

It's Simple, Not Easy

A Lesson From The Vineyard

Isaiah 5:1-20/ John 15:1

Remain, Remain, Remain, Remain. . .

John 15:1-17

Four Important Questions:

1. What does it mean to **REMAIN**?

John 15:4-10 (11 times)/ Proverbs 3:5-6

Jesus never said, “**ACCEPT** me.” He said, “**FOLLOW** me.”

If you want to remain, don't **LEAVE**.

2. Why is remaining so **IMPORTANT**?

John 15:1-6

3. What is the **FRUIT** we're supposed to **PRODUCE**?

Galatians 5:22-23/ John 15:10 & 1 John 2:3-5/ John 15:12 & Philippians 2:3-5

The **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

Doing what Jesus **COMMANDS**

Loving one another **AS** Jesus **LOVED US**

4. How do we **REMAIN CONNECTED** to Jesus?

John 15:10/ John 13:17/ James 2:18-19/ Hebrews 10:24-25

It's simple - but not easy.

OBEY what we already **KNOW**.

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Remain, Remain, Remain, Remain. . .

John 15:1-17

Four Important Questions:

1. What does it mean to _____?

John 15:4-10 (11 times)/ Proverbs 3:5-6

Jesus never said, "_____ me." He said, "_____ me."

If you want to remain, don't _____.

2. Why is remaining so _____?

John 15:1-6

3. What is the _____ we're supposed to _____?

Galatians 5:22-23/ John 15:10 & 1 John 2:3-5/ John 15:12 & Philippians 2:3-5

The _____

Doing what Jesus _____

Loving one another _____ Jesus _____

4. How do we _____ to Jesus?

John 15:10/ John 13:17/ James 2:18-19/ Hebrews 10:24-25

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_____ what we already _____.

Food for Thought for the week of September 3, 2023

Larry mentioned this weekend that when Jesus says, “remain in me,” He is revealing the fact that we are already attached to Him. Our goal then is to make sure we don’t disconnect ourselves, either intentionally or unintentionally, because when we remain, we will produce fruit.

Let’s look to Scripture to see things that remind us of where we are in Christ and are helpful in keeping us from disconnecting from Him. Read the following verses and write down what they are encouraging us to do.

Hebrews 10:23-25 New International Version (NIV)

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Romans 12:2 New International Version (NIV)

² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2 Timothy 3:14-17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Can you make a list of any other things that help keep us from getting disconnected? (For example, praying, exploring creation, or eating tasty food.)

Now look back over what you wrote above and write down one or two practical ways you could apply what we are being encouraged to do.

Like Larry mentioned this weekend, the goal is to remain in Christ and the fruit will follow. Which of the above verses is particularly encouraging to you, and how could focusing on it this week help you remain more firmly connected to Christ?