

## If My Words Abide in You

*"I am the vine; you are the branches.  
If a man remains in me and I in him,  
he will bear much fruit;  
apart from me you can do nothing."  
John 15:5*

The crucial pair:

*"remain in Me,  
and I will remain in you" → "bear fruit" (15:4)*

*"if a man remains in me  
and I in him" → "bear much fruit" (15:5)*

The "fruit" He wants for our lives is a result of Him "remaining in us" and us "remaining in Him."

**How do we "abide in" ("remain in") Jesus?**

**How does Jesus "abide in" ("remain in") us?**

15:4 *"remain in me, and I will remain in you"*

15:7 *"remain in me, and my words remain in you"*

A crucial part of how He "remains in us"—is by His words remaining in us.

**How do I do that? What is needed?**

1. I must know the words of Jesus.
2. When Jesus comes into me—He comes speaking.
3. I must let Him and His words rule my life.

**What words of Jesus—has God used to change me?**

**What words of Jesus—am I wrestling with now?**

**What words of Jesus—am I counting on for the future?**

**For the words of Jesus to "remain in me"—there must be:**

- decision (to know and grow—in His words)
- time and place
- a plan
- submission (in relationship)

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**Suggestions for growing in His words abiding in me...**

- Download a personal Bible reading plan from a website such as:  
[www.zondervan.com/Cultures/en-US/Product/Bible/Plans.htm?QueryStringSite=Zondervan](http://www.zondervan.com/Cultures/en-US/Product/Bible/Plans.htm?QueryStringSite=Zondervan)  
or  
[www.navpress.com/dj/content.aspx?id=138](http://www.navpress.com/dj/content.aspx?id=138)
- Read "the sermon on the mount" (Matthew 5,6,7) and write on a small card the words of Jesus that you hear Him speaking personally to you. Then carry the card with you and review it every day for a week.
- Speak to someone this week about the important words of Jesus that "abide in" you. Tell them the difference His words have made in your life.