

## The Big 3 of Abiding

April 26th, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: **John 15:1-9**

We can all relate to this passage...

**"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. John 15:1-2**

Most of us, around the world, feel like normal life has been \_\_\_\_\_ away. Many things that we experienced as normal are gone, pruned back.

Regardless of how the pruning happened (God, the devil, your boss, a politician), if you get pruned back, Jesus says, do this: Abide in me so that you bear great fruit!

**I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing...<sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. John 15:5,9**

God's will is for your life to be full of good fruit!

In this season, much has been pruned back and many distractions have been removed. We have a golden opportunity: Create a new \_\_\_\_\_ for abiding.

To clarify, by abiding, I mean, cultivating \_\_\_\_\_ with God. The word abide means: to stay, remain, dwell.

Even Jesus modeled a regular rhythm of retreat in order to abide.

**But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray... Luke 5:15-16**

**A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Luke 6:40**

When you grow proficient in one skill of abiding, look to add another, so that you expand your repertoire of how to connect with God.

### *The Big Three of Abiding: Bible, Prayer, Worship*

*Bible-*Your source of Truth

**Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2**  
Abiding in God's word transforms and renews our mind with a \_\_\_\_\_ of Truth!

*Prayer-* Your conversation with God

**"Make your life a prayer." 1 Thessalonians 5:17**

Our conversation(s) with God can grow to the point of being a \_\_\_\_\_ connection.

*Worship-* Your exaltation of God

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Ps 100:4**  
\_\_\_\_\_ and praise are essential for a healthy soul.

### **Responding to God...**

What rhythms of abiding with God would you like to have in your life, best case scenario?

If you have been practicing good rhythms this is probably a good season to ask God, what would be a good area to expand into next? (or just try something new!)?

**Answers:** pruned, normal, connection, worldview, constant, gratitude