

ABIDING IN CHRIST

(Kaikohe C. F. - 21/8/88 - EKB)
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1. Reading: *Jn 15:1-12,16,17, 1Jn 2:10,14,17.*
2. What does it mean to **abide** in Christ?
 - a. To have an unbroken relationship with the Lord, to have constant fellowship with God. It is a two way union, *Jn 14:20*. We are in Him, He is in us, *1Jn 3:24, 4:13*. It is to **remain in Him and be joined to Him**, *Eph 1:1* - in Christ. *Phil 3:9* - be found in Him.
 - b. To depend on the Lord to supply every need, to constantly receive His Life flowing in. Having Him as our **Source of Supply**. *Phil 4:19, Gen 22:14, Jn 4:14, Jer 2:13*.
 - c. To be at **peace** and **rest** in Him without struggling, fear, worry, *Rom 14:17*.
 - d. To have **His Spirit** in evidence in our life, *1Jn 3:24, 4:13*.

The branch abides in the Vine, without a struggle, and life is flowing into the branch from the Vine all the time.

3. When we come to God through personal faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord, **God puts us into Christ**, *1Cor 1:30*. At the point of water baptism **we are baptised into Christ, and put on Christ**, *Gal 3:27*. God puts us into Christ as a living branch in Him, and **so we are abiding in Christ by God's doing**. God has made each one of us a living branch abiding in Christ as the True Vine, *Jn 15:4,5*. Rest and rejoice in this wonderful truth. **God has made you a branch abiding in Christ.**

4. **Results of abiding in Christ** - increasing fruitfulness.

- a. Bear fruit, more fruit, much fruit, *Jn 15:2,4,5,8*, thirty fold, sixty fold, hundred fold, *Mk 4:20*.

personal anointing	local assembly anointing	whole church anointing
<i>1Sam 16:13</i>	<i>2Sam 2:4</i>	<i>2Sam 5:3</i>

- b. Fruit of the Spirit, *Gal 5:22,23*. 9 fruits plus compassion. This is Jesus's character, nature and love.
- c. Works of Jesus, *Jn 14:12, 1Cor 12:7-11*.
- d. Walk like Jesus, *1Jn 2:6*, be as He was, do as He did, go as He went, say as He spoke.
- e. Answered prayer, *Jn 15:7*.
- f. Walk in the light, *1Jn 2:10*.
- g. Made strong, *1Jn 2:14*.
- h. Never moved, *1Jn 2:17*.
- i. Confidence at the second Coming, *1Jn 2:28*.
- j. Victory over sin, *1Jn 3:6*.

5. **How to maintain your place of abiding in Christ.**

- a. **Obey** His Will, *1Jn 2:17, Jn 15:10, 1Jn 3:24*.
- b. **Love** one another, *Jn 15:10,12,17, 1Jn 4:12,16, 1Jn 2:10*.
- c. **By abiding** in His Word, *Jn 15:7, 1Jn 2:24*, by faith.
- d. **By the fulness of the Spirit and anointing**, *1Jn 4:13, 3:24, 2:27,20,Eph 5:18,19*.

- e. By **confessing Jesus**, *1Jn 4:15* as **Lord, Saviour, God**.
- f. By **daily** times in His **Word and prayer**.
- g. By **practical help** to others, *1Jn 3:16,17*. **Love in action**.
- h. By rejoicing and resting in the truth that **God has already made you a branch that abides in Christ**. (See 3 above.)