

Abide (Series Graphic)**Abide Submissive to the Vinedresser
John 15:1-8****Key Components of Jesus' Teaching on the Vine:**

- **The Vine: Jesus**
- **The Vineyard: The World We Live In**
- **The Vinedresser: God the Father**
- **The Branches: Disciples of Jesus (Us)**
- **The Fruit: The Life of Jesus Lived Through His Disciples**

Series Main Idea: The Key to a Truly Fruitful Life is Abiding in Jesus Everyday

“Abiding is all about the most important friendship of your life. Abiding doesn't measure how much you know about your faith or your Bible. In abiding, you seek, long for, thirst for, wait for, see, know, love, hear, and respond to...a person. More abiding means more of God in your life, more of Him in your activities, thoughts, and desires.” **Bruce Wilkinson**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 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. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. 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. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.” **John 15:1-8**

Main Idea: Abiding In the Vine Involves the Difficult Work of the Vinedresser

- I. The Vinedresser Disciplines** *“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, & burned.”* **John 15:6**

“For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which you all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.” **Hebrews 12:6-8**

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- II. The Vinedresser Prunes** *“And every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”* **John 15:2b**

Question: Are you praying for God's abundant blessings of being made more like Christ? **Answer:** If yes, then you are asking for his pruning shears to be used on you.

“It may be fair to say that God is never closer to us than He is during the pruning process.” **Beth Moore**

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- III. The Vinedresser Sustains** *“My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away...”* **John 15:1b-2a**

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” **Genesis 3:1**

“For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’” **1 Corinthians 1:18-19**

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“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” **Philippians 1:6**

Sources & Further Reading Opportunities

- *Chasing Vines* – Beth Moore (2020)
- *Abiding in Christ* – Andrew Murray (1895)
- *Secrets of the Vine* – Bruce Wilkinson (2001)
- *Lessons from the Vineyard* – Vance Pitman (2014)
- *New American Commentary: John 12-21* – G.L. Borchert (2002)
- *Lexham Context Commentary: New Testament* – Douglas Mangum (2020)
- *Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *CSB Study Bible* – Trevin Wax (2017)
- *Tony Evans Book of Illustrations* – Tony Evans (2009)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* – A.T. Robertson (1933)