

Title: Effects of Abiding in Christ Jesus

Series: Covid-19...13 **Text:** John 15:1 - 17

Introduction:

If my count is correct we are now at one quarter of a year under the Covid– 19 guidelines. As a fellowship we are looking forward to the time we are able to gather together. I understand that we are now able to have 15 individuals in the facility. The audio portion of the devotional is available on the Church Website; we continue to use Zoom for the live presentation on Sunday morning and for the coffee time together, we are also doing a Youtube recording that is uploaded early Sunday afternoon. Zoom is the media that we use for the Thursday evening Bible Study.

Review of the last several weeks:

March 22 – Fear, Presumption and Faith

April 5 – Where Is God In This?

April 12 – Jesus, I Am The Resurrection

April 26 – Anxious About Nothing

May 10 - Mother's Day with the Blenkins

May 24 – Praying The Promises of God

March 29 – Prayer Summit

April 10, Good Friday – Victory Through A Lamb

April 19 – Burdens

May 3 – In The Father's Hand

May 17 – Prayer Keeps Me On Target

May 31 – Promises to Those Who Abide

Last week's devotional message was from Psalm 91; John 15 and 1 John 5:13 – 15 and entitled Promises to Those Who Abide:

1. Abiding (meaning):

To dwell, have one's abode, to lodge, to abide, to remain, to continue to be, to wait for

2. Promise of NO Fear:

Psalm 91:1 - 6

3. Promise of Fruit:

John 15:1 - 11

4. Promise of a Future:

1 John 2:18 - 29

Scripture Reading:

John 15:1 - 17

1. We Have Fellowship With The Lord:

- 1.1) John 15:9, "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love."
We are invited into a LOVE relationship with Almighty God through the living Son of God. His love for us is so tender and pure; and yet not demanding, we determine the intimacy level.
- 1.2) 1 Corinthians 1:9, "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."
The idea here is more than an invitation, it involves the truth that he who birthed us (the vine produces the branches) is trustworthy to complete His love purposes.

Philippians 1:6, "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."
- 1.3) 1 John 1 (3 and 7), "that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." And, "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."

2. We Will Not Wither:

2.1) Jesus declared the HE is the bread of life:

John 6:35 – 40, “Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. (36) But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. (37) All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. (38) For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. (39) And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. (40) For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

2.2) Jesus declared that HE gives living water:

John 4:10, “Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

John 7:38 and 39, “Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. (39) Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

3. We Will Grow in Holy Character:

John 15:1 – 11

3.1) Philippians 2:1 – 8

verse 5, “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,”

3.2) Colossians 3:1- 10

verses 1 – 3, “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (2) Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

3.3) 1 Peter 2:1 - 3

“So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. (2) Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation – (3) if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.”

Conclusion:

Oh! To Be Like Thee by Thomas O. Chisholm

Oh! To be like Thee, blessed Redeemer,
This is my constant longing and prayer;
Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures,
Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.

Oh! To be like Thee, oh! To be like Thee,
Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art;
Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness;
Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

Oh! To be like Thee, full of compassion,
Loving, forgiving, tender and kind,
Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting,
Lord, from this moment all shall be Thine.

Oh! To be like Thee, while I am pleading,
Pour out Thy Spirit, fill with Thy love,
Make me a temple meet for Thy dwelling,
Fit me for life and Heaven above.