

“Stay Connected.... OR ELSE?!?” - John 15:6

- We discussed “what does a Christian look like?? TO ABIDE...
 - Multiplication; communication; satisfaction...
- BUT... What if I un-CONNECT?- Jesus described the consequences of a person severing their vital connection to Him (v.6)
 - **John 15:6** - “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.”
 - **Juan 15:6** LBLA - “Si alguno no permanece en mí, es echado fuera como un sarmiento y se seca; y los recogen, los echan al fuego y se queman.”
 - “EXHORTATIONS to ENDURE:”
 - **Matthew 10:22** NKJV - “..you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.”
 - **Matthew 24:11–13** NKJV - “..false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.”
 - **Luke 9:61–62** NKJV - “..another also said, “Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house. But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”
 - **Luke 17:31–33** NKJV - “Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.”
 - “COMMANDS to CONTINUE:”
 - **Romans 11:20–22** NKJV - “Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.”
 - **Colossians 1:21–23** NKJV - “..you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight - if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard..“
 - **Colossians 2:6–7** NLT - “And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”
 - **1 Corinthians 15:1–2** NKJV - “Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.”
 - “CAUTIONS to CHRISTIANS:”
 - **Hebrews 2:1–3** NKJV - “Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away... 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation..”
 - **Hebrews 3:6** NKJV - “Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.”

- **Hebrews 3:12–15 NKJV** - “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, while it is said: “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”
 - **Hebrews 4:1–2,11 NKJV** - “...since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it... Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.”
 - **Hebrews 6:1,4–6 NKJV** - “...let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God... 4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”
 - **2 Peter 2:19–22 NKJV** - “...by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”
 - **Hebrews 10:23–25 NKJV** - “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”
- **“BROTHERS say BEWARE:”**
- **James 5:19–20 NKJV** - “Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”
 - **Jude 20–23 NKJV** - “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.”
- **“MOTIVATION from the MASTER:”**
- **Rev 2:10 NKJV** - “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”
 - **Rev 2:24–26 NKJV** - “I will put on you no other burden. But hold fast what you have till I come. And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations
 - **Revelation 3:10–11 NKJV** - “Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.”

NO CONNECTION = Desolation; Isolation; Frustration... DESTRUCTION!!

- Remember... what is a true **CONNECTION** to Jesus? - “abide”
 - This is the Greek word “**μένω**” or “**menō**” which means to “to remain; stay; reside; to continue, to keep on existing, to still be in existence; to wait for; to keep on..” The word “**menō**” is used 120x in the New Testament

- Are **YOU** connected to the Vine, Jesus Christ? How **strongly** ??
 - Are you “**menō**” in Jesus... “continuing to **remain**, continuing to **stay**; continuing to **wait** for; continuing to **keep on**...” ??
 - **Colossians 2:6–7 NLT** - “And now, **just as you accepted Christ Jesus** as your Lord, **you must continue** to follow Him. **Let your roots grow down into Him**, and let **your lives be built on Him**. Then **your faith will grow strong in the truth** you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”
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 - **2 Peter 1:10 NKJV** - “Therefore, brethren, be even more **diligent to make your call and election sure**, for if you do these things **you will never stumble**..”
 - 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..