

# ABIDE 2026

John 15/Psalm 1

## JOHN 15:1-10

**THERE ARE FALSE VINES**, things we connect to for purpose, meaning, wisdom, & joy, **AI & STUFF**

Harvard University has been doing a continuous study of human health and happiness since 1938. Above anything else... the number one contributor to physical and mental health in your second half of life is not exercise or is not diet; it is the quality of your relationships when you are in your 50's-80's

### **ENTER - AI**

- 71% of teens use AI  
31% of them prefer it over a real conversation
- Scott Galloway: 40% of people in their 20's have never approached a woman
- In 2025 & 2026 the number one use of AI has been companionship & therapy.
- HOW TO MAKE SOUP, FIX A CAR, SOLVE A PROBLEM – we used to call friends & family.

**I AM THE TRUE VINE; THERE ARE FALSE VINES**

## Information, Inspiration, or Transformation

### **God the Father: Watering buckets and pruning shears**

- Cuts out what is dead
- Cuts off what is not needed – green & growing branches that have to go.
- What things in our lives are not bad, but need to make room for what's best?

**The entire thrust of Jesus' words – are to ABIDE** (10 verses, 10x abide)

### **ABIDE: Meno**

**ABIDE: To remain, not to depart, continually present, not to become another or different.** (When a young man leaves his girlfriend's house, and they call and talk on the way home. To get up and go with God, not leave Him at the Devo table.)

### **IN CHRIST (4-5)**

There's no other foundation, no other immovable, immutable truth.

### **IN HIS WORD (7)**

Fruitful requests/prayers are not rooted so much in the praying but in the relationship with God before the praying.

(Stranger vs. family asking for stuff) Caller selling me stuff vs. family asking.

### **IN HIS LOVE (9-10)**

*As the Father* loved Me... THAT IS A LOT AND UNENDING ETERNAL LOVE

ABIDE IN MY LOVE

HOW???

Great question, it's answered in the next verse

Be like Jesus and fulfil the will of God on your life. (10)

If you love Me you will obey Me

***A kid who trusts the love of his parents*** stops when the parent yells stop, not questions why and then steps into the street and get's hit by a car.

### **THE WHOLE POINT – (11 – Joy FULL)**

It's one thing to act joyful, it's another thing to experience joy.

*The health and quality of the fruit is determined by the health and quality of the root.*

Psalm 1 describes someone whose life is ROOTED and ABIDING in God

### **READ PSALM 1:3**

**TREE – strong, steady, and stable**

**Planted by the rivers (plural) of water... constant ABIDING flow.**

Far from the banks, withered, dry, and dead,  
Along the creek was a stream of aspens

### **Treasure Valley filled and drained by settlers**

Carve out the canals where the life of Christ is flowing to and through you.

1863 Pioneer Canal between Star & Middleton

**Fruitful when it is supposed to be (Will you wait for the season)**

The first thing a tree does when it's in drought and survival mode is fail to bear fruit when it is supposed to. If Satan can get you to disconnect – *survive not thrive* – the ministry of the Holy Spirit to you and through you will dry up. –  
**SO OFTEN, WHY OUR LIVES LOSE POWER, WE LOSE OUR ABIDING.**

### **ENDURANCE or STEADFASTNESS (Tortoise & Hare) (0.2 mph – 5 hours = 1 mile)**

Leaves shall not wither... IF YOU SEE SOMEONE AND IT LOOKS LIKE WHATEVER THEY DO IS BLESSED... LOOK CLOSELY; I bet you see someone who is PLANTED/ABIDING in the presence of God.

### **THE HEALTH OF THE ROOT & FRUIT**

**Bad root, bad fruit... the spiritual root system MUST be healthy**

- Trees are expected to produce fruit... we are made to contribute and not for ourselves.
- Fruit is seen and experienced; roots and systems are unseen, hidden, but important.

*Well... how do we find ourselves being planted like this tree that does not wither but rather is steadfast, productive, and vibrantly alive?!*

**Psalm 1:1-2** Lifestyle and allowance... what we tolerate is what we will become?

First, what he does not do... There is a refusal to walk the broad path.  
He avoids and steers clear.

**Ponder the path of your feet...** He does not aimlessly wander through life but has his feet pointed in a particular direction. Looking where you want to go moves the horse where you want it to go.

- ***Not your past*** (thought certainly true) but present and pressing into the future
- **He does not lose momentum** – walk, stand, sit

**Walk = motion & direction**

Ungodly – that which is not godly

**Stand – rest/consider** like window shopping (pause on media) Let thoughts linger.  
IN THE PATH of **sinner**s (Those who are missing the mark of what God has/is pleased with) - Standing in a crowd of protestors not even knowing what you are protesting.

**Sit to join in with** – Inevitably, if you don't keep walking with the Lord, you will end up sitting at the table with those who don't either. (OH HOW HAPPY)

**SCORNFUL:** Make mouths at.. talk arrogantly, boast, mock, inflated

Those who live and talk as if there is no God and no looming judgment of the ungodly

## THE SHIFT

### Delight yourself in the law of the LORD

Watch with anticipation – the warm sun rises and thaws the frost

*Meditate day and night.*

Behold, when I arise, You are with me.

### LAW - Is the whole of the word

Law was not limited to the 10 commandments but all the books they had (Of Moses).

Some treat God like He lives on a tropical island, and you love to go visit but you do not live with. The Lord is not a destination you visit, nor is He a season you celebrate,

### Delight – planted

Meditate day and night – watered (WWJD)

*It doesn't matter if it's hard, it's right.*

Honor the Lord – things are hard?

Honor the Lord – things are confusing

Honor the Lord – things are boring and repetitive

Honor the Lord – things are glorious and prosperous (you have not reached a pinnacle of superiority where fearing God is now optional. – you don't mature your way out of fearing the Lord.) Compromise can become more probable the older you get, not less. – We excuse ourselves with self-righteous perspectives that sound a lot more like what you would hear if you were sitting at a table with those who do not know the Lord – seat of the scornful.

Arrogant toward them or empathetic toward/about them.

### Psalm 1:4-6

**(4) It's all good until it's not**

### Coffee Bean Chaff

**(5-6) No disguises** – the Lord will separate the sheep from the goats

FOR THE LORD KNOWS THE WAY

There is an eternal perspective that we are to keep in view.

### PERISH: die, vanish, be lost,

The WAY shall perish – the path runs out... fades out... disappears into

The final segment (4-6) moves our focus from the man in the Psalm and his life's journey to the One overseeing the journey itself.

**BLESSED: Oh how happy...** Oh the happiness of the man...

**REAL HAPPINESS COMES FROM THE REAL VINE (TRUE FROM TRUE)**

Not wealth, health, not situation or status, but connectedness to the LORD