

A person wearing a vibrant, multi-colored shawl is shown from the back, blowing a long, curved horn. The scene is set against a dramatic sunset with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a warm orange and yellow glow. The background features silhouettes of rolling hills or mountains under a clear sky. The overall mood is one of hope and spiritual awakening.

**ABIDING IN JESUS KEEPS US
WALKING IN THE LIGHT**

If anyone does not abide in Me he is
thrown away like a branch and withers;
and the branches are gathered, thrown
into the fire, and burned.

John 15:6

Only two groups of people:

- Genesis 6:9 says Noah walked in **habitual fellowship** with the Lord. He and his household were saved from the flood.
- Those of the world who didn't walk in relationship with God, they were an entire generation that were swept away to their destruction.

**Out of that place of abiding
we know we are in His hands.**

- We can know that we are in his will.
- We can know that all we are doing, all that we put our hand to flows out of His presence in our lives.

▶ Abiding in Christ, keeps us walking in the light.

1. That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—
2. the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—
3. that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:1–3

4. These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.
5. This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all.
6. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practise the truth.
7. But if we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:4–7

5. . . . by this we may know that we are in Him:
6. whoever says he **abides in Him** ought to walk in the same way in which He walked.

1 John 2:5b-6

Abiding is the demonstration of the relationship in Jesus!

I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

Ephesians 4:1

He empowers us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called.

No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him.

1 John 3:6

No one who abides in Him [who lives and remains in communion with, and in obedience to Him—deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] commits (practices) sin.

No one who [habitually] sins has either seen or known Him [recognised, perceived, or understood Him, or has had an experiential acquaintance with Him].

1 John 3:6 (Amplified Bible)

- No one who habitually abides . . . sins.
- No one who habitually sins . . . abides.

But I say, walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit [responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit]; then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh (of human nature without God).

Galatians 5:16 (Amplified Bible)

If we are conscious that trials, temptations, offences, fleshly appeals will continue to come, and we remember that they have often come with the purposes of luring us away from Jesus' presence and stop us abiding in His presence, then when they come, we will know not to be distracted by them, but continue to abide all the more in Jesus.

11. For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,
12. training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and Godly lives in the present age.

Titus 2:11-12

God's grace has the power to save us and God's grace has the power to keep us from stumbling. **(Jude 1:24)**

As we abide in Jesus, we are surrounded by His grace, we are filled by His grace and therefore we are governed by His grace.

- ▶ Abiding in Christ, keeps us walking in the light.
- ▶ Abiding in Christ, we press on in Jesus.

I have been crucified with Christ [that is, in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body I live by faith [by adhering to, relying on, and completely trusting] in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Galatians 2:20 (Amplified Bible)

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly (to the full, until it overflows).

John 10:10 (Amplified Bible)

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
Whom shall I send, and who will go for
Us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

Isaiah 6:8

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes
in Me will also do the works that I do;
and greater works than these will he do,
because I am going to the Father.

John 14:12



With every step you take, every decision you make, every conversation you have, and every thought you entertain, the LORD wants to glorify Himself through you. He desires to shine in your life. He desires to shine in your life with His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control, illuminating your unique talents, traits and personality, as you walk in total obedience to Him.

Charles Stanley

- ▶ Abiding in Christ, keeps us walking in the light.
- ▶ Abiding in Christ, we press on in Jesus.
- ▶ Abiding causes us to grow.

How do we grow in our relationship with Jesus?

We do this through Bible reading and study, and by coming to the Word with the expectation that we are going to have an encounter with the risen living Christ. We approach His Word, knowing that He has written it through the hands of others, for us, for our time, and for the specific purpose of changing us into His likeness and for His glory.

As our relationship with Jesus grows, our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ grows. God never calls us to go it alone. God has made us dependant upon Himself first and He has made us inter-dependant upon one another. Each of us has something from Christ to offer to others and everyone stands to grow in their relationship with Christ, as they receive from others within the body of Christ.

As we abide in Christ and grow in our relationship with Him, we mature in our prayer life, and our prayers become more effective as they come into alignment to His will.

... praying at all times in the Spirit.

Ephesians 6:18

... pray without ceasing.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

One writer says ... “it is an attitude of God-consciousness and God-surrender that we carry with us all the time.”

Unceasing prayer in the Spirit is, in essence, continual communion with and dependence upon our Lord. So praying without ceasing and in the Spirit is another way of saying ... abide in Jesus.

And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

Matthew 6:7

Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil.

Ecclesiastes 5:1

But the Lord is in His holy temple.
Let all the earth be silent before Him.

Habakkuk 2:20

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him.

Psalm 37:7

Come before Him with the reverence and honour that He is due, and sit patiently and quietly at His feet with expectant hearts, and let Him speak.

13. Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

14. I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.

Philippians 3:13b-14 (Amplified Bible)

From a place of abiding in Him, press on toward the Heavenly prize. Let us not be concerned with what lies behind us and the things we may have gotten wrong, or where we may have missed His leading, let us not condemn ourselves for how we may have spent the time thus far **don't let our past hold us back from Christ's future.**

- ▶ Abide in Christ and walk in the light.
- ▶ Abide in Christ and press forward toward the goal to which Jesus is calling us.
- ▶ Abide in Christ and expect to grow so that others would see Jesus in us the hope of glory!

What Does Abiding Look Like as We Go Into a New Year?

- ▶ As we move into a new year, Jesus does not call us to try harder, do more, or be busier for God. He calls us to one simple, life-giving word: abide.
- ▶ Abiding means choosing His presence over our own works.
- ▶ Abiding looks like attentiveness.
- ▶ Abiding also produces obedience.
- ▶ Abiding means dependence.

Am I abiding in Christ right now?