



ABIDING

“Abide in me, and I in you.”

John 15:4

Abiding

Note for 20260109 – John 15:4

1. Opening

Welcome to the Devotionals of The House of Bread. In the Word we read that we are to receive the Word of GOD by the Spirit, so I strongly urge you to pray before you receive the Devotional. Let Christ take the lead in your Spiritual Development.

Watch on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/rIA9ZNc47Og>

Introduction

The word "*abide*" is an old word that has fallen into disuse in everyday common language. To keep it short, we can look at synonyms like, "*Dwell, reside, linger, persist*" and "*await*." The word is mostly used in religious and legal cases.

When I am sent to the definition of a word, it usually means that the word is mostly misunderstood or that there is a teaching in the definition itself, which is the case today with, "*abide*."

2. Scripture Text

From the Verse of the Day (YouVersion Bible App)

John 15:4 ESV

"[4] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me."

<https://bible.com/bible/59/jhn.15.4.ESV>

3. Devotional Reflection

But these definitions are of very little use if you do not know who Jesus is. Son of GOD, yes. Saviour of the world, yes. The Messiah/Christ, yes. But most relevant to us today, "*The Word of GOD*." From the latter definition, it does mean to await Christ Jesus, our Saviour, for His

physical return, but also in presence by the Holy Spirit, who Christ said would remind us of all He said and of reveal to us things to come. (John 14:26 and John 16:13)

The statement above is a very good example of this. You see, I know it is written, it abides in me, but to "prove" and validate it to you, I must check the book, chapters and verses so you can verify it. If the Word abides in you, you will not have to validate it, because it remains in you, you know the truth if it. It is accepted based either on verification in the written Word of GOD, or by Spiritual discernment, where you are reminded of the scripture or at least you remember in yourself. The latter can be true of things other than just the Word of GOD. And this is where it becomes slightly concerning. You see, many things reside in us like that, in other words, abide in us, but it is of the carnal mind. This brings a whole new understanding of being washed in the Word of GOD.



John 15:3: "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you."

(Jesus equating His spoken word with cleansing)

Psalms 119:9: "How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word."

Titus 3:5: "...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit."

John 17:17: "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

And there is more, friends, and can even lead to a deeper understanding of baptism itself, that we are cleansed not by the water of submersion, but by submersion in the Word of GOD. The Word of GOD then "Abides" in us, it dwells, remains and occupy our mind.

In [1 Corinthians 2:16](#), Paul writes: *"For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ."*

In [Philippians 2:5](#), he says: *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus..."*

Jesus says in [John 15:7](#), *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you..."*

Are you starting to see the picture? I tried to keep it as brief as possible for you, but of course, you will benefit from investigating it deeper yourselves, so this washing of the carnal mind may continue. Let it replace what you previously held as truth and let it remain in you and forego what this world has installed in you.

Once more, the startling fact that even I am realizing in this moment, is that I had to look for the references to quote to you, but I already had it in me, though I could not give you the reference by book, chapter and verse to begin with, that which was already in me, was confirmed again by this exercise for your benefit.

Christ Jesus is the Word of GOD, so how would you begin to know Him, is it not by the Word of GOD? Abiding in Christ Jesus, is to abide in the Word of GOD, to bring it in and keep it within, and to walk and talk by that which is in you. Now, if there is no Word of GOD in you, you are at a disadvantage in Spiritual matters. Don't you know that Christ resisted Satan by the Word of GOD?

Jesus did not argue with Satan using logic or feelings. He used the *"Sword of the Spirit,"* which is the Word of God ([Ephesians 6:17](#)). He quoted directly from [Deuteronomy 8:3](#):



Jesus' Response: *"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"* (Matthew 4:4)

Ephesians
6:17(ESV):

"and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,"

Do you see the disadvantage, and as I write that, I am reminded also, that if the reader/listener does not have the word of GOD in them, they won't know that this is in reference to the Armour of GOD.



The fruit of the Spirit cannot form in you without the Word of GOD in you, friends, because it is of **Jesus Christ**.

So, all this abiding in Christ is an abiding in the Word of GOD, which speaks to yet another definition of the word "abide" which is used in legal practice, that speaks of submission and upholding the agreement. What is our agreement for salvation, and even the indwelling of GOD the Father and His Son Jesus Christ?

John 14:23 KJV

"[23] Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

<https://bible.com/bible/1/jhn.14.23.KJV>

4. Closing Paragraph

"Abode" to come in and dwell, to linger and remain. To occupy the heart of man. All of this from one little word, "Abide."

Selah, Shalom

5. Optional Reading / Study Expansion

Background Reading:

Take the referenced quotes from the devotional and go do a "deep dive" into the scriptures. When you read it (in) it becomes part of you. Not my words but get it from **the Word of GOD**.

6. Resources

Playlists:

Over the last few months and years, we have compiled a few playlists on SoundCloud. Feel free to explore it, download it and share with friends and family.

Find playlists at: <https://soundcloud.com/houseofbread4u/sets>

NEW: Download Music



We have added the ability for you to download the music you heard in the devotionals. You can listen to the song before hitting the “Download” button to know it is the right song you wanted. For now, at least, these are free downloads, and my hope is that I can keep it free. Enjoy!

Link: <https://music.thehouseofbread.co.za/index.php>

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