



THE Xponential BRANCH

SERIES

June 9-10, 2018 | Pastor Joseph Sissac

ABUNDANT LIFE BRANCHES

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”
—John 10:10 ESV

Based on a wider view of the context of scripture, we know that Jesus is not simply referring to being **alive**. Existence does not equal abundant life. Sin separated all mankind from a life of true abundance. But Jesus gives all mankind the opportunity to return to the **“true vine”** and thus live and receive life abundantly. Using His analogy, a branch that is connected to the false vine, (a sinful lineage), cannot bear the fruit that glorifies the Father (Jn. 15:1, 5). Only the **transplanted** branch (born-again Jn. 3:3, 5), can bear much fruit, glorify the Father and prove to be His disciples (Jn. 15:8).

ONLY THE ABIDER

What we’ve learned, and what we must be our greatest takeaway from this teaching series, is the importance of **abiding** in Christ. Why? Because **“apart from Me you can do nothing.”** (Jn. 15:5). This statement relates to fulfilling the purpose the Lord intends for us (Jer. 29:11). No one can fulfill their God-given purpose without continuously abiding in the One who gives purpose.

Only the ABIDER lives a truly **fruitful** life.
Only the ABIDER fulfills their God-given purpose.

Only the ABIDER glorifies the Father.
Only the ABIDER **proves** to be Jesus’ disciple.
Only the ABIDER has their joy made full.

CHOSEN TO ABIDE

If the Lord chose you to be a branch He also chose you to abide, bear fruit and glorify the Father (Jn. 15:16). But the chosen of God have a **choice: TO ABIDE OR NOT TO ABIDE**. Being chosen of God doesn’t mean the fruit is automatic. So what hinders many of the chosen from bearing much fruit and living a truly abundant life? We too often chose abiding **substitutes** and counterfeits instead of the **ONE TRUE VINE** (Jn 15:1). **Whatever IT is that we face, to worry about it, cry about it, complain about it, be afraid of it, ignore it, or even attack it (in our own strength), doesn’t compare to the Xponential outcomes of ABIDING ABOUT IT.**

Our greatest takeaway from the Xponential Branch series should be that the Christian life is an abiding-in-Christ life. The abiding branch is **chosen** to do all things from an abiding place. **Instead of worrying, complaining, crying, etc... about IT; the chosen ABIDES ABOUT IT.** The negative emotions may still come, but we must still abide through a lifestyle of **worshiping, learning** and **servicing**. When you **ABIDE ABOUT IT**, you connect to Christ and eternal truth, hope and the grace necessary to bear much fruit... LOVE. **May we all break the bad abiding habits of complaining, worry, fear and pride. And may we all adopt the TRUE ABIDING HABITS that bear much fruit and glorify the Father.**

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