Review

- **Fruit of the Spirit**
  - **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.**
    Galatians 5:22-23 — [NKJV]
  - **A life yielded to the Holy Spirit is guaranteed to bear fruit**

Review

- Cannot produce true spiritual fruit by human effort.
- Works of the flesh are self-centered, Fruit of the Spirit is Christ-centered.
  - factory vs garden
- Way to bear fruit is to abide in Christ.
- What does it mean to abide in Christ?

Abide

3306 μένω [*meno* /men·o/] v. ...; 120 occurrences; AV translates as “abide” 61 times, “remain” 16 times, “dwell” 15 times, “continue” 11 times, “tarry” nine times, “endure” three times, and translated miscellaneously five times.

1- to remain, abide.

- **1A in reference to place.**
  - ***1A1*- to sojourn, tarry. *1A2* not to depart. 1A2A to continue to be present.**
  - **1A2B- to be held, kept, continually.**
- **1B- in reference to time.**
  - ***1B1*- to continue to be, not to perish, to last, endure.**
  - **1B1A- of persons, to survive, live.**
- **1C- in reference to state or condition.**
  - ***1C1*- to remain as one, not to become another or different.**

2- to wait for, await one.

John 15:1-17

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 15:1-17

“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

John 15:1-17

By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

John 15:1-17

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

John 15:1-17

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. These things I command you, that you love one another. [NKJV]

Love Defined! 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. … love will last forever! [NLT]

Hindrances to Loving/Abiding

- Negative, critical attitude
  - not thinking the best, losing hope, demanding own way, prideful, boastful
- Impatience
  - unkind, rude, irritable, giving up
- Unforgiveness
  - keeping record of wrongs, vindictive

Keys to Abiding

- Learn God's ways
  - Regularly read/study God's Word
- Choose to follow God's ways
  - practice choosing to follow loving ways in imitation of Jesus' love for you
  - practice rejecting unloving ways
- Repeat (muscle memory)

Sowing for a Harvest

- **Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**
  — Galatians 6:7-9 [NKJV]

Starve Flesh, Feed Spirit

- **A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.**
  — **Luke 6:45** [NLT]
- **When you are under pressure, what's in your heart squeezes out.**

Abiding is a way of life!