

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Book of John

Lesson 17

Christ Teaches Abiding

John 15:1-25

REFLECTION

Review John 14:7-31. What truth impacted you the most about the Holy Spirit? How has He helped you in your life?

FOCUS VERSE

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 (John 15:5).

SECTION 1 – Abiding in the Vine

Read John 15:1-11.

1. Who is the *True Vine* (vs. 1)? _____

NOTE

The vine was the national symbol of Israel. The Old Testament portrays the nation of Israel as the vine. Jesus called Himself the True Vine drawing an obvious parallel and identifying Himself as the only True Vine.

Who is the *Vinedresser*? _____

Who are the *branches* (vs. 5a)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What do these Old Testament passages teach us about the Father as the Vinedresser and His relationship to His chosen ones, the nation of Israel?

Psalm 80:8-11 _____ ¹

Psalm 80:14, 15 _____ ² ³

¹, ² a vine/vineyard: the nation of Israel; God transplanted them from Egypt to Canaan.

³ branch: son; the nation of Israel was God's own son (Exodus 4:22).

Isaiah 5:1-7 _____ 4

_____ 5

Isaiah 27:2-6 _____ 6 7

Jeremiah 2:21, 22 _____ 8

_____ 9

2. What is the purpose of the branch (John 15:2)? _____

What does the Vinedresser do to the branch that does not bear fruit (vs. 2a)? _____

How does He care for the branch that bears fruit (vs. 2b)? _____ 10

What is the Father's ultimate purpose in the pruning (vs. 2c)? _____

3. How did Jesus cleanse (prune) the disciples (vs. 3)? _____

PERSONAL

What do the following verses say about spiritual cleansing?

Psalm 119:9-11 _____

⁴ well-beloved: an endearing term for the LORD used by Isaiah the prophet.

⁵ wild grapes: stinking things; rebellious children.

⁶ in that day: the day that the Lord would restore Israel.

⁷ red wine: delectable wine.

⁸ noble: lush vines of the Sorek valley, running from Jerusalem to the Mediterranean through very rich soil.

⁹ alien: Judah became an alien vine fertilized by foreign gods.

¹⁰ prune: to purge and clean of bugs and diseases.

Ephesians 5:25-27 _____

Hebrews 4:12, 13 _____

Record a time when you were made clean by God's Word. _____

4. What does Jesus command a believer to do? Why (John 15:4)? _____

What is to be the result? _____

PERSONAL

What does it mean to you to abide in Christ? _____

5. Again who is the True Vine and who are the branches (vs. 5)? _____

Write verse 5b.

He who _____¹¹ in _____, and _____ in him, _____
_____ ; for without Me _____ .

6. What are the consequences for not abiding in Jesus (vs. 6)? _____

¹¹ abide: to dwell, tarry, continue permanently through the Word, remain, endure, sustain, to stay in a given place, to stand. State of expectancy.

LOOK DEEPER

What do you learn from these verses concerning spiritual fruit?

John 15:16 _____

Romans 1:13 _____

Galatians 5:22-24 _____

Colossians 1:9 _____

James 5:7, 8 _____

7. What privileges await the believer who abides in Jesus and His Word (John 15:7)? _____

8. How is the Father glorified (vs. 8)? _____
What will be the outcome? _____

PERSONAL

Are you a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ? Explain. _____

In what way are you a fruitful Christian? _____

9. How does Jesus use Himself as an example of abiding in the Father's love (vs. 9, 10)? _____

What does Jesus command us to do? _____

10. What additional promise or reason did Jesus give to abide in Him (vs. 11)? _____

SECTION 2 – Love One Another

Read John 15:12-17.

1. What commandment did Jesus give (vs. 12)? _____

2. To what extent are we to love one another in obedience to Jesus (vs. 12b, with I John 3:16)? _____

3. What does Jesus call those who obey His commands (vs. 14, 15)? _____

What is the privilege of such a relationship? _____

4. Why did Jesus choose and appoint His disciples (vs. 16)? _____

5. Write and meditate on verse 17.

PERSONAL

What further insight did John give on Jesus' command to love one another?

I John 2:7-11 _____

I John 3:13-15 _____

Is there someone that you do not love? What will you do about your lack of love in light of Jesus commandment?

SECTION 3 – Rejection From the World¹²

Read John 15:18-25.

1. What warning did Jesus give (vs. 18, 19)? Why? _____

2. Contrast the believer with those who are of the world. Why are we not to be of the world?

John 16:33 _____

I Corinthians 3:19 _____

I Corinthians 4:9-13 _____

I John 2:15-17 _____

¹² world: the world and its system which is in opposition to God.

I John 3:1 _____

I John 4:4-6 _____

3. The world will hate you. What did the Son pray to the Father that encourages you (John 17:13-19)?

4. How does one avoid conforming to the world (Romans 12:1, 2)? _____

What will you prove? _____

5. What did Jesus tell His disciples to remember (John 15:20)? _____

6. Why will you be persecuted (vs. 21)? _____

7. Why did Jesus say there is no excuse for the world's sin (vs. 22)? _____

8. Jesus spoke of the world's hatred towards Him. What two reasons did He give for this hatred (vs. 23, 24)?

LOOK DEEPER

Find the prophetic statements of the world's hatred of Jesus?

Psalm 22:6-18 _____

Psalm 69:4 _____

Isaiah 53:3 _____

PERSONAL

Have you ever been hated without cause? What comfort or joy do you receive from Jesus' example?

*This is My commandment,
that you love one another
as I have loved you.
John 15:12*

If you wish to receive any of the studies on THE BOOK OF JOHN write to:

Somebody Loves You Publishing, 22324 Golden Springs Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
(909) 396-1884 FAX: (909) 396-0553 Email: slymediagroup@somebodylovesyou.com

All Scripture found in this study is from the New King James Bible unless noted otherwise.

Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

This study may be copied, reproduced, or duplicated with written permission.

© 2004 Prepared by: Somebody Loves You Publishing