

It's a growing process

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"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

John 15: 5-8 9 (NIV)

Remaining or Abiding = Fruitfulness

Not abiding = Withering

We are the branches. Jesus is the vine.

We are not going to be fruitful without that connection, that relationship, that remaining in Him.

What measurements do we use to determine our growth in Him?

The world around us appears to weigh our growth on how successful we are, how busy we are, how much money we have, or what we own.

Jesus is telling us that our growth is a matter of God and our relationship with Him. Jesus is the vine that is rooted in God. Jesus knows each of us so completely and intimately. Everything we are and can become is based on our decision to abide (or remain) in Jesus the vine.

How do we abide or remain in Him in a digital world and the many things that are grabbing our attention each day?

Everything is on-demand and everything demands our attention - an ever-abiding presence in our lives!

Our work pressures are real, we work long hours with demanding deadlines.

Our relationship with Jesus, should be the place where our pressures gets released. He does not put demands on us, He is calling us into a relationship with Him of love and peace.

In the many challenges that we face, there are opportunities for us to let go and allow God to use those challenges to draw us closer in relationship with God. As difficult as many of the situations we find ourselves in, it becomes the intimate connection with Jesus, our vine.

When we are connected to Him, our fruit will reflect Him!

We have to put our faith and trust in God with everything we do and anything we can not do, and let God take care of the rest. It is a learning process.

It is a growing process!