SERMON HANDOUT for January 5, 2025



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

God is Not As interested in Your "Amens" As He is in YOUR ACTIONS!

State of Ecclesia Address **ABIDE IN 2025** John 15:1-11 NKJV Dr. Joshua Beckley, Sr. Pastor

State of Ecclesia Address "ABIDE IN 2025" (Vision, Mission, Core Values & DNA)

OUR VISION

To Create Authentic Christians

By Fulfilling the Great Commission

By Abiding in the Word

By Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit

OUR MISSION

"Picking Up The Broken Pieces In The Lives Of People"

By Evangelizing the Lost By Discipling the Saved

CORE VALUES (5 C's)

- Character (God's)
- Competency (Spiritual Gifts)
- Chemistry (Like Each Other)
- Calling (Lifestyle)
- *Commitment (Obedience)*

OUR DNA: CONNECT - HUGG - SERVE

Abide in our Engagement! We need to make engaging heaven, home, and hell a part of our lifestyle. We need to Abide in it!!!

AS WE ABIDE WE NEED TO ...

1) RECOGNIZE THE

- John 15:1-4 NKJV

All of nature depends on hidden resources:

- Great Trees send their roots down into the earth to draw up water and minerals.
- Rivers have their sources in the snow-capped mountains.

Most important part of a tree is the part you cannot see, the root system. Most important part of the Christian's life is the part that only God sees.

Unless we draw upon the deep resources of God by faith, we fail against the pressures of life.

- I AM... (lit. Be)
- True... (lit. *real* or *genuine*)
- Every branch in Me...He takes away... (Grk: *airo*) literally *take up; pick up: lifts up;*
- He prunes... (Greek: *kathairo*) literally make clean or to cleanse
- Abide In Me (v.4)

John 15:4 NKJV (Grk: meno) - literally stay, reside, continue; In our modern vernacular: hang-out!

2) REALIZE OUR _____ - John 15:5-8 NKJV

Warren Wiersbe, book entitled Abide,

The Christian need not have an identity crisis. Jesus tells us who we are and why we are here. We are branches, and he is the Vine. We are here to bear fruit. Once you accept this simple fact, you are on the way to making your life meaningful and useful.

Jesus says...

- † 15:5a Abiding Produces "Fruit" (here: MUCH FRUIT!!!) Fruit = Fruit of the Spirit Gal. 5:22-23
- † 15:5b Without Me you can do Nothing...
- † 15:7a It You ABIDE in Me and WORD ABIDE in You...
- † 15:7b You will ASK what You what You desire... and it shall be done...
- † 15:8 By this My Father is Glorified...Bear MUCH FRUIT...You will be My disciple...

3) RESOLVE TO BE - John 15:9-11 NKJV

If you are growing in holy living, and experiencing victory over temptation, then you are abiding in Christ. The absence of temptation is not a proof of abiding; the presence of temptation and testing is the proof.

Jesus says...

- † 15:9 Abide in My Love...
- † 15:10 Keep My Commandments...
- † 15:11 That Your Joy may be full...