

THE ABIDING Disciple

John 15:1-8 (NKJV)

1"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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. 3You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. 5"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. oIf 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. 8By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Introduction

- Abide to remain stable or fixed in a state (Merriam-Webster)
- Are you abiding in Christ? Are you a disciple of Christ?

The passage is telling us how to be an abiding disciple:

1. Know intimately who God is (v.1).

- a. God the Father
- The vinedresser who prunes or cutoff the branch
- The God who "wills"
- The perfect will

b. God the Son, Jesus Christ

- The True Vine
- The God whom we are connected to
- The only way to have a relationship to God the Father

2 Timothy

For this reason
I also suffer these
things; nevertheless
I am not ashamed, for I
know whom I have believed
and am persuaded that He is able to
keep what I have committed to Him
until that Day.

2. Understand who you are in Christ (v. 5).

- a. Believer unfruitful branch
- Branch that is not always connected to the vine
- Experienced God and received Jesus Christ as Savior only
- Follows God but with reservations when trials or persecutions come

John 6:66

From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

b. Disciple - fruitful branch

- Branch that is always connected to the vine
- Experienced God and received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord
- Follows God without reservations even when trials or persecutions come
- A dedicated follower of Jesus

John 6:67-69

⁶⁷Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" ⁶⁸But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living

1 Corinthians 11:1

God."

Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

3. Be reminded of your cleansing by Jesus Christ's words (v. 3).

- Words spoken by Jesus Christ to the disciples led them to repentance and new life.
- The Holy Spirit that God sent to us will always remind us of what God's Word is saying that it becomes our life—new and changed life.

John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

4. Bear fruit (vv. 4-5).

- You can only bear fruit when you are:
- a. connected to the vine b. abiding in Christ
- This is the purpose of God for every believer, that each may be Jesus Christ's disciple.

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The school hallways are now filled with the students' handcrafted lantern displays as UCA concluded the TLE and Arts Week 2024 with the theme "Light Up the World: Crafting a Brighter Tomorrow" from December 2-6.

Students had a great time wondering and imagining the designs of their lanterns made of different materials such as Japanese paper mache, threads, and card papers. Parents helped and joined their kids in making artistic displays to emphasize the message of Jesus being the True Light that illuminates each home. Pictures were also posted in UCA's Facebook page to exhibit their craftsmanship and creative imagination.

It is with joy that UCA students hone their skills and strengthen their values. May this project radiate the essence of Jesus as the Lord and Savior of mankind.





The Pre-school to Grade 3 pupils made memories of creating amazing Christmas lanterns out of Japanese paper while learning the art of paper mache. From cutting to gluing the papers, parents are there to guide and support their children.





Made with their little hands, the kids produce adorable lanterns with their parents guiding them as they experience the joy of doing art projects with their families.



Threads are known for sewing, but Grades 4 to 6 pupils turned them to mesmerizing Christmas ornaments with lights and designs. They also showed their ingenuity by adding personal touches on their craft, proving that all of them are creative in their own ways. The school programs are a way to discover their talents and make memories with their loved ones in fun and exciting ways.





Deuteronomy 29:29 (KJV) The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

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Parents are all out in supporting and inspiring their children. Threads turn to magnificent artworks filled with stories and memories behind.





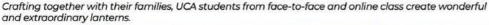
With their imagination and paper cutting skills, Grade 7 to 12 students produced paper box lanterns with exquisite patterns. Glued with colorful cellophanes, the lanterns created warmth as the lanterns become home displays.

















Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:105 (KJV)

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After creating their masterpieces, the hardwork and creativity of the students were recognized during the Awarding Ceremony held on December 6, Friday. With joy in their hearts and smiles on their faces, they gladly received their badges, with their classmates also cheering for them.



2 Timothy 3:16 (NKJV) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

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pamamagitan ng mga awitin at sayawan ang bawat isa.

Re-Creation Center. Sa darating na Disyembre 22 ay sama-sama nating sasariwain ang kagalakang dulot ng kapanganakan ni Hesus bilang ating Diyos at Tagapagligtas.

Masayang programa ang tiyak na aabangan ng mga magsisipagdalo bilang pagpapadama ng pag-ibig ng Diyos sa bawat isa.







Masasaya at makabuluhang presentasiyon ang hatid fellowship group na may kasamang awiting alay sa ating Diyos na buhay. Umaapaw na pasasalamat ang laman ng mga handog na awitan.



Diyos na buhay bilang pagtatanghal sa Kaniyang Ngalan. Sama-samang nagpuri sa





But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

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Isa sa mga inaabangan ng lahat ang masasayang palaro sa UCF dahil mula bata hanggang matanda ay maaaring makalahok sa mga ito. Tulong-tulong ang mga grupo upang maiuwi ang mga papremyo.











Ang kapatiran ay masaya ring nagbahagi ng Salita ng Diyos sa mga nagsipagdalo. Ang lahat ay sasariwain ang kanilang mga nakakaantig na karanasan kasama ang pamilya ng UCF.





