

Abide In Christ



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Whoever abides in me and I in him,
he it is that bears much fruit, for apart
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Imagine you love eating apples. So you go out to an apple tree, cut off a big branch, and put it in your bedroom so you can have fresh apples whenever you want. Would that work? *No!* Why not? Because the branch can't grow apples by itself. It must stay connected to the tree.

The Bible says we are just like that branch. If we don't stay connected to Jesus, we won't produce any fruit in our lives. Jesus is the one who gives us life. He causes us to live and grow as Christians. So what does it mean for us to stay connected to or abide in Jesus? It means to continue in a daily, personal relationship with Jesus that looks something like this:

1. We talk to Jesus in prayer as we praise and thank him, confess sin, and ask him for help.
2. Jesus talks to us in the Bible as we read about who he is, what he has done, and as he tells us the best way to live a life that is pleasing to him.
3. We seek to joyfully obey Jesus as the King of our life. Jesus will give us the strength to obey him.

As we relate to him in this way, Jesus will cause us to produce fruit in our lives. Not apples, but Christ-like love, joy, patience, kindness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Jesus will help us to speak and act and think in ways that bring him glory. If you're not already spending time with Jesus each day, ask your dad and mom to help you get started reading your Bible and praying. Then watch and see how Jesus uses this to help you grow and bear fruit in your life.