

DAY 4 KODI SELLS



Hey Victory church and victorious people! Welcome to day 4 of our Unto the Lord fast. I'm once again here and extremely honored to be with you during this beautiful and special time of honoring our King. Since we're right in the middle of our week I do know this can be a very stretching and trying time during your fast. However, I want to tell you, "Do not be weary"! The Lord is the beginning and the end, and He's right there in the midst with us. Keep surrounding yourselves with His presence and posturing yourselves in worship before Him! He is ALL you need. Just say that with me, "He is ALL I need"! Before we dive in, I just want to pray that you continue to have mighty and special encounters with the Lord throughout the rest of your day today.

John 15:1-8 NKJV

¹"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."

In this passage let's focus on the first few words, "I am the true vine." When Jesus speaks the words "I AM" it echos Gods words like in the days of Moses before the burning bush saying, I AM WHO I AM - Exodus 3:14.

This establishes the very foundations and roots of who Jesus is. He is directly that of His Father. Jesus goes further to say that He is the “true vine.” We know in the natural that vines are there to be a source of life, a transport system of nutrition, and the in-between from the roots to the branches. Without the vine being established the branches and leaves of the plant would never be able to survive, let alone grow at all. In verse 5 it reiterates this very same thing, that without Jesus we can do absolutely nothing! Jesus is our life source and the source of all life. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice and became the intermediary giving direct access to our Father.

The goal is not only for us to be able to bear fruit but for us to bear much fruit. Please don't miss this! I believe the fruit here that Jesus is speaking of is the final end-product of all that has been consumed through the root systems of our very lives. It's actually really very simple. Let me break it down. Pure trees produce pure fruit. Polluted trees produce bad fruit. Without allowing Jesus to abide within us we cannot bear pure fruit. It's just impossible. This is also like it says Hebrews 11:6 NKJV “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

I'm going to jump back to John 15:4 where it says, “Abide in me, and I in you.” The word abide in the Webster's dictionary is broken down into several action words. Those words are to bear, to endure, to wait, to accept, to remain, to conform, and to continue. As we continue to walk out our faith journey I believe that these actions words are all important facets of how we express our love unto the Lord. When we become a living sanctuary and accept Christ into our hearts as our personal Lord and Savior, He echoes these same traits through us right back unto our Father. Much like a canyon or large concert hall that echoes the sound back at you after you shout or say something.

In John 17:23 NKJV it says, "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." This is Jesus' prayer for us on our behalf. We are created to be keepers of the very presence of the Lord. This is so fascinating to me!! Our God knows the end from the beginning, and vice versa. So, think about this, that from the very foundations of the earth and the Genesis creation of man, God had fashioned our very core to be keepers of His presence. Wow, just wow!!

I want to leave a few things with you today to declare over yourself the rest of this week and allow the Lord to keep abiding in you and you in Him. Repeat or declare them out loud with me:

- I will bear only the things of the Lord
- I will endure what the Lord wants me to
- I will wait upon the Lord
- I will accept everything the Lord says
- I will remain in the Lord all my days
- I will conform my ways to match His ways
- I will continue to walk forward in His abiding presence

Victory, thank you for taking a moment to listen and be here with me today. I pray that you have an amazing week and continue to be pruned and bear much pure fruit. I look forward to being together and worshipping with you this next weekend. Blessings!