

CREATED FOR ABUNDANCE

John 15:4-11
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INTRO

A. THE PRINCIPLES OF REMAINING

1. Remaining in **Christ** is a condition to abundance (v. 5-7)
2. Remaining is stronger when there is **community** (v. 5)
3. Remaining is following the **conviction** of the Holy Spirit (v. 7)
4. Remaining is obeying the **commands** of God (v. 10)

B. THE POWER OF REMAINING

1. God gives us **rest** when we abide (v. 4)
2. God **rewards** us by multiplying our efforts (v. 5)
3. God helps us in tapping into His spiritual **riches** (v. 7)
4. Remaining carries with it the blessings of a **relationship** (v. 8,10)

C. THE PRACTICE OF REMAINING

1. **Set** a kind of time that builds a relationship.
2. **Study** systematically the word of God.
3. **Speak** and listen to God's conviction.
4. **Stay** in the moment of God's and let it guide your day.

CONCLUSION

TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

1. Read John 15:1-11. What needs to happen for a plant to bear fruit? Does the fruit grow by accident, or is it the result of an intentional effort on the part of a gardener or farmer?
2. In nature, when a piece of fruit is produced, what determines the kind of fruit that is produced? Can an apple tree produce oranges? In the life of a Christian, what is the primary factor in determining the kinds of fruit (attitudes, actions, words) that will be produced in life? Read and reflect Galatians 5:22-23.
3. Read John 15:4-5. What does it look like for someone to “abide in Jesus?” Give specific examples.
4. When you think about your life, what kind of fruit do you want to produce? What can you do to ensure that you are producing the fruit you desire?
5. Read John 15:4-5. What does it look like for someone to “abide in Jesus?” When Jesus says, “apart from me you can do nothing,” what is He talking about? What things are impossible to accomplish apart from Jesus?
6. Remaining in Christ is a condition to a life of abundance. For the first time in John 15:5, Jesus use the plural form ‘branches’ to describe fruitfulness. How does being connected to a Christian community also helps you in being fruitful? How has your Life Group or small group helped you in your Christian faith?
7. Pray for another and conclude using this prayer: *Heavenly Father I pray that I may abide in You and You in me and that Your will for my life may be carried out to Your praise and glory. Thank You that the joy of the Lord is my strength and I pray that my life may be a living sacrifice unto You. Help me to abide in You moment by moment and day by day so that I may be fruitful and bring much glory to You in Jesus name I pray, AMEN.*