

# A-B-I-D-E in Jesus

By Bill Gaultiere ~ PDF Document ~ [SoulShepherding.org](http://SoulShepherding.org)

## John 15 (NASB)

1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 **ABIDE** in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it **ABIDES** in the vine, so neither can you unless you **ABIDE** in Me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **ABIDES** in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not **ABIDE** in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. 7 If you **ABIDE** in Me, and My words **ABIDE** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. 9 **Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; ABIDE in My love.** 10 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. 11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and *that your joy may be made full.*

12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, **just as** I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 **You are My friends** if you do what I command you. 15 **No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.** 16 You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that your fruit would [ABIDE], so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.* 17 This I command you, that you love one another.

## Notes

Jesus uses the word **ABIDE** *eleven times* in this passage! Abiding is not obedient action, it is *organic union and interactive relationship* like that of a branch in a grapevine, but abiding certainly includes obedience that comes from the heart. Just as Jesus abides in the Father, we’re to abide in Jesus, his words, and His love so that our fruit (love) will also abide.

My highlights in the John 15 passage identify five aspects of what it means to A-B-I-D-E in Jesus. Together they’re like a rainbow of promise or a symphony of music!

- **A**we-filled Wonder of God: worship the Lord; humbly depend upon Him.
- **B**ecoming like Jesus: obey the Lord from the heart; bear fruit (love).
- **I**n-Formed by the Word: rely on God’s words to be transformed.
- **D**evoted to God: we’re invited to be affectionate friends of Jesus and the Father!
- **E**xperiencing the Holy Spirit: we’re blessed with Jesus’ joy and answered prayer!

Jesus repeats the phrase **just as** three times to show us *how* to abide (vss 9, 10, and 12). Just as the Father loves Jesus so Jesus loves us. (Love is not self-generated, but overflows from God into us and through us to others.) Just as Jesus obeys the Father and abides in His love so we are to obey Jesus’ commandments (to love God and neighbor and love one another) and abide in Jesus’ love. Just as Jesus loves us so we’re to love one another.