19**).

Jesus instructs us to abide in Him and abide in His love (**v.9**) because only when we abide in Jesus that we can love like Him. The more we allow the fullness of Jesus' love in our life, the more we could love others like Jesus.

WORD (cont'd)

ABIDE IN HIS LOVE

"Only when we abide in the love of Jesus can we naturally love like Jesus."

What are the motivators for us to abide in His love and to love others like Him?

- 1. Complete Joy (v.11)** – Sometimes our joy is dependent on circumstances, but the joy of Jesus is never dependent on circumstances. In spite of what is happening in our life, Jesus wants us to have complete joy in Him.
- 2. Cross (v.13)** – Jesus laid down His life for us. Remembering what He has done for us will motivate us to abide in Him and love one another like Him.

- 3. Called Friends (v.14)** – Jesus reveals to us His purpose because He has called us His friends. And if we do what He has commanded us to do, we show ourselves to truly be His friend.
- 4. Chosen (v.16)** – He chose us and appointed us to bear much fruit; a fruit that remains. When we abide in Jesus, our desires align with Him. Once our desires are aligned with Him, we will pursue His desires for us.

There is one thing that remain constant, it is the love of God. Trials and problems will come our way, but His love will remain. Human love will fail but His love never fails, it never ceases. Remain in His love as He remains in you. Jesus is the True Vine, abide in His love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. Stay in Love.** What is Jesus' commandment in **John 15:9**? Why will you obey His command?
- 2. Abide in His Love.** What motivates you to abide in the love of Jesus? What is it to love like Jesus?
- 3. Experiencing Love.** How would you love others based on your experience of being loved by Jesus?

WORKS

THANKSGIVING FOR HIS LOVE

List down specific events in the seasons of your life from childhood to date when you experienced the love of Jesus.

Write down your reflection as you pray with thanksgiving to God for His love.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends