

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

- (1) The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heaven He came & sought her to be His holy
bride; with His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died
- (2) Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one
birth; One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy
food, And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endured.
- (3) Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are
blest, and the great Church victorious shall be the
Church at rest.
- (4) Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in
One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose
rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us
grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, on high
may dwell with Thee.

I WILL BLESS THE LORD

I will bless the (you) Lord and give Him (you) glory,
Oh I will bless His (your) name and give Him (you)
glory.

I EXALT THEE

For Thou, O Lord, art high above all the earth,
Thou art exalted far above all gods.
For Thou, O Lord, art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods.
I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord.
I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord.

(Special Music) **BY LIFE, OR BY DEATH**

- (1) So this is life, this world with all its pleasures,
Struggles and tears, a smile, a frown, a sigh.
Friendships so true, and love of kin and neighbor;
Sometimes 'tis hard to live – always to die!
The world moves on, so rapidly the living,
The forms of those who disappear replace,
And each one dreams that he will be enduring -
How soon that one becomes the missing face!
- (2) In life or death – and life is surely flying,
The crib and coffin carved from the self-same tree.
In life or death – and death so soon is coming -
Escape I cannot, there's no place to flee -
But Thou, O God, hast life that is eternal;
That life is mine, a gift though Thy dear Son.
Help me to feel its flush and pulse supernal.
Assurance of the morn when life is done.
- (3) Help me to know the value of these hours,
Help me the folly of all waste to see;
Help me to trust the Christ who bore my sorrows,
And thus to yield for life or death to Thee.
In all my days be glorified, Lord Jesus,
In all my ways guide me with Thine own eye;
Just as Thou wilt, use me, Lord Jesus,
And then for me 'tis Christ, to live or die!

RESPONSIVE READING
The True Vine – John 15:1-11, 16

LEADER: I am the true vine, & my Father is the husbandman

PEOPLE: Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

LEADER: Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

PEOPLE: Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

LEADER: I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me, ye can do nothing.

PEOPLE: If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

LEADER: If ye abide in Me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask, what ye will, & it shall be done unto you

PEOPLE: Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

LEADER: As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you; continue ye in my love.

PEOPLE: If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love.

LEADER: These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, & that your joy might be full.

PEOPLE: Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you.

OUR GREAT SAVIOR

(1) Jesus! What a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul.
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

(chorus) Hallelujah, what a Savior!
Hallelujah, what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

(2) Jesus! What a Strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my victory wins.

(3) Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll;
Even when my heart is breaking,
He my Comfort, helps my soul.

(4) Jesus! What a Guide and Keeper!
While the tempest still is high;
Storms about me, night o'er takes me,
He, my Pilot, hears my cry.

(5) Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am Him, and He is mine.

Sermon Outline – John 15:1-11 - “Abiding = Fruitfulness”

Intro:

I. The Vine – vs. 1,5

II. The Branch – vs. 5

1. “in Christ” = our position
2. “abide in Christ” = our relationship

III. The Vine-Dresser – vs. 1

1. works with branches not producing fruitful
2. prunes branches that are fruitful to produce more fruit

IV. The Fruit

1. justice/righteousness – Isaiah 5:7
2. witnessing – Romans 1:13
3. holiness – Romans 6:22
4. giving – Romans 15:25-28
5. character – Galatians 5:22-23
6. righteousness – Philippians 1:11
7. praise/worship – Hebrews 13:15

Conclusion: How do we know if we are abiding?

1. producing fruit – vs 2
2. being pruned to bear more fruit – vs. 2
3. being kept clean thru obedience to His word – vs. 3
4. our prayers are being answered – vs. 7
5. we have genuine love for Jesus and others – vs. 9, 12
6. we are full of joy – 1 Peter 1:8
7. we are bringing glory to God – vs. 8