



How to Receive What You Wish

John 15:1-9

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you (John 15:7—KJV).

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you (John 15:7—NASB).

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you (John 15:7—NRSV).

Jesus taught His true disciples that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit make their home with and within them. In John 14:23, Jesus promised, “Those who love me will keep (obey) my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.” In John 15:4, Jesus promised, “Abide (remain) in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” Jesus described the closest possible spiritual relationship between God and His true disciples. True disciples abide in Jesus rather than turn away, as Judas did, to follow a false god or their own selfish willfulness. True disciples of Jesus remain in and with Jesus by reading, receiving as true, and remembering the words of Jesus in the Bible as the Holy Spirit within them helps them. Jesus loves His disciples as the Father loves Him, so His disciples love Them, abide in Their love, obey Their words, bear much fruit, and glorify Them. Wherever they live, Jesus’ disciples seek to obey Jesus’ words and believe His promise in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” When Jesus’ disciples pray according to the word and will of God, God will do whatever they wish.

Thinking Further

1. What is the relationship between the Father and the Son and Jesus and His followers as Jesus described it in these verses?
2. What do the Father, Jesus, and His followers do?
3. What can branches do if they do not remain in the vine?
4. What happens to branches that do not remain in the vine?
5. What did Jesus say about the consequences of abiding or remaining in the vine and what did He mean?