

The Lord's Church Must Abide in Christ's Love

Text: John 15:7-10 (ESV)

⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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.

The Church Abides In Christ's Love:

1. When Our Wishes Align with His
2. When Our Glorifying of God Align with His
3. When Our Environment for Love Aligns with His

Point #1: When Our Wishes Align with Christ's

- Luke 11:1-2 (NKJV)
- I John 5:14-15 (NIV)
- John 9:31 (NLT)

Luke 11:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." ² So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.

I John 5:14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

John 9:31 (NLT)

We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but he is ready to hear those who worship him and do his will.

Point #2: When Our Glorifying of God Aligns with Christ's

- Romans 15:5-6 (ESV)
- John 15:8 (ESV)
- Matthew 13:23 (KJV)
- Galatians 5:22-25 (NKJV)

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Romans 15:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 15:8 (ESV)

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Matthew 13:23 (KJV)

²³ But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Galatians 5:22-25 (NKJV)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. ²⁴ And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Point #3: When Our Environment of Love Aligns with Christ's

- John 14:15 (NAS)
- Mark 14:35-36 (NLT)
- Psalms 119:41-48 (NLT)

John 14:15 (NAS)

If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

Mark 14:35-36 (NLT)

³⁵ He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ "Abba, Father," he cried out, "everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

Psalms 119:41-48 (NLT)

- ⁴¹ Lord, give me your unfailing love, the salvation that you promised me.
⁴² Then I can answer those who taunt me, for I trust in your word.
⁴³ Do not snatch your word of truth from me, for your regulations are my only hope.
⁴⁴ I will keep on obeying your instructions forever and ever.
⁴⁵ I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments.
⁴⁶ I will speak to kings about your laws, and I will not be ashamed.
⁴⁷ How I delight in your commands! How I love them!
⁴⁸ I honor and love your commands. I meditate on your decrees.

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Closing:

Ephesians 5:2 (KJV)

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

Invitation

1. HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

2. BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

3. REPENT ~ Luke 13:3

I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.

4. CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

5. BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.