

Personal/Group Training Guide

Week of 2/3/19

AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

“Inside Out”

- (1) Read John 15:5-11. What does it mean to “abide in Christ?” Some translations say “remain in me.” What does it look like if we are abiding/remaining in Christ?
- (2) Jesus also says that apart from Him we can do nothing. What is He talking about? What things are impossible to accomplish apart from Christ?
- (3) Discuss the metaphor of the vine and the branches. What do branches receive from the vine? Correlate that to our faith – what do we receive from Christ that we cannot get on our own?
- (4) Read Galatians 2:20. What is Paul saying in this verse? How does this verse relate to Luke 9:23?
- (5) One of the sermon points was that abiding in Christ means being changed on the inside. Do you agree with this point? Why or why not? Have you ever tried to change your outward behavior/actions on your own strength or power? How successful were you?
- (6) Read John 15:8-9. What is Jesus referring to when He says “you will bear much fruit”? He also says that this will prove we are His disciples. Discuss this – how does the fruit we bear reflect our following Christ?
- (7) Read John 15:10-11. Obedience is critical in our faith journey. Have you ever tried to “make yourself” obey Christ? How challenging is it to obey Christ and His teachings? Why is abiding in Christ necessary to accomplish this?
- (8) Is there a difference between happiness and joy? If so, how? In regard to our previous lessons on the Kingdom and Kingdom living, how can living in obedience to Jesus enable life as God intends?
- (9) What is sin? In the sermon, the point was made that sin is a disturbance in shalom (peace) that God provides. Share your thoughts on this. What are some of the effects of sin that you have witnessed?
- (10) How can we return to shalom when there has been a disturbance/disruption in it? How can the group pray for you this week so that you may “abide in Christ”?