ATING IPAGDIWANG ANG PASKO KASAMA ANG PAMILYA NG UCF. MAAARI NIYO RING IMBITAHAN ANG INYONG MGA MAHAL SA BUHAY SA DARATING NA DISYEMBRE 22, LINGGO | 1:00 PM SA UCF MT. TABOR CHURCH

John 14:26 (NKJV) But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

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MINISTRY UPDATE

Pagtugon sa Tawag ng Diyos

Ang pagtawag ng Diyos sa Kaniyang mga anak ay personal na karanasan ng bawat mananampalataya. Sa pamamagitan ng pakikinig ng ebanghelyong ipinahayag ng sinugo ng Diyos, ang Kaniyang mga anak ay namulat sa katotohanan at naniwala sa Panginoon. Kaakibat nito ang kanilang desisyong ibigay ang kanilang buhay at sumunod na sa Diyos.

Kaya naman ang ating bagong mga kapatid sa Panginoon ay sumailalim sa pagbabawtismo sa tubig noong Disyembre 1, Linggo sa Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center.

Tunay na ang mga anghel sa langit ay nagdiriwang para sa isang kaluluwang nanumbalik sa Diyos. Purihin ang Panginoon!

Welcome to the Family of Christ!

Sis. Agnes M. Amulong Bro. Michel A. Amancio Sis. Elizabeth M. Rogacion Bro. Jose P. Rogacion Sis. Maribel G. Sanchez

Pagbabalik-sulit at paghahandog sa Panginoon

yon sa 2 Corinto 9:7-8, "7Ang bawat isa'y dapat magbigay ayon sa kanyang pasya, maluwag sa loob at hindi napipilitan lamang, sapagkat iniibig ng Diyos ang nagbibigay nang may kagalakan. Magagawa ng Diyos na pasaganain kayo sa lahat ng bagay, at higit pa sa inyong pangangailangan, upang sumagana kayo para sa mabubuting gawa."

Upang higit na maunawaan ang patungkol sa pagbabalik-sulit at paghahandog sa ating Diyos Ama, isinagawa ng panambahan ang *Tithes and Offering Seminar* noong Disyembre 6, Biyernes, sa Mt. Tabor Church sa pangunguna ni Rev. Dr. William Sy. Oportunidad din na ang mga katanungan ng bawat isa ay masagot upang makapaghandog nang may katapatan sa Diyos.

Purihin ang Panginoon sa Kaniyang lingkod na patuloy sa pagtuturo at paggabay sa Kaniyang mga tupa sa kanilang buhay Kristiyano.

Plano sa panibagong Taon ng paglilingkod

Sa pagtatapos ng kasalukuyang taon, ang mga manggagawa ng Diyos ay nasasabik na nagplano para sa paparating na bagong taon dala ang hangaring sumunod sa tawag ng paglilingkod.

Sa pangangasiwa ni Rev. Dr. William Sy, ang mga manggagawa ay nag-umpisa sa pagpupulong ng mga programa para sa taong 2025 noong Disyembre 7, Sabado. Mula Enero hanggang Disyembre, ang mga gawain ay nailatag na upang masimulan ang paghahanda sa mga ito. Inaasahan din ang patuloy na inspirasyon ng Banal na Espiritu sa iba pang mga gawaing maaaring umusbong sa paparating na taon.

Nagpapasalamat ang lahat sa paggabay ng Diyos sa naging pagpaplano ng panambahan.



Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

Psalm 119:11 (NKJV)

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The Abiding...

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1 Corinthians 3:5-8

5Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

Matthew 13:23

"But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

5. Be pruned by the Vinedresser (v. 2).

- · The branch which is bearing fruit will be pruned more by the vinedresser that it may be more fruitful.
- · The believer becomes a disciple as temptations, trials, problems, and persecutions made him to be closer to God. These don't stop him to follow God's will in his life.

James 1:2-4

²My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

6. Don't be cut off (vv. 2, 6).

· A branch can be cut off from the vine when:

a, a branch doesn't bear fruit b. it is not abiding in Christ

- · Temptations, trials, problems, or persecutions in a believer's life caused him to be unfruitful.
- · The believer focused in solving these things in his life, which prevented him from doing God's will in his life.

Matthew 13:20-22

20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. ²²Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

- · The believer does not value what God had entrusted to him until he became disqualified. He didn't become a disciple.
- · After an unfruitful branch is cut off, it will wither, be gathered with other unfruitful branches, be thrown out into fire, and be burned.

Matthew 25:24-28

24"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' 26"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and

lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.

7. Glorify God (v. 8).

- · When a branch is fruitful, the vinedresser is glorified.
- · When a disciple is fruitful, God the Father is glorified in our lives.
- · People surrounding you will see the difference in your life. The light of God in your life shines to their lives.

Matthew 5:14-16

14"You are the light of the world. A Don't be a believer only. Be a city that is set on a hill cannot be disciple of Christ. Be fruitful.

hidden. 15Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Challenge

- · Do you want to be an abiding disciple?
- 1. Know intimately who God is.
- 2. Understand who you are in Christ.
- 3. Be reminded of your cleansing by Jesus Christ's words.
- 4. Bear fruit.
- 5. Be pruned by the Vinedresser.
- 6. Don't be cut off.
- 7. Glorify God.

Write the

SERMON NOTES points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.





