

“Stay Connected?”

John 15:1-11 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.*

*9 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; **ABIDE** in **My love**. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will **ABIDE** in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and **ABIDE** in His love.*

*11 “These things I have spoken to you, that **My joy** may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.*

- **Who to CONNECT with?** - To “The Vine” - JESUS! (v.1)

- **John 15:1** - “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.”

- **Isaiah 5:1–2, 7** - “Now let me sing to my Well-beloved A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard: My Well-beloved has a vineyard on a very fruitful hill. He dug it up and cleared out its stones, and planted it with the choicest vine. He built a tower in its midst, and also made a winepress in it; so He expected it to bring forth good grapes, but it brought forth wild grapes... for the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are His pleasant plant.”

- **Why CONNECT?** - Receive true Life! (v.2-5,7-11)

- **If I stay CONNECTED to Jesus, in close fellowship, continually into my future:**

- Jesus promises I’ll bear fruit, more fruit, and much fruit! - “**Multiplication**”

- **John 15:2-5,8-9** - “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**. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 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. “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... 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you **bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples. “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.”

- Jesus promises my requests in prayer will be answered! - “**Communication**”

- **John 15:7** - “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, **you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.**”

- Jesus promises that my joy will be full & overflowing! - “**Satisfaction**”

- **John 15:11** - “These things I have spoken to you, that **My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.**”

- **CONNECTION** = Multiplication; Communication; Satisfaction!!
 - Connection = **Relation** = in the Present!!
 - Connection = a Present experience **TODAY!!**

- What is **CONNECTION?** - “abide” - ancient Greek word “**menō**”
 - This is the Greek word “**μένω**” or “**menō**” which means to “to remain; stay; reside; to remain, to continue, to continue to exist, to still be in existence; to wait for; to keep on;
 - This word is used 120x in the New Testament

- Notable verses where this word “meno” is used in the New Testament:
 - Matt 10:11 - “
 - Luke 1:56 - “
 - John 2:12 - “
 - Luke 19:5 - “

- With this word, there is an emphasis on continual action, that lasts on into the future -
 - “keep holding on” ; “continue trusting” ; “keep on remaining faithful” ; etc...

- Are **YOU** connected to the Vine, Jesus Christ? (Matt 1)
 - How strongly are you connected to Jesus today??
 - Are you “**menō**” in Jesus... “to remain, to continue, to stay; to wait for; to keep on...” ??
 - Col 1 - “Let your roots grow down deep into Christ..”

- How can I **GROW MY CONNECTION** to the Vine, Jesus Christ??
 - Growing in the Word of Jesus...
 - Growing in the Prayer to Jesus..
 - Growing in the Worship of Jesus..
 - Growing in the Service to Jesus..
 - Growing in Obedience to Jesus..