Abiding in Jesus

**4—ABIDING IN PRAYER**

**John 15:1–8 (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. **8** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

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

**LET’S FOCUS ON VERSES 7 & 8**

**John 15:7–8 (NKJV)** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. **8** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

**I WANT YOU TO NOTICE HOW JESUS CALLS US TO WORK TOGETHER WITH HIM AND THE FATHER AS A TEAM... AND HE CALLS US TO DO THIS WITH HIS WORD AND IN PRAYER.**

**THIS KIND OF PRAYER IS UNCOMMON... YOU ASK WHAT YOU DESIRE AND IT IS DONE FOR YOU.**

**HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?**

**IT BEGINS WITH HIS WORDS ABIDING IN YOU... CHANGING AND BECOMING YOUR THOUGHTS... AND WHEN YOU BEGIN THINKING WHAT THE WORD OF GOD IS SAYING... THEN YOU HAVE COME INTO UNITY WITH JESUS AND THE FATHER... AND YOUR DESIRES WILL BE GRANTED WHEN YOU ASK.**

**THIS IS WHAT GOD WANTS TO HAPPEN... AND HE EXPLAINED IT IN...**

**Isaiah 55:8–11 (NKJV)** “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. **9** “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. **10** “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, **11** So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

**WHEN HIS WORD GROWS UP IN YOU SO THAT YOUR THOUGHTS ARE IN ALIGNMENT WITH HIS WORD... YOUR PRAYERS “SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD.”**

**Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**AND THIS IS HOW JESUS TAUGHT US TO PRAY...**

**Matthew 6:9–10 (NKJV)** In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. **10** Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

**BY ABIDING IN JESUS AND HIS WORD ABIDING IN US... WE ARE THINKING ABOUT GOD’S KINGDOM FIRST... AND THEREFORE, WHAT WE PRAY FOR WHAT GOD ALREADY WANTS... GOD ANSWERS THE PRAYERS... THE FATHER IS GLORIFIED THAT WE’RE BEARING MUCH FRUIT... AND THIS MAKES US JESUS’ DISCIPLES.**

**THIS IS THE WAY JESUS PARTNERED WITH THE FATHER... AND NOW HE WANTS US TO ASSUME HIS ROLE ON EARTH.**

**John 14:10–14 (NKJV)** Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. **11** Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. **12** “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. **13** And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

**YOU SEE... HE WANTS US TO ASSUME THE ROLE ON EARTH THAT HE WAS PLAYING WITH THE FATHER.**

**John 14:19–20 (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.

**John 17:20–21 (NKJV)** “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; **21** that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

**Hebrews 10:19–23 (NIV)** Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, **20** by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

**YOU MUST CHOOSE TO BELIEVE IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS AND THIS NEW AND LIVING WAY... OTHERWISE, YOU’LL BE PLAGUED BY A GUILY CONSCIENCE AND NOT BE ABLE TO LIFT YOUR HEAD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH JESUS AND THE FATHER... YOU’LL CONTINUE TO ASK FOR THE MERCY AFFORDED TO UNWORTHY PEOPLE INSTEAD OF ASKING FOR WHAT BELONGS TO AN OBEDIENT FIRSTBORN SON.**

**Hebrews 4:14–16 (NKJV)** Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**THERE IS A PLACE IN PRAYER—WITH THIS KIND OF FAITH AND GRATITUDE FOR THE WORK OF JESUS ON THE CROSS—THAT LIFTS A PERSON INTO THE “INNER CIRCLE” WITH JESUS AND THE FATHER... IT’S AN EXTREME HONOR, AND YOU SENSE IT... THAT’S WHERE THE REQUESTS THAT CHANGE THE WORLD ARE MADE... AND WHERE THE APPROVALS ARE CONFIRMED... AND WHERE THE FINAL DECISIONS TO OVERCOME BEGIN TO BE CARRIED OUT.**

**EX – When you are there in the inner circle... the secret place... you often are aware of how holy... how selfless it is... and sense the difference between that and your typical prayers from a distance.**

**JESUS AND THE FATHER HAVE INVITED EVERY BELIEVER INTO A TRUSTING PARTNERSHIP... BUT FIRST... WE MUST ABIDE IN JESUS AND LET HIS WORD ABIDE IN US... AS WE DO, WE BECOME ONE WITH JESUS... WHO IS ONE WITH THE FATHER... THEN WE BECOME TRUE AND TRUSTED REPRESENTATIVES OF GOD ON THE EARTH... AND THINGS MOVE WHEN WE SPEAK.**

**EX – There are doors opening to us internationally to take Jesus Discipleship... that were first opened as I spent time in the Word and fellowshipping in pray with Jesus and the Father... and by the grace of God, things I’ve spoken are moving into place.**