



Life Group Discussion Questions

September 15, 2024

1. Abiding is a crucial theme in John's gospel and his epistles. What spiritual disciplines can we exercise to cultivate our abiding relationship? Are there activities, people, or attitudes that lead us away from abiding with Christ in our daily lives?
2. Galatians 5 says "the Fruit of the Spirit IS" ...it is singular. It is one fruit with many attributes. Love is listed first in these attributes and is a central theme of scripture. How is love crucial to the development of these other attributes (i.e., Joy, Peace, Patience etc...)? What other scriptures can you think of that talk about the predominance of love as essential in a Christian's life?
3. Jesus not only said "I am the vine", but He also said, "I am the living bread" and "I am the living water". What do these three statements say about a healthy Christian life? Do they share a central theme?
4. Are there specific attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit that you personally struggle with and would be willing to share? How can spiritual disciplines and mutual accountability help us in our struggles? In other words, how can we help one another to grow?
5. Do you have a daily time in the Word? Can you describe what that looks like? Are there certain aspects of the study of God's word that you struggle with? Are there certain aspects you find illuminating that you can share with the group?

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6. What does Psalm 1 have to say about the critical role of God's Word in our spiritual lives? Do you find "delight" in the Word? How does meditation contribute to "delighting" in the Word? How does Psalm 1 paint a beautiful picture of the vine analogy Jesus uses in John 15?
7. Do you struggle with prayer? How do we keep our prayers from becoming dull and repetitive? Is there a relationship between prayer and other spiritual disciplines?
8. What are some practical ways that we can "stimulate one another on to love and good deeds" (Heb. 10:24)?
9. Good fruit is vibrant, pleasant and nourishing to the body. How does our personal "abiding" and "walking in the Spirit" contribute to the whole body of Christ (the Church)?
10. Read John 15: 1-11. Do you think the "pruning" in your life is painful? What do you think about the outcome of the branches that do not produce fruit?
11. We are called to surrender to God as our savior, not utter a one-time prayer and keep doing what we want. Consider the term surrender – what does it mean to you, and what imagery comes to mind? Is being conquered the same as surrendering?

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