

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. 1 John 2:6

He who says he abides in Him

We don't often hear the word abide. Strong's Greek Dictionary defines abide <meno> as: to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy, continue, dwell, endure, remain, stand.

Abide simply means that it's an ongoing condition without intermission or end of complete trust in Him, complete dependence on Him, continual faith in Him, and a continual relationship with Him.

We are to abide in God the Father

Psalm 91:1 "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

1 John 4:15-16 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

1 John 2:27-28 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

John 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

Something to ponder: Do we allow Him to abide in us? It is a choice!

We are to abide in Christ

It's a union between Christ and His people. Without the vital union of Christ that His salvation provides, there cannot be eternal life. Christ is the head of the body.

John 6:56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them.

Col 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Col 2:9-10 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

1 John 3:6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

I love the analogy Jesus used of the vine. For example, the annual growth cycle of grapevines is the process that takes place in the vineyard each year, beginning with bud break in the spring and ending in leaf fall in autumn followed by winter dormancy. Each step in the process plays a vital role in the development of fruit. In order to grow the fruit we need the trunk for support, leaves for protection, flowers/blossoms, the final product is the fruit. If we have all four of the above, we have a healthy vine and a healthy vine will produce healthy and abundant fruit.

When we abide in Christ we have a real and vital connection to our Lord and Savior. We will be connected to the Vine. The Father is the One Who grows and tends this Vine! We remain in the Vine by remaining in the Word of Christ and letting His Word dwell in us. We are attached to Him and connected to the Source of Life. What a gift we have been given! When we abide in Christ we will bring forth fruit that honors Him.

John 15:4-6, 8 “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. “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.” “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.” This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Let’s remember that without Him...we can do NOTHING!

Something to ponder: *Are we growing as a healthy fruit producing vine or are we a non-productive dead vine?*

How has He equipped us to bear fruit for Him? What are some fruit that we will produce by abiding in Him?

Charles Spurgeon wrote: Living near to Jesus, you are covered with the wings of God, and underneath you are the everlasting arms. Let nothing keep you from that hallowed communion that is the unique privilege of a life hidden in Christ. Do not be content with the occasional meeting, but always seek to retain His company, for only in His presence will you find either comfort or safety. Jesus should not be for

us a friend who calls us now and then, but one with whom we are in constant touch. You have a difficult road before you: Make sure, pilgrim, that you do not go without your guide. You have to pass through the fiery furnace; do not enter unless, like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, you have the Son of God to be your companion. You have to storm the walls of your corrupt heart: Do not attempt it until, like Joshua, you have seen the Captain of the Lord's host, with His sword drawn in His hand. When you meet with many temptations, do not rest upon the arm of flesh. In every case, in every condition, you will need Jesus...

Something to ponder: Are we abiding in Jesus?

We are to abide in the Holy Spirit

And this proof we ought to give. For whereas our Lord Jesus Christ was not only our Lawgiver, but our pattern, and practiced himself what he commanded us; if indeed we have an abiding, real union with him, we partake of his Spirit. *Matthew Poole's Commentary*

The Holy Spirit is our helper for those who want results in their Christian walk. When we abide in the Spirit we think and act differently than the world. We live a life of obedience. We desperately need the Holy Spirit along side us at all times!

Acts 5:32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.

Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

John 14:17 The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

1 John 4:13 By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

Keep close to the Captain of your salvation, lean upon His strength, ask Him to refresh you by His Spirit, and you will stand before Him at the end, without spot or blemish and at peace. Seeing you have lived with Him, and lived in Him here, you will abide with Him forever. *Charles Spurgeon*

Something to ponder: Do we listen and obey the prompting of the Holy Spirit? Are we abiding in His Spirit?

Ought himself also to walk just as He walked

What do you think the Scripture means to walk as He walked?

Walk <peripateo>: A continual deliberate movement. Figuratively, to live, deport oneself, follow (as a companion or someone who made a religious vow) go, be occupied with.

We are to walk in step with our Lord and not walk in step with the world. To walk as Christ walked is to live a life pattern after His. We are to live a life of devotion and obedience to our Lord, and live a life of love toward others. Jesus has left us an example that we should follow. It's the only way we can have continual fellowship with Him.

Is walking away from Him an option? Why is that?

***1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.**

Eph 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called.

1 Thess 4:1 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God.

Something to ponder: Are we abounding more and more?

The Lord Christ was an inhabitant of this world and walked here below; here he gave a shining example of absolute obedience to God. Those who profess to be on his side, and to abide with him, must walk with him, walk after his pattern and example...he who professes to abide in and with Christ, aim to resemble his infallible Master and head, and conform to his course and prescriptions: Then are you my friends if you do whatsoever I command you. *Matthew Henry Commentary*

Matt 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

1 Pet 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.

Col 1:10 That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

1 Thess 2:12 That you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

Something to ponder: Are we growing in our knowledge of God?

Jesus is our example to follow. His example requires a heart that desires to please God, a will that is bent toward obedience, and a mind that consistently seeks direction from Him.

A Christian is to walk in:

Newness of life

Rom 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

In honesty

Rom 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day, not in rioting and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

By faith

2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

In good works

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

In love

Eph 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

In wisdom

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.

In truth

2 John 1:4 I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father.

After the commandments of the Lord

2 John 1:6 This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

A Christian is not to walk:

After the flesh

Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Not in craftiness

2 Cor 4:2 But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Not in unproductiveness, ineffectiveness

Eph 4:17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind.

Not disorderly

2 Thess 3:6 But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.

FB Meyer says, "The outer walk is the best evidence to ourselves and others that there is an abiding union between us and Jesus."

Something to ponder –Is our walk consistent with our Lord's example?

We know that we belong to him, and that we are united to him by that Spirit which elevates and assists us to this obedience; and if we acknowledge our relation to him, and our union with him, it must have this continued enforcement upon us: He that saith he abideth in him ought himself to walk even as he walked. *The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*

Let's pray...All-powerful God, help us to abide in You and allow Your loving Word to yield good fruit in our lives. Lord Jesus, we fail you many times. Thank You for Your forgiveness that saves us from eternal death! Lord, may we ask You to hold us through these trying times? You are our only Hope! Holy Spirit, we need You every day and every moment of our lives in order to walk in a manner worthy of Your calling. May we bring honor and glory to You in all that we do. I pray that when people see us, they will know by our demeanor that we are walking in You and with You! Amen