

## **BECOMING LIKE JESUS**

Chris Calvert, Executive Pastor June 14, 2015

John 15:1-17

## Key # 1: "Abide" in Christ (Vs. 1-8)

I am the vine and you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (vs. 5)

We "abide" through:

- Putting our faith in Jesus Christ (vs. 1)
- Embracing <u>trials</u> as opportunities to <u>grow</u> (vs. 2)
- Getting God's Word into us through reading and prayer
  (vs. 3-4)

Principle: Becoming like Jesus happens <u>naturally</u> when we're <u>continually connected</u> to Jesus.

## Key #2: "Abound" in Christ's Love (Vs. 9-17)

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. (vs. 9)

We "abound" through:

- Following God's <u>command</u> to <u>love each other</u> in practical ways (vs. 9-12)
- Serving others when it is not <u>easy</u> or <u>convenient</u> (vs. 13-14)
- <u>Learning</u> and <u>passing-on</u> God's truth (15-16)

Principle: Becoming like Jesus happens <u>naturally</u> when we <u>love people</u> like Jesus.

Key #3: <u>Blend</u> "Abide" and "Abound" together more and more in your daily life.

## **Next Steps**

- This week, I commit to daily spend 7 minutes in Bible reading and prayer.
- This week I will do at least one sacrificial act of kindness for someone I love.
- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- o I am re-committing to follow Jesus today.



Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on summer break**. We will continue to provide questions in abbreviated form each week for personal study and/or discussion for LifeGroups choosing to meet during a portion of the break.

**Lesson Aim:** To grow in our desire to become more like Jesus Christ.

1. **READ John 15:1-17.** If vine branches were human lives, what pain would be associated with pruning? What tools? What fruit?

2. Jesus repeats the phrases "remain in Me", "love" and "bear fruit." How are these words related?

3. What is the link between obedience and prayer (see verses 7 and 16)?

4. As a branch on Christ's vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life?

5. Do you feel more like Jesus' servant or friend? What helps develop the friendship?

**Daily Devotional Plan** – Take a closer look at the life of Jesus as we learn what it means to follow Him.

Day 1 – John 6

Day 2 – John 7

Day 3 – John 8

Day 4 – John 9

Day 5 – John 10

Day 6 – John 11

Day 7 – John 12