

Remain connected

Text John 10v28

What does it mean to abide in Christ and why should we abide in him? To abide in Christ means to consistently live in the consciousness of our existence in Him. Abiding in Christ indicates a permanent relationship with God. John 10:28-29. Simply put it to remain in our relationship with the Lord Jesus. Abiding in Christ in an experience of all genuine Christian. As a matter of fact, the difference between those abiding in Christ and does not abiding is the difference between saved and unsaved. Abiding in Christ differentiate believers from those who respond to altar call to accept Jesus as lord over their lives but there is no change in their lifestyle. Real born-again Christians will bear fruits of love, righteousness, patience, kindness etc. However, if you find the person who says he has accepted Christ but struggle to obey God, struggle to deny self or struggle to remain a believer then such a person is disconnected from Christ.

After conversion God expects that you cleave to Him like your life depends on it, actually your life depends on cleaving to Him. 1 John 2v6. The truth is that the Christian race is not one you can run by your strength, enthusiasm or sheer will. You don't have what it takes. The ingenerated man is too weak to deny his natural inclinations and walk the path of the supernatural. Let us look at it critically; God has called you a natural being to live a supernatural life. It will take a miracle to achieve that and it can only be possible when you abide in Christ when you come to Christ and remain in him through faith, His strength flows into you. You will no longer operate in the same frequency you have been operating on as a natural being; rather you will begin to experience the supernatural.

Obedying God comes to you easily no more struggling; you will discover you have a desire backed up by divine strength to deny your flesh. You will no longer find it difficult to spend time with God in prayer and you will find a new zeal and enthusiasm for God's word. Just like a branch attached to the vine so it is with a Christian once you are connected to God you will have the strength and power to do well, obey God and manifest good works, but the moment you are disconnected from Christ you are on your own and you will lack the power to obey God and manifest good works. And since you are disconnected you will lack the spiritual nutrients you need to run the race to the end. As a Christian it is always good to abide in the Lord for without Him you can do nothing. John 15v5.

Factors that brings about disconnection from the God

Spiritual laziness when people lack diligence and dedication towards God. Yes, they love God, they attend Church services and even activities in church but they are lazy towards their personal relationship with God. They are complacent when it comes to spending time in prayer, studying the word, actively seeking out his will and obeying it. Make effort to sustain your relationship with God so that your faith will not be in vain.

2. Lack of understanding- Matt. 13v4&19. It is understood that some people who received the gospel don't understand what it means to be in Christ and as such the seed of the word is easily taken away from them by the devil. Such people cannot remain in the Lord because the word of

God is not deeply rooted in their heart. This is why apostle Peter recommended 2 Peter 1 verse 5 that you diligently add to your faith virtue and your virtue knowledge. Knowledge will produce understanding will engrave of the word in your heart.

3. The quest to surviving and win in the rat race. The thought of how to make a living care for loved ones and generally survive in this world is enough to keep some people distracted. The Pursuit of what to eat and drink, what to wear, advance in one's career and how to keep up with the Jones has disconnected many Christians from Christ. They don't have time to pray about anything. Studying the word takes a lot of struggling because they occupy their time with other things. These kinds of people cannot remain in Christ because of the cares of this world. Matt. 13v22

4. Temporary excitement. This is the destruction of some converts. They just get emotional and respond to the altar call but they are not rooted in the word. These categories of people easily lose their excitement. They are very sensitive and easily offended when they come face-to-face with the reality of carrying the cross and following Christ, when they encounter persecution, tribulation they easily throw in the towel. They are feeble, indecisive and inconsistent they can't remain in Christ.

How to remain connected with Christ

As a Christian if you want to remain connected with Christ it is a decision. (Dan. 1v8). You need to get to a point when you make up your mind to stay connected with Christ Romans 8 v 35-39. Abiding in Christ will also entail constant oiling of the way of your relationship with Him. You should consistently and privately spend time with God in fellowship. Don't joke with your quiet time, spend quality time in personal fellowship with him. Intentionally take out time to worship him intimately Psalm 91 v 1. In fact, this is one of the major benefits you are protected and secured in God's presence. Study the scripture and practice prompt obedience to the word Joshua 1v8 charges anyone who wants to thrive spiritually saying – this book of the law must not depart from your mouth; you must meditate on it day and night that you might have good success. You need to practice self-denial. You should be able to take up the cross and follow Christ through thick and thin. Also make Jesus the priority of your life. Give Him the first place in your life and be faithful. Believe Him, continue in Him and depend on Him for life and vitality. God bless you.

Read me again next month.

