

Connected to Christ

HAPPY PENTECOST SUNDAY!

John 14:15-17 ESV

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and **he will give you another Helper**, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. **You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.**

Acts 2:1-4 ESV

¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Holy Spirit – How Does He Help?

1. The Fruit of the Spirit – Galatians 5:22-23 ESV
²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control;
2. The Gifts of the Spirit – 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 ESV
utterance of wisdom, utterance of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, the working of miracles, prophecy, ability to distinguish between spirits, various kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues.
3. Confidence in Him – 1 Corinthians 2:3-5 NLT
⁴ I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit.
4. Gives us Wisdom & Understanding – 1 Corinthians 2:6-12 NLT
¹⁰ But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit.

Scripture: John 15:1-11 ESV

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ **Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.** ⁵ **I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.** ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned...

Scripture: John 15:1-11 ESV

... ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Abide - μένω ménō – “to remain”.

“To stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy)”.

Abiding in Christ



Abiding in Christ



Union with Christ, and abiding in Christ,
what do they not secure? Peace, perfect
peace; rest, constant rest; answers to all
our prayers; victory over all our foes; pure,
holy living; ever- increasing fruitfulness.
All, all of these are the glad outcome of
abiding in Christ.

James Hudson Taylor

Abiding in Christ - **Environment**



Can a Mango tree, naturally, grow in the middle of central London?

No, because it is not planted in the right **environment**.

What environment have you planted yourself in?

Abiding in Christ - Food



For a tree to grow healthily, it needs Sun light and water – food.

Are you eating the right (spiritual) foods?

- The Bible
- Prayer
- Worship
- Church/fellowship
- Studying

Abiding in Christ – Food – How much?



Receiving food once is not enough, it needs to be continual.

**Are you eating enough
(spiritual) foods?**

How much **quality** time do you
spend with God?

Abiding in Christ – Pruning



A tree needs its unhealthy parts to be pruned so healthy parts can grow.

Are there areas in your life that need pruning?

**Behaviours? Bad habits?
Addictions? Distractions?**

Fruit-bearing is not a matter of being strong or weak, good or bad, brave or cowardly, clever or foolish, experienced or inexperienced. Whatever your gifts, accomplishments, or virtues, they cannot produce fruit if you are detached from Jesus Christ. Christians who think they are bearing fruit apart from the Vine are only tying on artificial fruit. They run around grunting and groaning to produce fruit but accomplish nothing.

Fruit is borne not by trying, but by abiding.

John MacArthur

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