

Restless desire is at the very heart of what it means to be human, shaping our behavior from cradle to grave, for better and for worse.

Your problem was, things are bad, I gotta make it good. Their problem's gonna be, things are good, why do I feel bad?

-Jerry Seinfeld & Kevin Hart, Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee

As Christians, our goal is not to quench our desires or even to minimize their intensity. Rather, what must be different is the object of our desires and affections.

Philip D Kenneson

Gods desire is to be with us and that we would be fruitful.

John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me."

John 15:8 - "My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples."

Becoming a fruitful community isn't achieved through self-building but in abiding; learning to find and make our true home in Jesus as he makes His home in us.

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.

John 1:1 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 15:1-2 - "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vineyard keeper. Every branch in Me that does not produce fruit He removes, and He prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit."

The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us.

CS Lewis

John 15:3 - You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

John 15:4 - Remain in Me, and I in you.

John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me.

John 15:7 - If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you.

Exodus 3:13-14 - Then Moses asked God, "If I go to the Israelites and say to them: The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they ask me, 'What is His name?' what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you."

John 6:33-35 - For the bread of God is the One who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” Then they said, “Sir, give us this bread always!” “I am the bread of life,” Jesus told them. “No one who comes to Me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in Me will ever be thirsty again.”

John 8:12 - Then Jesus spoke to them again: “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.”

John 10:7-10 - So Jesus said again, "I assure you: I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance."

John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live."

John 14:6 - Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

God in Christ pursues a relationship with us, and in Christ the fullness of life and God's good pleasure is offered.

First, we abide in prayer

John 1:38-39 - When Jesus turned and noticed them following Him, He asked them, "What are you looking for?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are You staying?" "Come and you'll see," He replied. So they went and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day. It was about 10 in the morning.

Second, we abide in communion

John 6:56 - The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood lives in Me, and I in him.

Third, we abide in the words of Christ

John 8:31-32 - So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Fourth, we abide in loving others

John 15:10 - If you keep My commands you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commands and remain in His love.

John 15:17 - This is what I command you: Love one another.

Prayer, Communion, Scripture and Service are ways of abiding in that they all declare the love of God found in Christ.

We spend most of our lives running after our careers and trying to make a living. We all are part of a never ending rat race where there are goals to be achieved and targets to be met. But there comes a time in our life when no matter how successful we are, no matter what we have achieved or where we stand we just desire to be loved to the core.