Abiding in Jesus

**3—ABIDING THROUGH THE WORD**

**John 15:1–7 (NKJV)** “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 bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** “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. **6** 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. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

**THESE ARE THE TOPICS WE’RE PLANNING TO COVER:**

1. Abiding in Jesus
2. The Secret Place (added week two)
3. **Abiding Through the Word**
4. Abiding in Prayer
5. Staying Full of the Spirit
6. Being Led by the Spirit

**LET’S FOCUS ON VERSES 4, 5, & 7**

**John 15:4–5, and 7 (NKJV)** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** “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. **... VERSE** **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

**NOTICE THAT JESUS CHANGED SOMETHING IN VERSE 7. IN VERSE 4, JESUS SAID, “ABIDE IN ME AND I IN YOU,” ... BUT IN VERSE 7, HE SAID, “IF YOU ABIDE IN ME AND MY ‘WORD’ ABIDE IN YOU.”**

**LET ME SHOW YOU THAT SAME THING IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS...**

**Proverbs 8:34–35 (NKJV)** Blessed is the man who listens to me **[Jesus]**, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. **35** For **whoever finds me finds life**.

**Proverbs 4:20–22 (NKJV)** My son, give attention to **my words**; Incline your ear to **my sayings**. **21** Do not let **them** depart from your eyes; Keep **them** in the midst of your heart; **22** For **they are life** to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.

**THIS TELLS US THAT ONE OF THE PRIMARY WAYS WE ABIDE IN JESUS IS THROUGH HIS WORD, THE BIBLE.**

**2 Corinthians 3:14–18 (NKJV)** But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. **15** But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart.

**WHO’S MINDS WERE BLINDED? WHO’S VEIL REMAINS OVER THEIR FACE WHEN THEY READ THE OLD TESTAMENT? WHO STILL HAS A VEIL ON THEIR HEARTS TO THIS DAY?**

**MOST ALL OF GOD’S CHOSEN PEOPLE... THE JEWS.**

**LISTEN TO WHAT JESUS SAID TO THE JEWS...**

**John 5:46 (NKJV)** For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.

**LISTEN TO WHAT JESUS DID FOR THE TWO MEN ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS...**

**Luke 24:27 (NKJV)** And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He **[Jesus]** expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

**LISTEN TO WHAT PAUL DID IN DAMASCUS RIGHT AFTER HE WAS SAVED & HIS VEIL WAS REMOVED...**

**Acts 9:22 (NKJV)** But Saul **[Paul]** increased all the more in strength, and **confounded the Jews** who dwelt in Damascus, **proving that this Jesus is the Christ**.

**LISTEN TO WHAT PAUL DID IN ATHENS...**

**Acts 18:5 (NKJV)** When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by the Spirit, and **testified to the Jews that** Jesus is the Christ**.**

**LISTEN TO WHAT APOLLOS DID IN ACHAIA**

**Acts 18:28 (NKJV)** he **[Apollos]** **vigorously refuted the Jews** publicly, **showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.**

**SO LET’S LOOK AGAIN AT...**

1. **Corinthians 3:14–16 (NKJV)** But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. **15** But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. **16** Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

**THIS DOESN’T ONLY HAPPEN WITH JEWISH PEOPLE... SATAN HAS BLINDED THE MINDS OF THE WHOLE WORLD... LISTEN TO WHAT PAUL SAYS JUST A FEW VERSES LATER IN CHAPTER FOUR...**

**2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NKJV)** But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

**AND WE ALSO KNOW THAT... EVEN AS BELIEVERS... WE CAN BE BLINDED AND DECEIVED... LISTEN TO WHAT PAUL SAID IN...**

**Galatians 3:1–3 (GNB)** You foolish Galatians! Who put a spell on you? Before your very eyes you had a clear description of the death of Jesus Christ on the cross! **2** Tell me this one thing: did you receive God’s Spirit by doing what the Law requires or by hearing the gospel and believing it? **3** How can you be so foolish! You began by God’s Spirit; do you now want to finish by your own power?

**NOW LET’S FINISH READING THE 2 CORINTHIANS THREE PASSAGE...**

**2 Corinthians 3:17–18 (NKJV)** Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. **18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

**WE SEE JESUS IN THE MIRROR... LISTEN TO...**

**1 Corinthians 13:12 (NKJV)** For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

**WHEN WE GET BORN AGAIN... THE VEIL IS REMOVED AND WE CAN SEE JESUS IN THE SCRIPTURES... AND BEGIN TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO HIS IMAGE.**

**EX – A teenager I’m discipling... who has never attended any church in his life... has had the veil removed... he understands things many church attendees don’t understand.**

**SO, WHAT IS THIS MIRROR THROUGH WHICH BELIEVERS CAN SEE THE IMAGE OF JESUS?**

**James 1:23–25 (NKJV)** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; **24** for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. **25** But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

**SO THE MIRROR IS THE WORD. AND IT MAKES SENSE THAT YOU SEE JESUS IN THE WORD BECAUSE...**

**John 1:1–3 (NKJV)** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. **...** **VERSE 14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

**John 14:19–23 (NKJV)** “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. **20** At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. **21** He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” **22** Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” **23** Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

**JESUS WANTS TO MANIFEST HIMSELF TO US THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD**

**EX – Jesus manifests Himself to us PERSONALLY through His Word.**