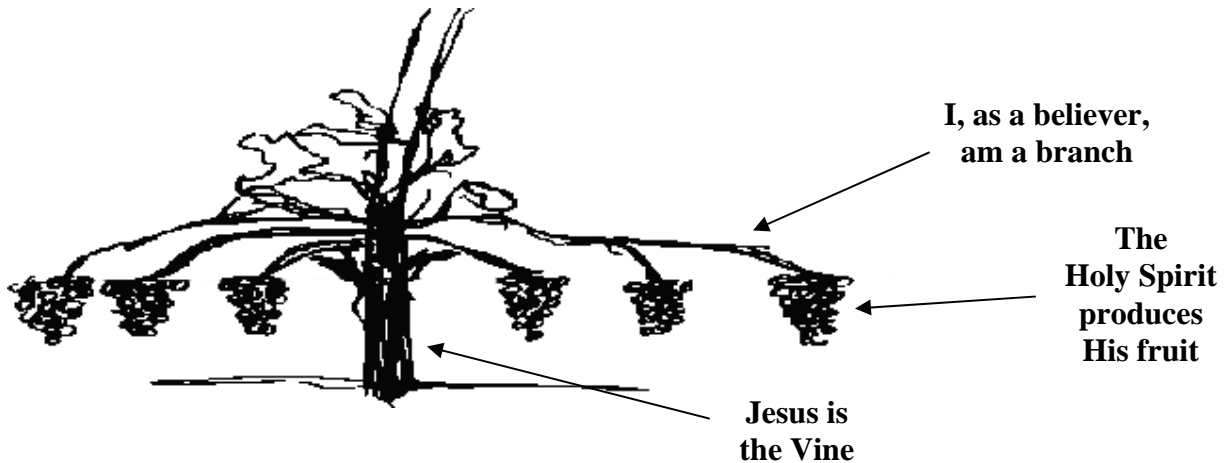


## **VERSES RELATED TO “ABIDING”**

### **1. AS I AM “ABIDING” I AM DEPICTED AS A FRUIT-BEARING BRANCH ON A TREE.**



**John 15:1-6** (Jesus said) “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. “You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. “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. “I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. “If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. (Note: see Lesson 3-10 for a more detailed explanation of John 15)

**:7-11** “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. “Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

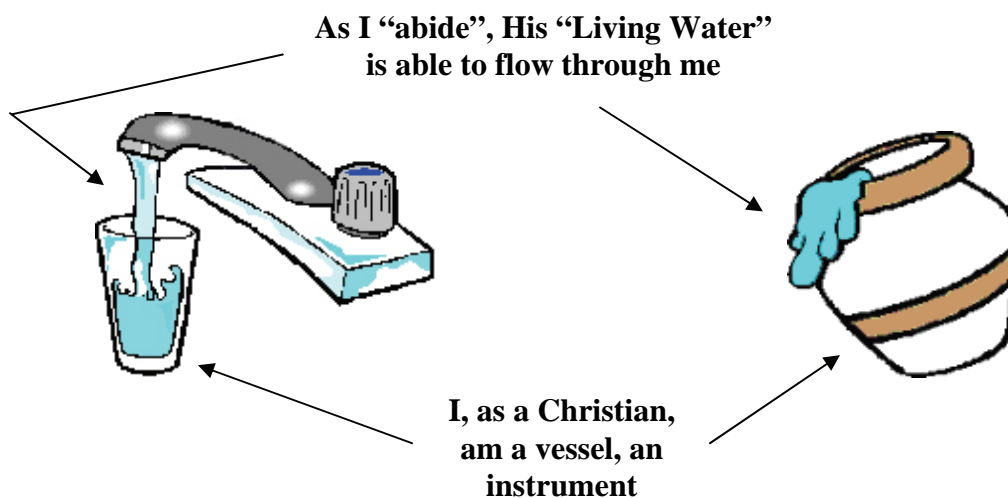
**:12-16** “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. “You are My friends if you do what I command you. “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

**Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

**Does the branch produce the fruit, or is the branch simply a conduit (instrument, vessel) through which the life of the Vine flows?**

## 2. A. AS I AM “ABIDING” I AM DEPICTED AS A VESSEL, AN INSTRUMENT.

Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. (2 Tim. 2:20-21)



A “faucet” with “living” water can be a useful illustration. Although the water pressure is always constant, the “on-off” feature has to be maintained in the “On” position for the water to freely flow. During the time I am not in abiding fellowship with the Holy Spirit the on-off feature is in the “Off” position.

## B. AS I AM “ABIDING”, I ALLOW GOD’S “LIVING WATER” TO FLOW THROUGH ME AS THROUGH A SERVING VESSEL. (SEE ALSO EZEK. 47:1-12)

**Jer. 2:13** “... Me, the fountain of living waters, ... (see also Jer. 17:13)

**John 4:14** (Jesus said) ... *whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.* “

**John 7:37-39** ... *Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’ ” But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

**James 3:8-12** *But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.*

**3. A. AS I AM “ABIDING”, I AM DEPICTED AS A VESSEL THROUGH WHICH GOD’S LIGHT IS ABLE TO SHINE.**



The *electricity* represents **GOD’S LIFE** flowing through me.

The *bulb* represents **ME** as a Christian

The *light* that is given off represents the **Fruit of the Holy Spirit**

As I remain in communion with the Holy Spirit (*connected, light switch “On”*), I am allowing His life (*electricity*) to increasingly flow through me (*bulb*), which He will then use to influence and attract others (*light*).

**Matt 5:14-16** (Jesus said) “You are the **light** of the world. A **city** set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a **lamp** and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives **light** to all who are in the house. “**Let** your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and **glorify your Father** who is in heaven.

**2 Cor 4:6-7** For God, who said, “**Light shall shine out of darkness.**” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give **the Light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this **treasure** in earthen **vessels**, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be **of God** and **not** from ourselves;

**Phil. 2:15** ... children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear **as lights** in the world,

**B. AS I AM “ABIDING”, I AM WALKING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD’S PRESENCE.**



**1 John 1:5-10** ... this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that **God is light**, and in Him there is **no darkness at all**. If we say that we have **fellowship with Him** and yet **walk in the darkness**, we lie and do not practice the truth; but **if we walk in the light** as He Himself is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we **confess** our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

**1 John 2:8-11** ... the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. The one who says he is in the light and **yet hates his brother is in the darkness** until now. The one who loves his brother **abides in the light** and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

**John 8:12** ... Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will **not walk in the darkness**, but will have the **Light of life.**”

**4. GOD HAS DESIGNED THE ON-GOING HEALTHY COMMUNION BETWEEN A CHRISTIAN HUSBAND AND WIFE TO BE A PICTURE OF THE ON-GOING COMMUNION BETWEEN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND A CHRISTIAN. IF I AM IN DOUBT AS TO HOW I SHOULD RELATE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, I CAN ASK MYSELF HOW SHOULD I RELATE TO A SPOUSE (OR TO A CLOSE FRIEND)?**



**Eph. 5:22-33** Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she

would be holy and blameless. So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband. (see also **John 17:11, 21-22**)

**Gen. 2:24** For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

**1 Cor. 6:16-17** ... the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

**Col. 3:18-19** Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

**1 Peter 2:18 – 3:7** Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God. For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; ... In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands ... You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.