



FUSION

CHURCH OF MADISON

Sermon Guide for Tribes

August 27, 2023

Message Title: Abide in Christ

Scripture: John 15:1-11

15 "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 does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I 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 be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Points of Consideration:

Living a Purposeful Life for Christ is Not Optional

Living a Fruit Bearing on Mission Life is Not Easy

Abiding in Christ is the Means to and Fruit of a Life on Mission

Discussion Questions:

What does the metaphor of the vine and branches in John 15:1-11 teach us about our relationship with Jesus and spiritual growth? How can we practically apply this concept in our daily lives to experience a deeper connection with Christ and bear fruit that glorifies God?

In John 15:2, Jesus mentions the pruning of branches that do bear fruit. How does this concept of pruning apply to our lives as believers? What are some potential "pruning" experiences or challenges we might face, and how can we view them as opportunities for growth rather than setbacks?

Jesus emphasizes the importance of abiding in Him to bear fruit in John 15:4-5. What are some common distractions or obstacles that can hinder our ability to remain connected to Christ? How can we create an environment that fosters spiritual intimacy and helps us stay deeply rooted in Him, even amidst the busyness and pressures of life?

Begin your time of discussion today by praying earnestly over the Sunday morning service!

You Turn Ministries

- Soccer league outreach
- Pray for nine pastor training schools, and over 200 students
- Pray for the over 80 orphans that You Turn currently supports

Church Plants!

- Hispanic Church Plant

- Be in prayer for Pastor Roberto and his family and for God to open doors amongst the Hispanic community in Morgan County.
- Pray for consistency from new families visiting the Bible study.

- Walton County Church Plant

Church of Good Hope - Partnerships (Update from Craig Story - ChurchOfGoodHopeGA@gmail.com)

PRAYER PARTNERS (one-year commitment)

- **Col 1:9 - For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you...**
- **Prayer is our most important partnership. If we could have a hundred churches partner with us in prayer, we would still seek even more.**
- **Each month, you will receive the Top 3 Prayer Requests from the Church of Good Hope. They will be as specific as we can make them.**
- **We would simply ask that your staff and leadership pray for those requests AND pass those requests along to your congregation.**

CONNECTION PARTNERS (one-year commitment)

- **Luke 10:6 - "If a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on him" ... Acts 16:15 - After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house."**
- **Good Hope is a small community and the Gospel will spread faster through existing connections.**

- Twice a month, community groups will meet at houses in the Good Hope area.
- We would ask that you identify families from your church that live in Good Hope to open their home as community group hosts for their neighbors and people connected to the Church of Good Hope.

LAUNCH PARTNERS (6-month commitment)

- 1 Thes 2:8 - We cared so much for you that we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become so dear to us.
- There are many details that go into launching a church from scratch (like providing safe child care by trained workers with background checks).
- We will have preview services at 6:00pm on July 30, Aug 13, Aug 27, and Sep 10. Our Public Launch Service is on Sep 17, and then we'll meet weekly.
- We would ask that you provide childcare (and possibly other logistical needs) for our Sunday evening services until we can establish our own ministry teams by the end of January.

FINANCIAL PARTNERS (6-mo. commitment + 6-mo.)

- 1 Cor 16:2 - On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he is prospering...
- The Church of Good Hope will join God in his plan to transform lives with the Gospel. We will do this by developing disciples who are equipped to share the Good News of Jesus and demonstrate the life He calls us to live in our homes, communities, and throughout the world.
- As we develop disciples, we will teach stewardship.
- However, until they are developed, you can partner with us at \$500/month starting in July 2023.

Life Community Church, Weymouth, MA

- Visit the link below for a ministry partner update from Noah Madden and Life Community!

<https://youtu.be/8Gah-cMg-z8>

- A permanent church building to own.
- "Dots on the Map" for future plants
- Continued relationship with Seach Elementary School in Weymouth, MA - Next steps for families who connected with LCC at the Fall Fun Fest
- Office Space for staff

- Follow the link below for the most recent LLC newsletter!

<https://youtu.be/8Gah-cMg-z8>

FCA

- Update from Lake Oconee FCA:

We were able to hire Cameron Griffin as a full-time area rep for Putnam & Taliaferro Counties. Please pray for him and he works to get fully funded and begins his ministry.

Please pray as we shift into Camp Season. I'll be serving at Captains Camp at Reinhardt University. Traci will be serving at Leadership Camp in St Simons. We will also be attending/serving at Softball Camp in Columbus, at Football Camp at Reinhardt, and Family Camp at Epworth By the Sea. We also have wrestlers from Morgan attending camp at Emmanuel College & the boys basketball team at Putnam Co attending FCA Camp at Johnson University in Knoxville, TN.

- FCA Leadership Camp in St. Simons hosted over 1,000 students, coaches, FCA staff, and family members on one campus! Among these, 36 participants were sent from our area. Please pray over continued fruit from this camp as all who attended are sent out back into their communities.

We can't thank God enough for all that He has done and will continue to do through our ministry. If you'd like to get plugged in, please reach out.

Timothy Initiative

Update on Turkana region in Kenya:

“This is the situation in Turkana region Kenya. Have your family and the church pray, remember Turkana church. People are facing a tough time because of drought which has existed for a long period. People are lacking food and clean water. Diseases like malaria, typhoid, and tuberculosis are affecting people. We lost eight people because they lack food to eat.” – from Pastor Eloilo

- The East African team has been praying fervently for their field leaders and their families; many of them are experiencing significant health issues and are in need of prayer for both healing and financial provision.

- Pray specifically for Pastor Simon Eloilo, a key leader in the Turkana mission work. Pastor Simon's wife and daughters have been battling health problems for over 3 months now. His wife, Oriba Kemunto, is currently in need of a third eye surgery, but the family lacks funds and is praying for God to provide a way for them.

- For both the staff and field leaders, prayer has been requested for grace and motivation to continue in service.

- Pray for these pastors as they minister in often desolate, impoverished places with limited resources and cultural opposition.

- The cost of planting a church through TTI is \$400; consider how your tribe may impact believers across the globe by planting a church through TTI!

Nursing Home Ministry

- Daniel and Karrah Howell have recently spearheaded an effort to bless our local nursing home community. Specifically, we as a church are collecting items for which residents regularly ask. Below is a list that designates which items each tribe is collecting, and we would greatly appreciate your help!

Young Adult Tribe-little Knick-knacks, Yarn

Young Married Tribe-Adult coloring books, Cotton balls

Married & Singles Tribe-Nail polish remover, Men's aftershave.

Married(no childcare) Tribe-Devotional Books

Empty Nesters Tribe-Body Spray/Perfume

6th-12th grade Boys Tribe-Can soda/store brand(orange, grape, ginger ale) 6th-12th grade Girls

Tribe-Little Debbie snacks/crackers/cookies

Married w/kids(McBay)- Bodywash, Emery boards, Deodorant, Bangle bracelets

Encore Senior Adults-gloves, stocking caps

Married Tribe (Broach)- Turbans, Bandanas, scarves

Please see Daniel or Karrah if you have any questions.