

Message: Abide in me

Text: John 15 verse 5

Bible Passage: Luke 15 verses 11- end

The present day believers have the following opinions about the church and God

- Some are saying I don't need God again , I have all I wanted
- To some, it's all about I don't need the church, it's a social gathering
- Some are saying I need no one, I need no pastor or evangelist or preacher to tell me about the God
- While some are saying, the church is boring, the Bible is a novel
- Some are of the opinion of " I'm ok, I have no problem, why must I or should I read the Bible
- To some it's all about I know it better than others even the pastor
- To some it's all about, the pastors are not on fire or the Church is not hot enough for my standard
- While some are saying God sees their heart and not until when they go to Church or read the Bible before they connect with God.

The simple truth about the above statements is that the present day believers are yet to encounter God, know who God is and how to serve God. Who then is God? In a nut shell, we shall be looking at God from the Book of Isaiah 9 verse 6

- God is wonderful
- Counsellor
- God is nothing but the Mighty God
- God is the everlasting Father
- God is the prince of peace
- God is the supplier of needs
- God is the creator of heaven and the earth
- God is the Vine

In John 15 verse 5, the Bible says I'm the Vine, ye are the branches, he that abideth in me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

The text is straight forward and self-explanatory, but I will explain to you, so that you don't get confused. What the Bible is saying is that Jesus our Lord is the stem, rooted in the soil that supports the branches, and that the branches cannot survive or bear fruits without the stem. The Vine gives stability,

Get all that are needed for the branches to bear fruits

Protects the branches

Makes the branches to bear fruits

In Genesis 1 verse 28, The Lord blessed man after creation, the blessings were to remain as long as man remained faithful and abide in the Garden of Eden.

Your achievement

- Desired victory
- Celebration
- Laughter
- Uplifting
- Steady and peaceful home
- Peace of mind
- Helpers locating you
- Being favoured
- Ability to mount up wings like the eagle

- Ability to overcome sickness
- Ability to recover

All lies in you abiding within the vine. What then do we mean by to abide within the vine

- To remain as one body
- Joined together
- To be inside
- To be the same
- Belong to

Failure to abide

In Luke 15 verses 11- 32, explained how the other son cut himself off from the vine and ended in poverty. Many Christians have wandered away from the source and are now in serious problems. Many have lost all that they had before, some their marriage, some their jobs, some their health etc.

Failure to abide is an invitation to dryness

- Sudden loss
- Suffering
- Lack
- Non fruitful life
- Failure in everything
- Depression
- Sickness
- Worry
- Unexplainable hardship
- Untimely death
- Anxiety
- Isolation
- Emptiness
- Satanic attack
- Pain
- Hatred
- Exposure to the enemies

What can make a man not to abide?

- Little achievement
- Recognition
- Possessions
- Spiritual gifts
- Fame
- Crowd
- Career
- Money
- Social status
- Cars
- Education

Process leading to Isolation

Not abiding is a gradual process and start from thoughts and actions like the followings:-

- Pastor don't understand the nature of my job
- I'm too busy and tire to attend church service
- People around me are not in my social class
- I'm the most educated among them

- The pastors don't speak good English
- Coming to church without the Bible
- Not been faithful with your service, offering and tithes
- Be in church late and not concentrating
- Rebelling against the word of God

How to abide?

This is where so many are missing it, some are thinking going to church alone is abiding, while to some doing good is abiding. To abide is more than these

- Give your life to Christ and live daily by God's directions
- Through meditations on the word of God
- Attending Bible study classes
- Through prayers
- Observing Personal and quiet time
- Seeking the face of God
- Through praise and worship
- Following God's command
- Through offerings and sacrifice

Prayer

1. Father Lord I thank you for this teaching and for opening my understanding in the name of Jesus
2. Oh God arise and deliver me from the lies I'm always telling myself about the church in the name of Jesus
3. Anything inside of me that will take me away from God I command you in the name of Jesus to come out and die in the name of Jesus
4. Enemies that hates my salvation die in the name of Jesus
5. Enemies that hates seeing me in the light die in the name of Jesus
6. Powers of darkness planning to cut me off from the vine die in the name of Jesus
7. Oh God arise and make my branch a fruitful one in the name of Jesus
8. Pride and self-justification shall not cut me off from God in the name of Jesus
9. My branch shall not wither from the vine in the name of Jesus
10. I shall remain and abide with Jesus forever in the name of Jesus
11. The axe of the enemy shall not fall upon my branch in the name of Jesus
12. Lord Jesus buy me back from the land of waste in the name of Jesus
13. As the prodigal son returned back home, I shall return back to God with my family in the name of Jesus
14. My branches shall be fruitful from generation to generation in the name of Jesus
15. Those planning for my obituary shall die suddenly in the name of Jesus
16. Those plotting to destroy my fruits shall encounter the wrath of the Almighty God in the name of Jesus
17. Those toiling with my destiny with witchcraft I summon you to the court of God in the name of Jesus
18. Powers from my father's house saying over their bodies will I bear fruits, so shall it be unto you, die in the order of Haman in the name of Jesus
19. Those throwing stones at my fruits, I fire you with the bullet of the most High God in the name of Jesus
20. Lord I thank you for preserving my branch in the vine and for making me bear abiding fruits in the name of Jesus