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Simply Abide

By L. David Harris, asst. registrar



I am 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. John 15:5

Depending on someone else often brings stress and uneasiness in a world that promotes independence. According to this world's doctrine, we must, in all cases, fend for ourselves. We must motivate ourselves to do well in school, fight to climb the corporate ladder, and become recognized by those around us, all by exerting our independence. After all, nothing will be handed to us on a silver platter. This attitude is one of the reasons people have nervous breakdowns and broken relationships. So many feel the pressure of having to do things on their own, and collapse beneath the load.

Our Lord has given us a way to escape the impossible treadmill of self-reliance and independence. He says, simply abide. If we rest in Him we are connected to the ultimate resource for strength. We are able to look to someone outside of ourselves to support, empower, motivate, and balance us. This person is not a run-of-the-mill person. He is Jesus Christ Himself. The One who was victorious in this flesh, and walked a lonely road, is available to strengthen us.

Branches receive nourishment from the parent stock. The nutrients necessary for the vitality of a branch are carried through the vine. Can you imagine yourself as a branch? What if you were suddenly detached from your water supply? What if you were no longer connected to the source from which your strength flows? Would it be possible to yield fruit? Of course not!

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Simply Abide

Remember... Jesus prayed for you

Outside My Window

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9 December

7:30pm Friday Night Praise

8:30pm Singpiration

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9 10	
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40 events

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Weather in our Nation's Capital



42° F
Cloudy
Wind 6 mph from the West
Humidity 56%

The same is true for us. If we abide in Christ, we have full access to the exhaustless well of all blessings. The psalmist David wrote, "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" (Psalm 1:3). He understood what could happen if, for a moment, we separated ourselves from God. Conversely, he understood that abiding in God is the only way to prosper.

When situations suggest that God has forgotten you, simply abide. When discouragement tempts you to give up, simply abide. When life's journey seems to be an endless road to nowhere, simply abide. When we abide in Christ, never letting go of His hand, we cannot fail. Simply abide.

L. David Harris, CUC's assistant registrar, is the author of "Know Peace Within—A Life in Transition," and a two-volume set titled "Alive at 5—Victory in Retrospect." For more information on these books, visit www.aliveatfive.com or www.knowpeacewithin.com

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