



Four Portraits, One *Savior*



That you may
have *life*

His Words Made Personal

John 15:7-9



What words might you “unpack” in your personal Bible study of this passage?

- *Jn. 15:7,9 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you....⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.*
- *How to “unpack” the words?*
 - *Look up in Bible dictionary (Strong's).*
 - *Ask Google; “Al.” (Biblical meaning)*
 - *“Ruminate” on the words. Go deeper.*
 - *Get behind the words.*
 - *Pray the words back to Jesus.*



1. Let's "unpack" the word, "abide."

A. Three aspects:

1. Time. Stay. Remain.
2. Place.
3. Condition/connection.

B. Husband/wife:

- Time with – attentive to.
- Place - same home.
- Condition – committed.

C. BFF.

- Everyday at lunch when no one else does.
- Best friend [forever not?]



*Does that not look like an absolutely delicious burger from the White Oak Tavern (a **sponsor** for Christmas)? What do you think makes me keep coming back to buy the burger?.*



*Does that not look like an absolutely delicious prime rib from Bare Bones Grill (a **sponsor** for Christmas)? What makes me keep coming back to Bare Bones on Friday nights?*



2. “Abide” is given its **deepest** meaning when our **connection** is with the **person** of Jesus Christ.

- *Jn. 15:9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **Abide** in my **love**.*

A. Christ's love has a model: v9

- *Suppose my love for my sons was rooted in my dad's love for me?*
- *The **same love** that Jesus had from His dad is offered.*

B. Christ's love is unconditional.

- *He won't bail on you.*

C. Christ's love is waiting for the one who abides in it.

- *God is love. God cannot not love. 1 John 4:16*
- *His nature is love.*
- *Food vs Fruit.*



Christ does not love from a need to be loved. He loves because it is his nature – His love is like the fruit from an apple tree; and His words are like individual apples to be picked. We pick them when we believe and put them into action.





3. *Christ has revealed how the love of God is made personal – what He speaks must become my own!*

A. *The message is personal - not random, meaningless, story.*

B. *Pray your name in the story!*

1. *Prodigal.*
2. *Leper.*
3. *Zaccheus.*
4. *Delivered from demons.*
5. *Marriage can be healed.*

C. *Pray what Christ has told another.*





4. *My prayer acts as a spiritual thermometer that reveals whether I am eating the fruit of His tree!*

- *Jn. 15:7-8 "If you abide in Me, **and** My words abide in you, ask **whatever** you **wish**, **and** it will be **done** for you. ⁸ "My Father is glorified by **this**, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.*

A. *Do you see the **dual condition in v7a**?*

B. *"Whatever you wish" is shaped by my remaining in Christ and His words remaining in me.*

- ***Abiding - connected; believing; trusting; obeying.***

C. *Bold prayer is the fruit of abiding in Christ; **by my faith – I am picking of the fruit of His tree.***



Call to Action.

1. Choose one promise of Christ this week and pray your name in it. *Don't just open a page of the bible and put your finger on a verse.*
 - Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your daily “abiding” in the Word. *Ask Him to impress upon you the promise you are to pray back to God.*
2. Check your spiritual temperature: *when did you last pray a bold prayer?*
 - Will you commit to Christ that you will take Him at His word?
 - Will you pick of the fruit of His love by faithing Him in your prayers?

