

# Silver Creek Fellowship NOTES

April 19

## ABIDING TOGETHER

**Main Point:** You cannot bear healthy fruit in your relationships without a secure, living connection to Christ.

**John 15:1-5 (ESV) I Am the True Vine** 15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 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.

**Abide** is the Greek word *menō* - it means "to stay", "to abide", "to remain", "to dwell", "to take up permanent residence", or "to make yourself at home".

**John 15:6-11 (ESV)** 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 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. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

☑ **What we abide IN is what matters most.**

**Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)** "And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

**Colossians 2:6-7 (AMP)** "Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in [union with] Him [reflecting His character in the things you do and say—living lives that lead others away from sin], having been deeply rooted [in Him] and now being continually built up in Him and [becoming increasingly more] established in your faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing in it with gratitude."

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

**2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (NIV)** "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

1. To **behold** (gazing intently into a mirror)
2. To **reflect** (acting as a mirror)

**Life Point:** What you **gaze** at, you **become**.

**Psalm 27:4 (NIV)** "One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple."

"At the heart of the Christian message is God Himself waiting for His redeemed children to push in to conscious awareness of His presence." — **AW Tozer**

"The time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer, (Think about that for a minute, let that sink in.) and in the noise and clatter of my kitchen, while several persons are calling for different things, I possess God in as great tranquility as if I were upon my knees at the Blessed Sacrament." — **Brother Lawrence**

It is unlikely that we will deepen our relationship with God in a casual or haphazard manner. There will be a need for some intentional commitment and some reorganization in our own lives. But there is nothing that will enrich our lives more than a deeper and clearer perception of God's presence in the routine of daily living. — **William Paulsell**

## THE GREAT RESET: OUR NEW OPERATING SYSTEM

### What Abiding IS NOT.

1. It is NOT passivity.
2. It is NOT anti-strategy.

### What Abiding IS:

1. It IS active dependence.
2. It IS loving from the overflow.
3. It IS a daily practice.