

Abiding in Christ

the key to fruitfulness

Start Here

Who is the best gardener that you know? Why are they so fruitful?
If you were given charge of a garden, what would be the biggest risks to it flourishing?

Discuss

Throughout Scripture, the metaphor of plants and agriculture are used for our spiritual lives. In what ways can this metaphor help us understand the process of growth and fruitfulness as we journey with Christ?

Explore the Word

Towards the end of his journey on earth with his disciples, Jesus used the metaphor of a vine for a fruitful life in him.

Read John 15:1-17 together.

- According to this passage, what is the key to a fruitful life? Why?
- What does it mean to abide?
- How do we actually abide in Christ? What does that look like in daily life?
- What else strikes you in this passage?

Main Idea

“Abide” means “to stay, live in, and continue in.” Abiding is different than visiting. Jesus wanted his disciples to understand that life in him is not a series of events, or religious duties, or a set of beliefs to understand. Rather he called his disciples to a life of continuous intimacy with him where his life and power flows into and through their lives resulting in greater love, joy, peace and other fruit. We take hold of this by practicing staying in, living in and continuing in him and he in us, being connected to him in an ever-present way.

Discuss

One way for us to practice abiding in Christ is to cultivate what we already have. In this Safar journey, we have introduced some key elements to living a fruitful life. To abide in Christ, we must continue the journey in these areas. We do not finish the steps. We practice them and then keep on practising.

Look back at the titles and subjects that we have covered in this journey.

- What has been most helpful to you?
- What have you found easier to continue in?
- What has been more difficult to continue in?
- What keeps you from consistency?
- How can you keep on practising?

Practice Together Now

Looking back at the steps again, what one area do you need to strengthen or cultivate?

[This link](#) gives a summary of all the “Practice Together Now” section of each step. Find the one you want to strengthen and walk through the practice again together now.

Review your Practice Daily

- Use [the link](#) to review the “Practice Together Now” sections. Choose one to practice daily.
- Ask a pastor or another mature believer (someone other than your co-journeyer) how they pursue abiding in Christ.