



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. 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.

JOHN 15:4-5

Jesus tells us to abide in Him and he shows His disciples how. On the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:27, "beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."

Through God's word, we can abide in Him, since all the scriptures point us to Him.

ABIDE

WHAT IS IT?

The word abide means to remain in Him. The image here is that of a branch (us) that stays attached and takes nourishment from the vine (Jesus).



- ▶ As we spend time in His Word, just like spending time with a friend, we grow closer to and more like Him.
- ▶ This is how we know Him: who He is, what He is like, what He has done, what He promises to do.
- ▶ We hear from God and abide in Him by reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating on His Word.

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

The Bible was written thousands of years ago and can, at first, be difficult to understand, but over time we become more familiar and will get more and more out of it.

Let the Holy Spirit be your teacher; ask Him for wisdom and guidance. We each have the same Spirit within us and He will lead us (John 16:12-15).

There are many different methods to approach God's Word, we will learn the Discovery Bible Study Method. Read through the scripture four times, each time asking one of these questions (combine the last 2):

- ▶ What does it say? (summarize or draw a picture)
- ▶ What does it say about God?
- ▶ What does it say about people?
- ▶ What does God want me to do with this?
- ▶ What is one thing I can pass on to someone else?

Look at the picture of the flower for 30 seconds, list all the things you observe, then turn it over. Discuss what you saw. Now do it again. Did you see new things? Did others see things you didn't? This shows the layers of God's word. Each time we approach it we will see more and when we discuss it with others they will see things we may not.



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