Abiding in Jesus

**5—RHEMA PRAYERS (Abiding)**

**Hearing and praying rhema**

**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. **Rhema Prayers**
6. Staying Full of the Spirit
7. Being Led by the Spirit

**NOTICE VERSE 2**

**John 15:2 (NKJV)** 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.

**V2** – “prunes” = *2508.* καθαίρω **kathairō**, *kath-ah´ee-ro*; **from *2513*** = **to prune** v. — to cultivate, tend, and cut back the growth of a plant in order for it to grow healthier or to produce more fruit.

* **Kathairō** is a verb that comes from the adjective **katharŏs**... which is found in the very next verse.

**John 15:3 (NKJV)** You are already **clean** **[katharŏs**, *kath-ar-os´***]** because of the word which I have spoken to you.

**V3** – “clean” = *2513.* καθαρός, **katharŏs**, *kath-ar-os´* = pure, clean, spotless, innocent, free of guilt and sin

**SO JESUS IS SAYING... IF YOU ARE IN ME AND BEARING FRUIT, THE FATHER WILL PRUNE YOU OF SIN AND UNCLEANNESS... SO THAT YOU CAN BEAR MORE FRUIT.**

**THEN JESUS SAID...**

**John 15:3 (NKJV)** You are already clean because of the **word** **[lŏgŏs]** which I have spoken to you.

**EX – Hebrews 4:12** For the word [logos] of God is living and powerful...

**BUT NOTICE...**

**John 15:3 (NKJV)** You are already clean because of the word **[lŏgŏs]** ***WHICH I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU***.

**JESUS IS SAYING... YES... I USED THE WORD... BUT IT WAS THE WORD I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU!**

**JESUS IS SAYING... AS I WAS TEACHING THE WORD OF GOD TO YOU... I WAS DIRECTING THAT WORD TO SPECIFIC AREAS OF YOUR LIVES THAT WERE LIMITING YOU... HINDERING YOU... HOLDING BACK SUPERNATURAL FRUITFULNESS... AND KEEPING YOUR PRAYERS FROM BEING ANSWERED. AS I SPOKE THE WORD OF GOD DIRECTLY TO THOSE PARTS OF YOUR LIFE... AND AS YOU REPENTED... YIELDED TO ME... AND OBEYED... YOU WERE BEING PREPARED FOR MORE FRUITFULNESS.**

**EX – At 18, the Lord told me to break up with my girlfriend… necessary pruning... and it was very painful... but so worth it.**

**NOW NOTICE VERSE 7**

**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.

**SO GETTING ANSWERS TO OUR PRAYERS IS HOW WE’LL GLORIFY THE FATHER AND BEAR MUCH FRUIT.**

**SO HOW DO WE GET ANSWERS TO OUR PRAYERS?**

**John 15:7 (NKJV)** If you abide in Me, and My **words** **[rhema]** abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

“words” = rhema = generally spoken words.

**Romans 10:17 (NKJV)** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word **[rhema]** of God.

**SO IT’S NOT JUST MEMORIZING BIBLE VERSES... IT’S HEARING WHAT JESUS IS SAYING TO YOU THROUGH THE WORD... WHICH BRINGS FAITH... AND PRAYING THAT.**

**NOTICE THE PROCESS... JESUS SPEAKS... THEN YOU SPEAK... THEN THINGS HAPPEN.**

**WHEN THE LORD’S SPEAKS A RHEMA WORD TO US... SUCH AS CORRECTION... WE NEED TO RESPOND BY REPENTING... DECLARING THE CHANGE... AND ASKING FOR STRENGTH TO MAKE THE CHANGE.**

**AS THE LORD I WAS WRITING THESE THINGS DOWN... THE LORD ALSO REVEALED THAT THIS PROCESS WAS NOT NEW... IT WAS THE SAME PROCESS GOD USED WITH THE PROPHETS OF OLD.**

**FOR EXAMPLE...**

**Ezekiel 11:14–17 (NKJV)** Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, **15** “Son of man, your brethren, your relatives, your countrymen, and all the house of Israel in its entirety, are those about whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, ‘Get far away from the Lord; this land has been given to us as a possession.’ **16** Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone.” ’ **17** Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.” ’

**NOW LET’S SEE HOW IT WORKS WITH PRAYER...**

**1 Kings 17:1** (NKJV): And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”

**1 Kings 18:1–2, 41–45 (NKJV)** And it came to pass after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, “Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth.” **2** So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab; and there was a severe famine in Samaria. **... VERSE 41** Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.” **42** So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, **43** and said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked, and said, “There is nothing.” And seven times he said, “Go again.” **44** Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, “There is a cloud, as small as a man’s hand, rising out of the sea!” So he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.’ ” **45** Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel.

**James 5:17–18 (NKJV)** Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. **18** And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

**WHAT JESUS IS TEACHING US IS THE POWER OF PROPHETIC PRAYERS... RHEMA PRAYERS ARE PROPHETIC PRAYERS... WE’RE PRAYING FOR WHAT GOD IS SAYING AND WANTING.**

**1 Timothy 1:18 (NKJV)** This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

**EX – Nov 1996, “Start meditating the healing scriptures…”**

**Ezekiel 37:1–14 (NKJV)** The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. **2** Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. **3** And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” So I answered, “O Lord God, You know.” **4** Again He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! **5** Thus says the Lord God to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. **6** I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.” ’ ” **7** So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. **8** Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them. **9** Also He said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ’ ” **10** So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army. **11** Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ **12** Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. **13** Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. **14** I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it,” says the Lord.’ ”

**JESUS IS INVITING US TO COME CLOSE TO HIM THROUGH THE WORD... AND TO HEAR WHAT HE IS SAYING TO US... AND TO SPEAK IT OUT.**