

“Abiding in Christ,” John 15. Ron Roy

Introduction: Why has John 15 left such an impression on me through the years?
Good question, I am glad you asked!

The fifteenth chapter of John was perhaps the main chapter of the Bible that guided me back to a healthy connection with Christ. I had gone through a period of pre-burnout. Trying to live and minister as a missionary under my own strength and wisdom too often. I was exhausted. The joy of ministry wasn't like it was earlier. The principles I learned from John 15 gave me a concrete example of how to stay connected to Jesus, the True Vine. A pattern developed that gave me a refreshing start and rhythm with Christ.

This essential chapter guides me like the wind pushing a sailboat through the water. It gives me a rhythm for life and a guide for making godly decisions. You see I was more like a guy in a canoe doing all of the work. I was not abiding yet. Or later, it was like a motorboat, but my hand was still on the throttle; I was guiding the boat's rudder, which was better than the canoe, but still not abiding. Abiding for me is like sailing. Connecting with Jesus as the True Vine provides the guidance, power, perspective, and intentionality that gets me where Jesus wants me to go, with HIM!!

Learning to abide in Christ is like oil in a car. Life may work for a while, but without the oil of abiding, a breakdown cannot be too far in the future.

Abiding in Christ is foundational in maintaining your priorities and being transformed into the image of Christ. **Romans 8:29 . . .**

I want to use the acrostic A B I D E in English to explore and explain the purpose of abiding.

THE PURPOSE OF ABIDING IN CHRIST:

- A** - Available, faithful, and teachable to remain connected to the VINE
15:1-6, 15-16 The Reverence of Abiding
- B** - “Bear Fruit,” “Much,” “More,” “Fruit that lasts”:
15:2, 5, 6, 8, 16 The Results of Abiding
- I** - Intimacy through Intercession with Christ 15:7, 16 The Road of Abiding
- D** - Disciple others to Abide in Christ 15:8 The Reproduction of Abiding
- E** - Exalt and Glorify God above all else 15:8 The Reason for Abiding

Now, let's add to the ABIDE acrostic as we see two problems of not abiding. ABIDE, now I. N.

THE PROBLEM OF NOT ABIDING IN CHRIST:

I – Failure to **identify with Christ ultimately** leads to instability, indifference, and the inability to abide well with Christ. 15:2-6 The Repentance Needed for Abiding

N – **Nothing can be accomplished apart** from Abiding in Christ. 15:4-5 The Reality and warning for those who seek to live the Christian Life without Abiding in Christ

Finally, let's look at six principles briefly of how we can abide in Christ. The six principles coincide with the letters for C.H.R.I.S.T.

THE PRINCIPLES FOR ABIDING IN CHRIST:

C – Command of Christ to love others as he has loved us.

15:9-10,12-13,17 The Requirement of Abiding

H – Holy Spirit will be Counselor, Truth, power, and authority for those who abide.

15:26-27 The Ripple Effect of Abiding

R – Radical Obedience to Christ's commands 15:10, 14 The Rhythm of Abiding

I – Intentional joy from Christ through you to others 15:13 The Resilience of Abiding (See also: John 10:10; 14:27; 16:24; 17:13)

S – Suffering is part of the price for Abiding 15:18-25 The Repercussions of Abiding

T – Truth, God's Word is the True North of Abiding

15:3,7,20, The Reliable Source for Abiding

CONCLUSION

The spiritual principles found in this chapter served me well during personal retreats and became a “go-to chapter” for regaining momentum in my Christian walk. Abiding in Christ is necessary to defeat the pull toward burnout. Abiding in Christ allows us to bear fruit that multiplies and lasts naturally. Abiding in Christ gives us resources when anxiety, worry, stress, and even suffering enter our lives. Abiding in Christ keeps us spiritually fresh and renewed.

Abiding in Christ teaches us to rely on His strength and authority while depending less on our power. Knowing that we are connected and abiding in the True Vine,

we can rest knowing that Christ releases His Spirit to encounter whatever circumstance, temptation, trials, or conflict. Let ABIDING IN CHRIST keep your life flowing with healthy rhythms.

OPTIONAL = IF THERE IS ENOUGH TIME

Let me encourage you to walk through this chapter again and again while asking yourself:

- Am I aware of the importance of daily abiding in Christ?
- Do I need an Abiding Tune-Up?
- In what areas am I abiding?
- In what areas am I failing to abide? Why or why not?
- How has my fruit-bearing been doing in the last week to ten days?
- In what areas am I failing to obey Christ completely?
- How am I allowing the Holy Spirit to assist me to abide in Christ?

