

Joyful Abiding

(John 15:1-11)

I. Joy

II. Abide

- Union

- Communion

III. Fruit

Main Point: True fulfillment and joy are ours as we abide in Christ and bear much fruit.

Application Questions

What are things I tend to look to bring me joy? What are my “If onlys”?

What is the connection between my joy and abiding in Christ?

How can I better position myself to abide in Him?

How does it encourage you to know that in one sense “abiding” has already been accomplished for you?

In what ways have you experienced God’s pruning?

How has God’s word been rearranging your life for maximum fruitfulness?

Quotes

“In a nutshell, abiding in Christ means allowing His Word to fill our minds, direct our wills, and transform our affections. In other words, our relationship to Christ is intimately connected to what we do with our Bibles!” – Sinclair Ferguson

“The abiding of Jesus’ word in us means that his words find a home in us. They fit. They belong... It’s not foreign. It belongs. You move other things around and even get rid of some things so that the word has room and “feels at home.” – John Piper

“The words of Jesus don’t “abide” without effect. When they take root, they produce faith and holiness. We are transformed. Holiness, and Christlikeness happens.” – John Piper

“Then, of course, as Christ’s Word dwells in us and the Spirit fills us, we will begin to pray in a way consistent with the will of God and discover the truth of our Lord’s often misapplied promise: “You will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you” – Sinclair Ferguson

“doing nothing to grieve [the love of Jesus for us], but on the contrary engaging in that which delights the lover.” – George Beasley-Murray.

“If anyone objects that the safety of our salvation then depends on ourselves, I reply that it is wrong to give this meaning to Christ’s words; the obedience which believers give him is not the cause of his continuing love to us but is the effect of his love.” – John Calvin