

The New Testament Church
The Holy Spirit #2 – Abiding in Christ – John 15
May 18, 2025 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Trinity and our spirit

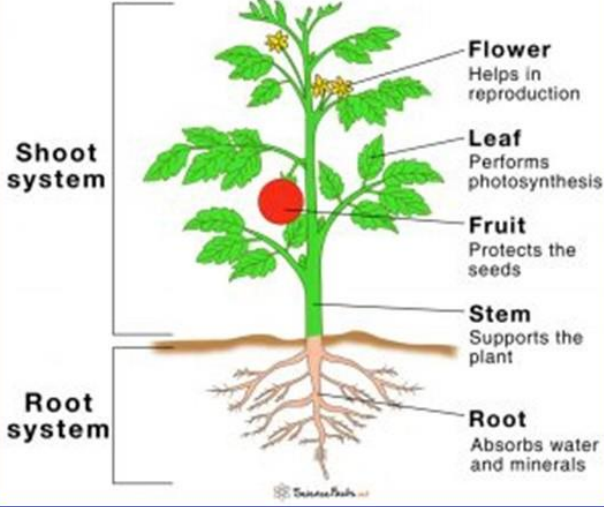
- A. Ge. 1:1-3 – *God created, the Spirit moved (vibrates), and the Son spoke into existence*
 - 1. Elohim – singular and plural word in Hebrew
 - 2. Ge. 2:7 – *the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground (body), breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (spirit); and man becoming a living soul.*
- B. God is one and many – we are to live “in heavenly places” as well as on earth
 - 1. Doctrinally - *The Holy Spirit eternally proceeds from the Father and Son*
 - 2. Practically – *The Holy Spirit is the breath or wind of God that empowers believers*
- C. John 14 review – During the Last Supper, Jesus taught on the Holy Spirit
 - 1. Once Jesus was resurrected, He gave the Holy Spirit to redeem (regenerate) us
 - 2. Jn. 20:21-22 – He appeared – *peace I give you, receive the Holy Spirit* – regenerated
 - 3. Acts 2:1-4 – The day of Pentecost – *be baptized in the Holy Spirit* - empowerment
 - 4. The “helper” is *parakleton* (“a calling near”) which has two distinct meanings:
 - a. *Supplication, entreaty, exhortation, encouragement, counsel, instructor (comforter)*
 - b. *One who pleads another’s cause before a judge, an advocate (defense attorney)*
 - 5. The Great Transition from following Jesus in the flesh, to following Him in the Spirit
 - a. “He dwells with you” (before resurrection) but “in you” (after resurrection)
 - b. The disciples were “with” Jesus, but now the Trinity is “at home in them”
 - c. The Spirit will bring revelation of the Scriptures – we can’t understand it alone
 - d. **Warning:** *we learn to hear the Spirit – it is the Spirit of Christ, not just any spirit*

II John 15:1-8 – Abiding in Christ – a three dimensional; experiential, life in the Holy Spirit

- A. Christ is the vine, the Father is vinedresser (gardener), the Spirit brings water and minerals
 - 1. The Father inspects each of us for fruit – and prunes us to create more fruit
 - 2. Christ is the vine – the “way” to the fruit – supports plant and carries nutrients
 - 3. The root (water and mineals) brings Christ’s character in our hearts by the Holy Spirit
 - 4. Pruning (the cross) is the way to enhance the flow of the Spirit in our lives
 - a. Spring (when life is moving) is the time to prune, wounds heal, vigorous growth
 - b. God prunes out dead and damaged branches (sin, distractions, misplaced priorities)
 - c. Pruning takes out old shoots that are no longer vigorous (loss of passion)
 - d. Pruning is also to beautify us – cutting off rough edges – so we are more attractive
 - 5. This is how we pray in His name, and He does what we ask *because it is in His Will*
- B. v. 9-17 – Love and Joy is brought by the Holy Spirit through the revelation of the Word
 - 1. Truth and grace are brought together by the Holy Spirit; He brings us into balance
 - 2. Joy is contentment, *we are reminded* of the Word that He chose us by the Spirit
 - 3. We are empowered to love (agape) as He does – even those who have hurt or harmed us
- C. v. 18-25 – Persecution is endured when we know He was persecuted it is not really us
 - 1. We are lifted (enlightened) to a higher spiritual plane seeing the bigger picture
 - 2. We *share in the Holy Spirit* – like a joint-heir, our inheritance is the same!
- D. v. 26-27 – The Holy Spirit “proceeds from the Father”, testifies of Christ
 - 1. We must rehearse who we are in Christ – our position precedes our experience
 - 2. We are to be a witness – the Holy Spirit witnesses of Christ, inspiring us!

Powerpoint slides highlighting the analogy Jesus made of abiding in Him

Parts of a Plant



Shoot system

- Flower**
Helps in reproduction
- Leaf**
Performs photosynthesis
- Fruit**
Protects the seeds
- Stem**
Supports the plant

Root system

- Root**
Absorbs water and minerals

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser (fruit inspector)

Christ is the stem (vine)
– the “way” to fruit

Christ in our Heart –
water (Holy Spirit)
– minerals in soil
(character of Christ)

John 15:7 - *If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you shall ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.*



Abiding in Christ by the the Holy Spirit allows us to get timely revelation from the Word of God so that we pray In His Name (His Will) – it was never the intention of Jesus or the Scriptures to say that we get anything we want by using His Name!



To abide in Christ, we

- Stay connected to Christ; praying in His will
- We focus on blessing others with the fragrance of Christ which draws in water and minerals, feeding us
- Your fruit will be seen by the Father first

