

John 15:1-12

- Prophetic word for 2022
- Progressive Preparation for God's Pure and Mature Church
  - Is 60:1-3 "Arise, shine, for your light has come!..."
- Quick Summary of Ps Ludwig's message
  - Great Contrast eg Light vs Darkness Dan12:10, Prov 4:18
  - Great Restoration. God's Redemptive Plan via His Covenants culminating in New Covenant
  - Great Mountain of God. The LORD also will roar from Zion. The Greater Glory of God



### God's Purpose is both Progressive and Interdependent

- Our fellowship with God is essential
- Our character development <u>required for dominion</u>
- Fruitfulness follows when God's <u>order is fully restored</u>

### Fellowship with God

- Abide in Christ is fellowship with God Incarnate John 1:1,14
- V1 "....the Word was God"
- V14"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...."





Pictured in a parable: John 15:1 – 12

V1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

V2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

V3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you."



#### The Obvious Truth:

V4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

V5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.



#### The Warning:

V6 If anyone <u>does not</u> abide in Me, he is <u>cast out</u> as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

#### The Blessing

V7 If you abide in Me, <u>and</u> My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

V8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.



V9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

V10 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.

V11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

V12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 15:1-12 NKJV





#### "Come unto me" Matt 11:28

- Each believer has heard and responded to the Saviour's invitation
- Our initial faith has been richly rewarded and we seek and desire more
- Over time, life's duties and demands on us cause the fire and gloss to wane and fade
- Our love for Jesus instead of deepening is now weak and feeble
- There's still occasional asking and seeking yet,....
- You wonder how could such a Saviour, mighty and loving, seems unable to keep and fulfill our deep hunger and desire

#### • WHY???



#### "Come unto me" Matt 11:28

- The answer is very simple: You wandered from Him
- The blessings experienced connected with His "Come unto Me" call is
- in close fellowship with Himself
- The call "Come unto Me" meant "Come unto Me and stay with Me"!
- Jesus did not call you, refresh you for a short period to enjoy His fellowship
- then let you wander in sin and sadness
- In truth, He has and want an Abiding Dwelling Presence with each believer
- Rev 3:20 "...I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me"





#### "Abide in Me" John 15:4

- It was this progressive fellowship He meant when He called "Come unto Me"
- Now He adds "Abide in Me" for <u>closeness</u> of fellowship, the <u>oneness of union</u> with Him
- There is greater blessing to every believer who takes the plunge to "Abide in Christ"
- You did well to come, you do better to abide. Why come to the Kings Palace and stay at the door? No, <u>You enter into</u> the fullness of the inheritance <u>and abide</u>!



### Reasons many believers come to Jesus but still miss out

- Not <u>fully understanding meaning</u> of His call "Come unto Me" is to stay"
- Not realizing that abiding fellowship is possible and within their reach
- Not <u>finding the secret</u> to abiding fellowship.
- Unfaithful or unwilling to give up everything to abide in Jesus

### Our Redeemer loving call to us is "Abide in Me" John 15:4

- By His Grace, its Yes and Amen
- By His Holy Spirit, its possible Zech 4:6 "...by My Spirit, says the LORD of Hosts"



- What is the secret to Abiding in Christ?
- Abide in Christ requires <u>TIME for Jesus</u>
  - Not enough to read God's Word or meditations
  - Requires day by day time with Jesus and with God
  - Each day time is needed for meals, eg workers take proper break for meals
  - If we are to live through Jesus, we need time to feed on Jesus
  - John 6:57 "....he who feeds on Me will live because of Me"
  - We are to feed on the heavenly food
    Father God has given us in His Life
  - Connect to Jesus and let Him take hold and draw you safely into Almighty Life



- Secret to Abiding in Christ (cont'd)
- Abide in Christ requires Continuous PRACTICE
  - Continuous fixing mind for some time on lesson learned or revelation received
  - Translate into <u>frequent practice</u>
  - The key to practice is REPETITION
  - Much like how a young child learn its lesson keep at it!
  - So let's practice



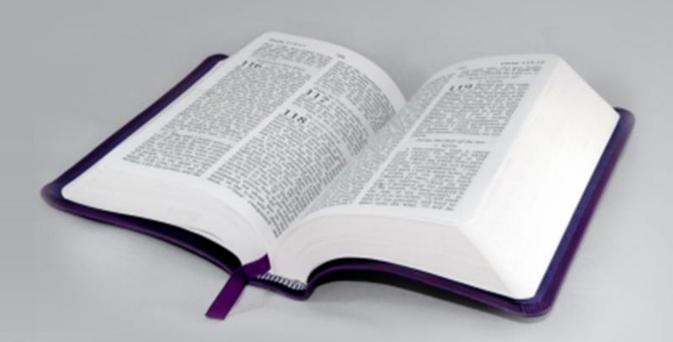
- Practising Abiding in Christ
- John 15:4-5, John 6:63 (Spirit & Life) and 2 Cor 4:13 (Speak)
  - Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing
  - Picture in mind: Jesus as the vine, and me as the branch
  - Repeat verbally: Jesus, you are the vine, I am the branch. Without You, I can do nothing. Let life flow from You to me to bear
    - Fruit (fill in the blank) eg love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, self-control, ...etc



- Summary
- Come to Jesus and Abide in Him
- Secret to Abiding in Christ?
- Abide in Christ requires <u>TIME</u> for Jesus
- Abide in Christ requires Continuous PRACTICE







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