Crossroads International Church Matthew Lyle

Series: Believing Christ: Responding to John’s Gospel 2024-06-01

**Remain In Me: Living and Loving through Christ**

***John 15:1-17***

Although we are created in God’s image,

 without God we are like a flagship smart phone that is not connected to the internet

**Topic**: Remain (or Abide) in Christ

**Background:** Hope and Love.

**What do we do with this gift of the Holy Spirit and promise of peace?**

I. Staying In Sync with the Source (1-8)

 Remain connected to Jesus, the true vine, for spiritual vitality and fruitfulness.

 **Application**: maintain a close relationship with Jesus through prayer, scripture, and worship.

II. Spreading the Love: Bear Fruit through Genuine Relationships (9-17)

 True, selfless love for others stems from our connection to Christ.

**Application**: Express Christ-like love in your relationships.

What do we do with this gift of the Holy Spirit?

We become fruitful by remaining in Christ and loving one another.

We desire to love and serve one another faithfully and fervently.

 **We can truly love one another ONLY when we remain in Christ.**

**15**“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2**He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+15%3A1-17&version=NLT;niv;NET#fen-NIV-26702a)] so that it will be even more fruitful. **3**You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4**Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

**5**“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **6**If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. **7**If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8**This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

**9**“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. **10**If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. **11**I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. **12**My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. **13**Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. **14**You are my friends if you do what I command.

**15**I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. **16**You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. **17**This is my command: Love each other.

As we conclude our time together, we thank You for the wisdom and insights from John 15:1-17. We are grateful for the reminder that Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches. Help us to remain in Him, drawing our strength and sustenance from His love and grace.

Lord, teach us to abide in You daily, understanding that apart from You, we can do nothing. Prune us so that we may bear more fruit, reflecting Your character in all we do. Fill us with Your Spirit, enabling us to love one another as You have loved us.

Guide our steps as we leave this place, empowering us to live out these truths in our homes, workplaces, and communities. May our lives be a testament to Your love and faithfulness, and may we continue to grow in our relationship with You.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus, our Savior and true vine. Amen.