

**Identity in Christ: Week 5 - "In Christ" (John 15:1-11)**

**Verse to Remember:** "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me" (John 15:4).

**Notes and Scripture references:**

- This imagery of the vine is used throughout Scripture, often related to Israel (cf. Is 5; 27:26; Ps 80:14-19).
- The term "abide" is used 10 times in John 15:1-11. It is sometimes translated "remain," but here the focus seems to be more on location than duration.

**What does it mean to be in Christ?****1. Being made alive**

- See John 6:53-56; 1 Cor 15:22; Eph 2:13; 1 John 4:15).

**2. Being in his love (John 15:9)**

- Sometimes we just need to sit in his love and know that we are loved and chosen by God.

**3. Being without condemnation**

- Romans 8:1 "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (cf. Phil 3:8-9; 2 Tim 1:9).

**4. Being in his Word (John 15:7)**

- What does it look like to not just read his Word but to abide in his Word?

**5. Christ being in us (John 15:4)**

- He abides in us through the Holy Spirit (1 John 4:13; Eph 1:13-14), which makes us temples (1 Cor 3:16; 6:19-20; 2 Cor 6:16).

**6. Being like him**

- 1 John 2:6 "The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked" (cf. 1 John 2:28; 3:6, 24).

**7. Being pruned/disciplined (John 15:1-2)**

- Abiding in him, means choosing this pruning. It is good for us, otherwise we would have useless and damaging growth instead of fruitfulness.

**8. Being fruitful (John 15:5)**

- We can do nothing apart from Christ (cf. Rom 15:17-18; 2 Cor 2:14).

**9. Being in prayer (John 15:7-8)**

- Abiding in Christ means fruitful prayer because we will be praying according to God's will, and because we've been made righteous (cf. James 5:16).

**10. Being full of joy (John 15:11)**

- Abide in joyfulness and be someone who brings joy because you are in Christ.