

Christ is Risen//Part 3: Resurrection Life

4.15.07 : John 14 & 15

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[recap]

We know that because of the resurrection our life can look different. All of the letters written in the New Testament talk about who we are in Christ and the kind of lives that can and should come out of that, but when we look at our own lives we're often discouraged. What if the reason we have such a hard time living these lives is that it runs against our nature? What if it's not about trying but it's about abiding?

[the setup]

The best way to begin this is to follow the narrative we've been reading through this whole series. Jesus was betrayed and crucified, He rose again, and now we find ourselves in Acts 1.

[read Acts 1.3-11]

[read Acts 2.1-41]

If you had to give a synopsis to the next part of the narrative what would it be? What's the focus and how does the focus play out in the story?

[a closer look]

Quite often churches miss what the Holy Spirit is all about. Many churches avoid the topic all together because they think the Holy Spirit is too unpredictable while others over emphasize what the Holy Spirit might do. As we pursue the resurrection life, a life alive in Christ, it's important for us to remember that the Holy Spirit plays a key part in that.

Let's take a look at what Jesus has to say about the Holy Spirit.

[read John 14.15-27]

What does Jesus begin by telling us people who love him should do?

What does he tell us the Holy Spirit will do for us? How do you think that relates to the commands of Christ?

[read John 15.1-11]

When you read through this section what connection do you see to the previous statements Jesus has made about the Holy Spirit?

What do you think Jesus would say about our natural ability to live the life he's called us to on our own?

From reading the 2 sections from John 14 and 15 what is Jesus saying is the key to our lives producing the fruit he talks about?

[getting personal]

[read Ephesians 4.30]

What do you think Paul means when he talks about grieving the Holy Spirit?

If the Holy Spirit was given to us as a helper, if He lives in us and gives us guidance and leading and we ignore it we are grieving the Holy Spirit.

Have you or even more so... DO you grieve the Holy Spirit? Do you sense his promptings and ignore them? If so you should repent of this. Ask for forgiveness. Ask for his leading in your life. Be aware of his guidance and respond.

[digging deeper]

[read Galatians 5.16-26]

Jesus knows that by our own nature we have no ability to live out this resurrection life, so he sent us the Holy Spirit to help produce it in us. If we stay connected to the Vine then we will produce fruit.

When you read through this section what kind of fruit is your life producing? Are you producing fruit of the Spirit or are you producing fruit of the flesh?

What would it look like for you to abide in Christ? How are you abiding and what needs to change so you can abide more?

What does God want to prune away from your life so that you will produce “much fruit” of the Spirit?