



Abide In Him

A South Pacific Christian Ministries Sermon

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About Us

South Pacific Christian Ministries is a Non-Denomination Missions Oriented Ministry that sprang out of a small tourist focused church in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. After 16 years serving as the Senior Pastor the LORD redirected our steps from the little chapel by the sea to the small island communities of the South Pacific.

Our Vision is to bring the living water to the small islands of the South Pacific; a vision summed up in the Hawaiian phrase Ke Ola Wai, which means the living water. Ke Ola Wai encompassing our greatest spiritual and physical need, pure spiritual and physical water.

Our Mission is to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the people who live on the small islands of the South Pacific that can only be reached by boat. To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their shores, assisting local Pastors, providing Bible Training for believers and conducting outreaches to draw in non-believers. To provide gravity fed, family sized, reverse osmosis water filters; emergency medical supplies; medical services; and disaster response training.

Summary

Jesus promised us that if we will abide in Him and His words abide in us, then we can ask what every we desire and it will be done for us. He also warned us that those who don't abide in Him will be cast aside. Considering the promise and warning, it is rather important to understand what He means by abiding in Him.

Scripture References

John 15:6-9	Ephesians 1:4
Luke 6:45	Galatians 5:6
1 Peter 2:9-10	Psalms 37:4-5



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Sermon Notes

John 15:6-9

- 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.
- 7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**
- 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.
- 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

This passage contains promises, warnings and encouragement. Understanding what Jesus is saying is vitally important for every believer.

John 15:6

- 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

This statement is a warning and an illustration of what Jesus is talking about. A branch on a grape vine or a fruit tree can only draw from the trunk if it is well connected. If the branch has been partially pulled away from the trunk then it can not effectively draw what it needs from the trunk. If the branch is not secured against the trunk and the separation healed, then it will eventually die; at the very least, it will not be as fruitful or strong as it could be.

In a fruit tree or a grape vine a dying or dead branch becomes a danger to the rest of the branches. It will draw pest and eventually fall to the ground. Potentially when it falls it may break other branches around it.

Believers who do not abide in Jesus will eventually be cast aside because they will die spiritually. Note that the LORD is not causing them to die spiritually, it is the choice that they made. They choose to stop drawing from His Word, His Life, His Love. They choose to NOT make their relationship with Him a priority.

John 15:7

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

The promise of verse 7 is a conditional promise. In order to receive the gift contained in the promise you must meet the requirements, otherwise you will not qualify.

With conditional promises, at least in God's Word, the requirement has to do with us doing something that puts us in the position or mind set to receive the promise. If you are not in the right position then you won't be ready for the promise. If you are not in the right location, then you won't be there to receive what was sent to that location. If your heart is not right with God or your understanding of His Word is not right, then you won't be able to receive what He has promised.

For example, if I tell you that I will give you a \$100 if you are here at 10am on Tuesday morning, that is a conditional promise. If you arrive at 10:30am on Tuesday morning you will have failed to meet the requirement and won't receive what was promised. If you arrive at 9am and leave before 10am on Tuesday, then you won't receive what was promised. You can only receive what was promised if you are here at 10am on Tuesday.

When we find a conditional promise in God's Word it pays to identify and understand the requirement so that we can be in the right position.



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John 15:7

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

What did Jesus mean when He said, if you abide in me? Considering that abiding in Him is the condition of the promise, then we need to understand what He was saying. We need to understand what we have to do in order to abide in Him.

The original Greek word for abide in verse 6 and 7 is “men'-o”. Which means, to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy, to dwell, abide, continue, endure.

With the definition of abide in mind, consider what Jesus was saying. He was saying to stay in relationship with Him; to dwell in His Word and to communion with Him.

What kind of relationship would you have with someone who you never spent time talking with, listening to, or learning about. At best, you might have a passing relationship. You certainly would not have a close relationship.

John 1, tells us that Jesus Christ is the manifested Word of God. If we dwell in the Word then we grow in our understanding of who God is and what His character is like. If we dwell in the Word then we come to understand who we are in and because of Christ. As we dwell in His Word, then we take on more of His nature and ways. When we dwell in His Word we are abiding in Him.

When we choose to build and maintain our relationship with the LORD we become more like Him and come to understand Him in a greater way. Remember, to build a relationship we must spend time talking with someone and learning about them. You can not have a meaningful relationship with someone that you don't talk with.

Luke 6:45

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good;
and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil:
for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Out of the abundance of our heart comes our actions, thoughts and words.
Out of the abundance of our hearts comes our worship,
Out of the abundance of our heart comes love for God or the flesh,
Out of the abundance of our heart comes words of faith or words of doubt.

