“Living Life in The Abiding Relationship with Jesus” **John 15:1-11**

Sunday May 21, 2023 Pastor Timothy Atkins

## INTRODUCTION READ John 15:1-27

Relationships . . . Relationship with Jesus, with one another, with the world . . .

Words from Jesus for His disciples because of His departure Going Away

Words from Jesus for His disciples because of The Nature of His Relationship Going Forward with His Disciples 15:1-27

Jesus teaches us that being His disciple means being in relationship with Him Being in relationship with Him means bringing forth fruit through Him

bringing forth fruit through Him so that we would demonstrate the reality and vitality of our discipleship with Jesus abide in Me [v.4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

 much fruit [v.2] . . . bear fruit [v.4] . . . great deal of fruit [v.5, 8]

1. Illustration of Abiding in Jesus As The Life Giving Vine 15:1-3

 Allegory of Vitality of Life

1. Picture of The True Vine and the Real Vinedresser 15:1

“I Myself am the true vine and My Father the vinedresser is”

1. Nature of Every Fruit Bearing Branch 15:2-3

A Warning and A Promise cf. Hebrews 12:7-11

“and every fruit bearing He prunes”

“in order that more fruit might bear” purpose, plan, result

1. Instruction for Abiding in Jesus As A Fruit Bearing Branch 15:4-6

 Allegory of Reality of Fruit

1. Command for Abiding in Jesus 15:4

 “Abide in Me, and also I Myself in you” DUTY

It is the great concern of all Christ’s disciples constantly to keep up a dependence upon Christ and communion with him, habitually to adhere to him, & actually to derive supplies from him. Matthew Henry

1. Character for Abiding in Jesus 15:5-6 NECESSITY

Again Another Promise and More Warnings

 “I *myself* am the vine, you *yourselves* are the branches”

 “for apart from Me you not able to do nothing”

 “nothing does not mean a little something” Martin Luther

Several Points to Ponder before going further . . .

Importance of my dependence upon the Lord Jesus

Cultivating a close relationship with the Lord Jesus

Vital relationship with Him because of Who He Is and Who I am

“It is most significant that the branches of the vine are useless for anything other than bearing fruit . . . Only in fruitfulness can a branch related to the vine fulfill its divine purpose and function.”

1. Intention for Abiding in Jesus As A Disciple of Jesus15:7-11
2. Being One Who Is Abiding in Jesus

 & His Words Abiding in You 15:7-8 “My . . . My . . . My . . . My”

Presence of Him in your life . . . Residence of His word in your living

 Obedience of asking Him during this Life

 Evidence of Being His in Living your life

1. Being One Who Is Abiding in Jesus

 & Abiding in His Love 15:9-10

1. Being One Who is Abiding in Jesus

 & Having His Joy in You 15:11

CONCLUSION The Abiding Relationship . . .

* Instruction for abiding in Jesus and His words abiding in you is essential for life as a disciple of Jesus in your Christian life
* Examination of your life as His disciple according to His words
* Demonstration of the reality & vitality of our relationship with Jesus
* Condition of your Christian Life based on your abiding in Jesus and having His words directing the way you are going forward in your Christian walk