# JOHN 15:1-8 ABIDING IN CHRIST A THREE-DAY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Welcome!

Some of the most important words Jesus said to His disciples are found in John 15.

As Christian women who desire a closer relationship with Jesus, knowing what He had to say in His final teachings before the cross can help us grow in our spiritual journey.

This guide is designed to help you know, live, and share God's word in personal and practical ways.

I believe Bible study shouldn't be complicated, so take a breath, relax, and enjoy the devotional guide!



PS: I've written a four-part blog series on what it means to abide in Christ. I hope you'll stop by! If any of my words encourage you, please leave a comment or two, and share with your friends. deannamorris.org/blog

DAY	1	
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## What does it mean to abide in Christ?

In the space below, describe your relationship with Jesus as it is right now.
Describe how you would like your relationship with Jesus to be.

The above questions are not always easy to put into words, but they will help you get a general idea of the steps you may want to take in your spiritual growth process.

**READ JOHN 15:1-8** 

#### QUESTION:

Do you feel that reading the Bible is important for your spiritual growth?

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#### ABIDE:

BIBLESTUDYTOOLS.COM to remain, not to depart, to continue to be present, to wait for

WEBSTERSDICTIONARY.COM to wait for or remain stable.to endure without yielding

There are many synonyms for the word "ABIDE". Here are some of my favorites. Circle the words that resonate with you.

# TO REMAIN, CONTINUE, DWELL, LIVE, RESIDE, STAY, WAIT, RETURN

For me, to abide means living in faith as I allow God's Word to transform who I am *into* the Christian woman He has called me to be.

LIVE:	In	the	space	below,	name	ways	you	seek
LI V L.	to	"abi	de in	Christ".	)			

(ex attend church regularly, read the bible, pray

#### **ABIDING MEANS:**

- ♥ Staying spiritually connected to Jesus
- Making space in your heart and mind for His Word
- ♥ Trusting Him throughout your day

#### **ABIDING DOES NOT MEAN:**

- Being perfect or always feeling spiritual.
- Adding more tasks to your to-do list.
- Earning God's love through your effort.

Read John even if you  Journal thi	have to	3	aloud if p	ossible-
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Our connection to Christ was never meant to stop with us. It's meant to flow through us.

Have you ever been to a vineyard? One thing you may notice is how the vines are specifically trained to grow.

What might happen to the vines if left unattended?

Vinedresser: a symbolic representation of God the Father tending to God's people, the disciples

**Read** John 15:1-4 slowly and aloud if possibleeven if you have to whisper.

**Journal this:** In what ways am I allowing God to take care of the details of my life? Are there any areas that are "wayward"? And how can I yield those areas to Him?

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## **READ GALATIANS 5:22-23**

LIVE:	Which fruit of the Spirit is most present in my life right now? Which one do I want to grow?
	Abiding isn't about results- It's about long-term transformation.
SHARI	Ask a person you love and trust what Fruit of the Spirit they see as most evident in your life today?
	5-8 slowly and aloud if possible- even if to whisper.
"good pe	<b>this:</b> In what ways am I trying hard to e a erson" intea of staying spiritually ed to Jesus?

DAY3	

Growing through the harad times in life.

In today's lessons, think of a time when you felt alone, forgotten, betrayed, or rejected. Possibly, you have memories of wondering why God seemed far away and somehow let you down.

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." - John 15:2 (ESV)

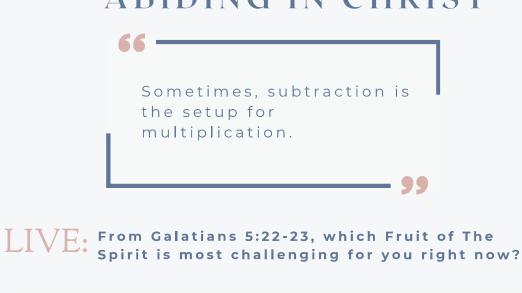


KNOW: In the garden, pruning means cutting away anything that's dead, diseased, or even just in the way of better growth. The same is true for us spiritually.

Read: John 15:2 slowly and aloud if possible- even if you have to whisper.

Journal this: Where do I see God pruning me in this season? Am I resisting it—or trusting Him with it? Journal your thoughts below.

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SHARE: Ask a person you love and trust what Fruit of the Spirit they see as most evident in your life today? List below what they share with you. Galatians 5:22-23

These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. John 15:11

Joy comes through abiding—
even in pruning

DAY 4

### Abiding Leads to Loving Others

Read 15:12-17 slowly and prayerfully.

Underline or highlight:

- Commands (e.g., "love one another")
- Promises (e.g., "I chose you")
- Identity statements (e.g., "You are My friends")

#### Journal this:

- 1. What does Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you" look like in your relationships today?
- 2. How do you respond to the idea that you are Jesus' friend?
- 3. What fruit have you seen in your life from abiding in Him?

	V · Journal below how verse 16 speaks to you.
LIVE:	Jesus said, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." (verse 12) Journal below how you will demonstrate the love of Jesus to others today.

SHARE: Name three people who need to know the love of Jesus. CHALLENGE: Call or text them to let them know you are praying for them to know the love God has for them in Jesus Christ.
JOURNAL PROMPT:
<ul> <li>1- Write about a time when someone showed Christ-like love toward you. How did that impact your faith?</li> <li>2- Reflect on how abiding in Christ changes the way you respond to difficult people or situations.</li> </ul>

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ABIDE IN CHRIST? Find our more on the BLOG! deannamorris.org/blog

Rooted & Established Journals are available at <u>HERE!</u>