《住在基督裡》 約翰福音第 15 章 Ron Roy

引言：為什麼約翰福音第 15 章多年來對我留下如此深刻的印象？好問題，我很高興你問了！

約翰福音第十五章，或許是聖經中帶領我重新回到與基督建立健康連結的關鍵章節。那段時間，我經歷了一種接近精神耗盡的狀態。身為宣教士，我常常試圖憑著自己的力量與智慧來生活與服事。我精疲力盡，事奉的喜樂已不如從前。我從約翰福音第 15 章學到的原則，給了我一個具體的榜樣，教導我如何與耶穌——那真葡萄樹——保持連結。一種模式逐漸形成，使我在與基督的關係中得著更新的起點與節奏。

這一重要的章節像風一樣，引導著帆船在水面前行。它為我的生命帶來節奏，也成為我作出屬神決定的指引。你看，我以前更像是一個在獨木舟上的人，凡事都靠自己努力划行——那時我還沒有真正住在主裡。後來，我像是在開一艘有馬達的船，但我的手仍然握著油門，自己掌控方向舵；這雖然比獨木舟好，但仍然不是住在主裡。對我而言，住在主裡就像是揚帆航行——與耶穌這真葡萄樹連結，帶來引導、能力、眼光與目標，使我能夠到達耶穌要我去的地方，而且是與祂同行！

學習住在基督裡，就像汽車中的機油。生命或許可以暫時運作，但若沒有「住在主裡」這樣的潤滑與供應，崩潰離我們就不遠了。

住在基督裡，是維持你生命優先次序並被塑造成基督形像的基礎。（羅馬書 8:29 ...）

我想用英文字母 **A B I D E** 的字首詩，來探討並說明「住在基督裡」的目的。

[住在基督裡的目的]

A— 隨時預備、忠心、受教，持續與葡萄樹連結

15:1-6, 15-16 住在主裡的敬畏

B— 「結果子」、「多結果子」、「更多結果子」、「常存的果子」

15:2, 5, 6, 8, 16 住在主裡的結果

I— 藉著與基督代求而建立親密關係

15:7, 16 住在主裡的道路

D— 訓練他人住在基督裡

15:8 住在主裡的繁衍

E— 高舉並榮耀神，超越一切

15:8 住在主裡的目的

現在，讓我們在 **ABIDE** 這個字首詩上再加上內容，來看「不住在基督裡」所帶來的兩個問題。**ABIDE**，現在加上 **I·N·**

[不住在基督裡的問題]

I— 未能與基督認同，最終會導致不穩定、冷漠，以及無法好好住在基督裡的狀態。

15:2-6 回歸住在主裡所需要的悔改

N— 離開基督，人就不能做什麼。

15:4-5 對那些試圖在不住在基督裡而活出基督徒生命之人的現狀與警告

最後，讓我們簡要地來看六個原則，說明我們如何能住在基督裡。這六個原則將對應於 **C.H.R.I.S.T.** 這幾個字母。

[住在基督裡的原則]

C— 基督的命令：要彼此相愛，正如祂愛我們一樣。

15:9-10, 12-13, 17 住在主裡的要求

H— 聖靈要成為那住在主裡之人的保惠師、真理、能力與權柄。

15:26-27 住在主裡的連鎖影響

R— 對基督命令的全然順服

15:10, 14 住在主裡的節奏

I— 從基督而來，並透過你流向他人的刻意喜樂

15:13 住在主裡的韌性（另外參考：約翰福音 10:10；14:27；16:24；17:13）

S— 受苦是住在主裡所需付上的部分代價

15:18-25 住在主裡的後果

T— 真理——神的話語，是住在主裡的真正北極星（方向指引）

15:3, 7, 20 住在主裡可靠的源頭

[結論]

本章所蘊含的屬靈原則，在我個人的退修中對我大有幫助，也成為我在基督徒生命中重新得力的「常用章節」。住在基督裡，是克服精神耗盡拉力的關鍵。住在基督裡，使我們能自然

地結出倍增且長存的果子。當焦慮、憂慮、壓力，甚至苦難臨到我們生命時，住在基督裡賜給我們所需的資源。住在基督裡，使我們在屬靈上保持新鮮與更新。

住在基督裡，教導我們倚靠祂的能力與權柄，而減少依賴自己的力量。當我們知道自己與真葡萄樹連結並住在祂裡面時，我們就能安息，確信基督會釋放祂的屬靈能力，勝過任何處境、試探、試煉或衝突。願「住在基督裡」使你的生命持續流動在健康的節奏之中。

額外的內容 (若時間許可)

讓我鼓勵你一再地默想這一章，同時問自己以下問題：

- 我是否意識到每日住在基督裡的重要性？
- 我是否需要一次「住在基督裡」的調整與更新？
- 在哪些方面我正住在基督裡？
- 在哪些方面我沒有住在基督裡？為什麼或為什麼沒有？
- 在過去一週到十天中，我結果子的情況如何？
- 在哪些方面我沒有完全順服基督？
- 我如何讓聖靈幫助我住在基督裡？