If our relationship is strong with the LORD, and not just a passing acquaintance, then His Love and His Word will fill our hearts. That, of course, requires you to study His Word and to spend time talking with God, not just at God.

That which fills our hearts is heard in our words and how we pray. That which fills our hearts occupies our minds and controls our actions and reactions.

When we get to know someone we know if they are people who speak truth or lies. We get to know if we can count of them doing what they said they would do. As we get to know God then we come to understand that He speaks only truth. It is through that knowledge that we can pray with an expectancy of receiving that which we ask.

We can replace what fills our hearts by what we focus on. If all we read or watch has nothing to do with God, then we will replace His Word with the enemy's words. If you constantly read romance novels for example, and do not spend an equal or greater amount of time in God's Word, then it will replace His Word in your heart.



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What fills our hearts is what we spend the majority of our time focused on. If it is of the world, then the world's view and beliefs will fill our hearts. If it is of God, then His Word fills our hearts.

Psalm 37:4-5

- 4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- 5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

When the Word of God fills our hearts it causes our desires and prayers to line up with His will. God promises to give us the desires of our heart. Which is both His planting those desires in our hearts and His fulfilling them.

1 Peter 2:9-10

- 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own; that you should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:
- 10 Who in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Through God's love for us we have obtained mercy and have been transformed into a new blood line, a new family, the family of God. If He had not first loved us, then we would be lost in our sins. He enabled us to believe. He drew us to Him. He provided those who spoke to us of His love and the salvation available through His Son. He gave us the faith to believe and receive His love.

Ephesians 1:4

- 4 According as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
- 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

God knows the beginning to the end. He knows every decision that we have made in the past. He knows every thought that we thought. He knows every decision that we will make in the future for good or bad. God knew before time began who would choose Him and who would not.

God takes no pleasure sending those who reject Him to hell. He did not create hell for man, but man has the right to choose it as their future. God's desire is that all would accept His son as their savior, but knew who would and who would not. In order to have a people that would freely love Him, He had to allow people to choose to reject Him. Love can not be forced. Love must be freely given to be love.

John 15:9

- 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

We have a choice, we can continue in God's love or we can choose to walk away from it. If we continue to dwell in God's love then we receive His blessings and favor upon our lives.

Galatians 5:6 - Amplified Version

- 6 For [if we are] in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love.



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Faith is ACTIVATED
Faith is ENERGIZED
Faith is EXPRESSED
Faith WORKS THROUGH LOVE

The word activated means to stimulate, actuate, energize, galvanize.
Faith is stimulated into action by love.

The word energized means to empower, charge with power.
Faith is empowered to act by love

A lamp gives no light until the switch is turned on. A light bulb shines forth only when a light switch completes the circuit allowing the electricity to flow through the light bulb. The light bulb is empowered to shine forth by the electricity released by the switch.

Our faith is empowered to shine forth by love. We are the switch.

The word expressed means to show, to tell, to convey, to declare.
Faith is shown by and through love.
Faith shines forth by and through love.

The word works means a process, a series of steps, a sequence of events.
Faith works through love.
Faith is processed through love.

If we accept as truth that we were chosen by God before the world began. If we accept as truth that we have been made to be His much beloved children. If we accept as truth that we are welcome in His presence. If we accept as truth that we have been made holy so that we can stand in His presence. Then we can accept that He will do that which He has promised.

We can accept that He will provide for us in every way.
We can accept that He will heal us when the enemy attacks us with sickness.
We can accept that save our friends and family.
We can accept that He will cause us to become more than who were are.; to become all that He created us to be.

It is God that causes our faith to work when we accept His Love. We block or hinder our faith when we do not fully accept His love; when we believe that He is displeased with us because of some failure on our part, perceived or real.

If we know that He loves us, then we can know that He will do what He has promised. Without LOVE faith can not be ACTIVATED, ENERGIZED or EXPRESSED. Without LOVE faith can not WORK.

John 15:9

9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

When we continue, abide in, His love, then our faith in activated, energized and expressed by that love. As our faith grows and is activated, energized and expressed by His Love in us and our Love for Him, then we can pray with an expectancy and those prayers are answered by God.



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When our hearts are filled with His Word, then we will know what He has for us. When our hearts are filled with His Word, then we can identify the lies of the enemy. When our hearts are filled with His Word, then we cling to Him. When our hearts are filled with His Word, then we will do the works that He did and greater works.

John 14:12-14

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

The only limits are the limits that we place on ourselves. Do not allow the enemy, people, relationships, business, work or other things to rob you of your relationship with God. Do not allow your failures to rob you of your relationship with God. Do not allow the enemy's lies to rob you of your relationship with God.

Abide in Him. Continue studying His Word. Make your relationship with Him the top priority of your life. The blessing that will come through that relationship can not be measured.