



# Christian Living

John 15:1-11

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

In John 15, Jesus was less than a day away from the cross. Here, at the Last Supper, Jesus used an allegory to explain the Christian life. Jesus called Himself the “*true vine*” (verse 1). Throughout this passage, Jesus repeatedly used the Greek word, meno, to explain what it means to be Christian. The King James Bible translates it as “*abide*,” but it can also be rendered as remain, stay, dwell, and live. A good modern synonym might be “*connected*.” A true Christian is connected to Christ in every way!

What does it mean to be connected to Christ? What does it mean to be a Christian? What are the essentials of Christian living? The Greek word meno will help us find the answers.

From the words of Jesus, we learn **three elements** of Christian living:

## **I. Christian living means you live with Jesus**

**(verse 4)**

1. You have a love relationship with Jesus

1 John 4:19

2. You have a faith relationship with Jesus

John 12:46

## **II. Christian living means you stick with Jesus**

**(verse 4-5)**

1. It is a permanent commitment with Christ

1 John 2:17, 19

2+. It is a growing commitment to Christ

John 8:31-32

## **III. Christian living means you depend on Jesus**

**(verses 5, 7, 9, 11)**

1. Your dependence brings you everything

John 16:24

2. Your dependence brings you joy

John 17:13

**Your Response:**

1. According to verse 5, you are a figurative branch? To what vine are you attached? How do you know?
2. Has Jesus taken residence in your life? If so, what is your evidence?
3. Are you increasing in your connectedness to the Lord? How is that happening? In what ways, do you need to draw closer to Him?
4. Robert Munger's book, My Heart, Christ's Home, uses the various rooms of a home to speak of the areas of your life that God wants to occupy? What rooms are still refusing to give Jesus entrance? Have you given Jesus access to the closets and the secret areas of your life? Surrender these areas to the Lord right now in prayer.
5. What would your life look like if you applied the principles of John 15:1-11 to your life?
6. What is one thing you should do this week to apply the truth of this passage in to life?

**Resources:**

The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert by Rosaria Butterfield  
The Gospel of John by William Hendriksen  
The Gospel of John by R.C.H. Lenski  
Abiding in Christ by Andrew Murray  
My Heart, Christ's Home by Robert Munger  
Abiding in Christ by J. I. Packer, Carolyn Nystrom  
Secrets of the True Vine by Bruce Wilkinson