

Practicing His Presence

“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

Perhaps the greatest thing a Christian can do after salvation is to remain connected to/in Christ. How many times do we pray for things (that are usually good) that a life abiding in Christ already provides? We pray for patience, peace, grace, the ability to love others, basic material needs, etc. and what we need to learn is that a continual, firm connection to Christ provides all these things.

How often do we pray for direction or a word from God, when what we really need to do is to remain in Him?

Jesus’ analogy of a plant above is so appropriate. He is the source – we must remain in Him. When we “connect,” the sap (the Holy Spirit) flows into us and then produces fruit (fruits of the spirit). If we disconnect ourselves (focus on the wind and the waves – Matthew 14:22-33) we break that “connection” - God will allow us to do that. He does not force us to “remain” in Him. *It our duty as Christians to do so.*

Read “Practicing His Presence,” Brother Lawrence & Frank Laubach

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” – Matthew 28:20

“As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.” - Joshua 1:5

“I am the way and the truth and the life.” - John 14:6

Jesus is literally “the way” not just to salvation, but to life here on earth. He is “the life” and the way to that life. If we do not remain connected in Him, The Way, we will not have anywhere near the life He had in mind for us and He made some good promises in that regard.

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” – John 10:10

“When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken to the Lord.” – Exodus 34:29

Do you believe you can have that type of personal relationship with God? Does your answer say something about God or about you?