



# Life in the Vineyard

## John 15:5-8

<sup>5</sup> “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.**

<sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

## A-L-I-G-N-E-D to Produce

“If you abide in Me...”

- Abiding begins by being rightly connected to the Vine.
- Abiding continues by remaining focused on the Vine.
- Abiding continues by being dependent on the Vine for everything needed, moment-by-moment.

**“Abiding is enjoying a barrier-free relationship with the Vine – Jesus – and releasing what the Vine wants to give to others through me.” Bud McCord**

“And My words abide in you”

- God’s Word and God’s words:
  - **God’s Word** – The Bible, the written communication that God has left for us.
    - **2 Timothy 3:16-17**
    - **Psalm 119:9-16**
  - **God’s words** – God’s leading and utterances to guide us in the everyday situations of life.
    - **1 Peter 4:11** – “...the oracles of God...”
    - **John 16:13-14**
  - **Very Important:** God’s words will never go against God’s Word

- For God’s words to abide in us, we must obey both God’s written Word and God’s daily leading in our life.
  - **Joshua 1:8**
  - **Ephesians 5:8-9, 15-17**

“You will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. . .”

## Life in the Vineyard – Day #17

*“Prayer is the spiritual oxygen of the Christian life. There’s a direct relationship between prayer and abiding. Prayer can bring you closer to God by helping you grow deeper in your daily fellowship and dependence to the Vine. As you sharpen your focus on the things that matter most to God, He will guide you to pray in a way that magnifies His name by matching your desires with His desires.”*

- Praying helps us abide and abiding helps us pray.
- God’s Word shows us God’s will and Jesus leads us in God’s ways.
- The result of this process is that God matches our desires with His desires.
- Our prayers end up glorifying God
  - In times of trouble – **Psalm 50:15**
  - In times of blessing – **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

“By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit. . .”

- **Fruit:** Delivering to others what Jesus has for them today.

*“Imagine that you awaken each morning and at the foot of your bed is a backpack with your name on it. Next to the backpack is a note that reads “Deliver everything in this backpack that is for the people I have arranged for you to meet today. I love you, Father.” As you lift the backpack and put it on you find that it is not a burden, but it settles onto your shoulders and back with a weight of deep seriousness. The feeling of this weight causes you to lift your head and look toward heaven asking for the power to deliver all the contents.*

*As the day progresses you meet dozens of people and you find that there is something special and precious for each one of them. You reach into the backpack and simply give to each person asking nothing in return. As you do, you sense a connection with them, with life and with your Father. There is a pain associated with the delivery, but the joy is greater.*

*By the end of the day you are weary but with a joy that is new and different. You fall into a deep sleep and awaken the next morning with the same backpack filled again and with an identical note lying next to the backpack. Off you go again to deliver what the Father has given to you for others.” (<http://budmccord.blogspot.com> – July 16, 2009)*



# Life in the Vineyard

## John 15:5-8

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.**

<sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

## A-L-I-G-N-E-D to Produce

"If you abide in Me..."

- Abiding begins by being rightly \_\_\_\_\_ to the Vine.
- Abiding continues by remaining \_\_\_\_\_ on the Vine.
- Abiding continues by being \_\_\_\_\_ on the Vine for \_\_\_\_\_ needed, moment-by-moment.

**"Abiding is enjoying a barrier-free relationship with the Vine – Jesus – and releasing what the Vine wants to give to others through me." Bud McCord**

"And My words abide in you"

- God's Word and God's words:
  - **God's Word** – The Bible, the \_\_\_\_\_ communication that God has left for us.
    - **2 Timothy 3:16-17**
    - **Psalm 119:9-16**
  - **God's words** – God's \_\_\_\_\_ and utterances to guide us in the everyday situations of life.
    - **1 Peter 4:11** – "...the oracles of God..."
    - **John 16:13-14**
  - **Very Important:** God's \_\_\_\_\_ will never go against God's \_\_\_\_\_

- For God's words to abide in us, we must \_\_\_\_\_ both God's written Word and God's \_\_\_\_\_ leading in our life.
  - **Joshua 1:8**
  - **Ephesians 5:8-9, 15-17**

"You will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. . ."

## Life in the Vineyard – Day #17

*"Prayer is the spiritual oxygen of the Christian life. There's a direct relationship between prayer and abiding. Prayer can bring you closer to God by helping you grow deeper in your daily fellowship and dependence to the Vine. As you sharpen your focus on the things that matter most to God, He will guide you to pray in a way that magnifies His name by matching your desires with His desires."*

- Praying helps us \_\_\_\_\_ and abiding helps us \_\_\_\_\_.
- God's Word shows us God's \_\_\_\_\_ and Jesus leads us in God's \_\_\_\_\_.
- The result of this process is that God matches \_\_\_\_\_ desires with \_\_\_\_\_ desires.
- Our prayers end up \_\_\_\_\_ God
  - In times of trouble – **Psalm 50:15**
  - In times of blessing – **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit. . ."

- **Fruit:** Delivering to \_\_\_\_\_ what Jesus has for them \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Imagine that you awaken each morning and at the foot of your bed is a backpack with your name on it. Next to the backpack is a note that reads "Deliver everything in this backpack that is for the people I have arranged for you to meet today. I love you, Father." As you lift the backpack and put it on you find that it is not a burden, but it settles onto your shoulders and back with a weight of deep seriousness. The feeling of this weight causes you to lift your head and look toward heaven asking for the power to deliver all the contents.*

*As the day progresses you meet dozens of people and you find that there is something special and precious for each one of them. You reach into the backpack and simply give to each person asking nothing in return. As you do, you sense a connection with them, with life and with your Father. There is a pain associated with the delivery, but the joy is greater.*

*By the end of the day you are weary but with a joy that is new and different. You fall into a deep sleep and awaken the next morning with the same backpack filled again and with an identical note lying next to the backpack. Off you go again to deliver what the Father has given to you for others." (<http://budmccord.blogspot.com> – July 16, 2009)*