

January 12 Discussion Questions

“Stay with Jesus”

John 15:1-17

Review

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

Why Stay Connected with Jesus?

1. He is the **Source** of all Life and Power (v. 1,5)
2. Apart from Him you are **Powerless** (v. 5)
3. So your Life will Matter for **Eternity** (v. 5,16)
 - Being increasingly defined by **Love** (v. 6,8,12,17)

How to Stay Connected with Jesus:

1. Dwell on Jesus’ **Words** (v. 7-8)
 - Through Bible **Meditation** and **Memorization** (v. 10,15)
 - Through Bible **Discussion** (v. 10,12)
2. **Delight** in Jesus’ Love (v. 9,11)
3. Do what Jesus **Commands** (v. 10,12-13)

Connect

1. We live in a time when it is easier than ever to stay connected with people from around the globe. What technology do you use to connect to others? What benefit does this provide?
2. How is connecting with Jesus similar and different than the way we connect with others?

Read John 15:1-17

Discuss

3. What verse or truth most stands out to you in this passage?
4. What does this passage teach us about God? What does it teach us about ourselves?
5. Why is it so important to stay connected to Jesus? What happens when we do stay connected? What happens when we don’t?
6. The key command in this passage is to “abide in Jesus.” What does this mean? How is “striving” different from “abiding”?

7. Does abiding in Jesus complicate or simplify our Christian life?

Apply

8. What else besides Jesus have you tried to connect yourself to? What was the result?

9. Pastor Darin said it's hard for us to believe we can do "nothing" apart from Christ (v.5). How does the way you live show that you struggle to believe this entirely?

10. To produce fruit that remains (v.16) is a job that only God can perform. What fruit of eternal benefit do you want God to produce in and through your life?

11. How can you stay better connected to Jesus? Pastor Darin named several ways on Sunday:

- a. Dwell on Jesus' words
- b. Bible meditation
- c. Bible memorization
- d. Bible discussion with other Christians
- e. Delighting in Jesus' love
- f. Doing what Jesus commands

12. Based upon the study of this passage, how would you redefine your life's purpose?

Pray

13. John 15:7 challenges us to ask God for whatever we wish, and it will be done for us. The caveat is that we must first abide in Jesus.

- a. Pray that God will help you abide in Him more.
- b. Ask God to produce something specific in or through your life that only He could produce.