

Sunday, Jun 14, 2020

Title: Effects of Abiding in Christ Jesus, Part 2

Series: Covid-19...13

Text: Matthew 11:25 - 30

Introduction:

This is now our 13 Sunday under the Covid- 19 guidelines; slowly things are opening up for greater fellowship gatherings. How we have missed seeing each and every one. We rejoice with the reports of good health; none have reported having Covid-19. 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 and 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

June 7 – Effects of Abiding in Christ

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 on the Effects of Abiding in Christ from John 15:1 - 17:

- 1. We Have Fellowship with the Lord**
- 2. We Will Not Wither**
- 3. We Will Grow in Holy Character**

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 11:25 - 30

1. We Hear God Speak To Us:

1 Kings 19:11 – 12, “And he said, “go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. (12) And after the earth quake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.”

Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

- 1.1) John 10:3 & 4, “To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and **leads** them out. (4) When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.”
- 1.2) Matthew 4:19 – 22, “And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. (20) Immediately they left their nets and followed him. (21) And going on from there he saw two brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. (22) Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.”

Notice the additional EFFECT of hearing God – there is an obedient response.

- 1.3) Matthew 25:21, “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’”
Addition EFFECT of hearing and obeying is JOY!

2. We Are Invited To Rest With God:

- 2.1) Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will **give** you rest.”
“give” and “rest”; the Holy Spirit upon us giving us divine refreshing!
This rest is initiated (starts) at salvation and is a continuous ministry of the HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 3:19 – 21, “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, (20) that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, (21) whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

- 2.2) Matthew 11:29, “take my yoke upon you, and learn from me (not – of me!) for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will **find** rest for your souls.”

Hebrews 4:11 – 12, “Let us therefore strive (labor) to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. (12) for the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”
Compare Lamentations 3:22 - 27

3. We Become More Active Partners With God:

- 3.1) Partners In Faith:

John 6:29, “Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

1 Thessalonians 1:3, “remembering before our God and Father your **work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope** in our Lord Jesu Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 1:9 – 10, “For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you **turned to God** from idols **to serve** the living and true God, (10) and **to wait** for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

- 3.2) Partners In Salt:

Matthew 5:13, “You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.”

Colossians 4:6, “Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

Compare James 3:1 - 12

- 3.3) Partners In Light:

Matthew 5:14 – 16, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (15) Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. (16) In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Psalms 119:105, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Ephesians 5:1 - 21

Conclusion:

Where He Leads I'll Follow

By William A. Ogden (1841 – 1897)

Sweet are the promises, kind is the word,
Dearer far than any message man ever heard;
Pure was the mind of Christ, sinless I see;
He the great example is, an pattern for me.

Where He leads I'll follow.
Follow all the way.
Where He leads I'll follow.
Follow Jesus ev'ry day.

Sweet is the tender love Jesus hath shown.
Sweeter far than any love that mortals have known;
Kind to the erring one, faithful is He;
He the great example is, and pattern for me.

List to His loving words, "Come unto Me";
Weary, heavy laden, there is sweet rest for thee;
Trust in His promises, faithful and sure;
Lean upon the Savior, and thy soul is secure.