

# Open the Light

*For God, who commanded the light  
to shine out of darkness,  
hath shined in our hearts,  
to give the light of the knowledge  
of the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.  
2 Corinthians 4:6*

*Character Building  
In A Relationship with God*

*He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out  
of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38*

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# Study 4

Daily Bible study is about getting to know God and spending time with Him each day. Carefully pace your way through this study, do as much as time allows each day, no need to rush. Allow the Word of God to sink into your heart by meditating on God's Word every morning with the Spirit of God guiding you in Jesus' name.

### **Abide in the Vine**

*Before opening God's word, pray, asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and to bless you with understanding in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

Read John 15:1-10 then write down the words Jesus used to describe Himself and His Father in John 15:1 on the lines below.

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Jesus truly is the Vine, His Father is the Husbandman, and if we are of Jesus we are of the Vine.

### The meaning of Husbandman

From (G1093- Contracted from a primary word; soil; by extension a region, or the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe (including the occupants in each application): - country, earth (-ly), ground, land, world.) and (the base of G2041- (a primary but obsolete word; to work); toil (as an effort or occupation); by implication an act: - deed, doing, labour, work.); a land worker, that is, farmer: - husbandman.

In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day. [Isaiah 27:2-3](#)

Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last. [Isaiah 48:12](#)

[Read John 15:4-5.](#)

Jesus invites us to abide in Him, as he said, "Abide in me". [In the invitation](#) Jesus promises to abide in you, "and I in you." "He that abideth in me, and I in him," Abide means to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy): - abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry. (Reference from Strong's Concordance,) What a blessed promise, to have Jesus abide with us, if we abide in Him.

After the invitation to abide in Him, Jesus tells us why it is important to abide with him. "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."

[Read Verse 2 of John 15.](#)

We are the branches on The Vine. When abiding in The Vine we grow and the more we grow, fruit is produced. Growing in Jesus changes us, and we bear Fruit of The Spirit. When others around you see or get to taste of your fruit and they like the fruit you have, they want to know of that fruit and how to receive of it for themselves. When they learn of the Vine and take up the invitation to abide in the Vine, they themselves grow in the Vine and even more fruit is produced through them.

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise. [Proverbs 11:30](#)

[Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit that "He may abide with you for ever;"](#) [John14:16](#)

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Read 1 John Chapter 5, God our Father, Jesus our Lord “the Word”, and the Holy Spirit/Ghost, are one. For us to bear fruit we need to be connected to the Vine. The Holy Spirit of God works in us through Jesus.

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” [Philippians 4:13](#). Always remember the importance of abiding in Jesus, staying connected with Him, The Vine.

*Remember always to pray and ask God to come into your heart and lead you to Him, The I Am, The Husbandman, The God of Love. And for the Holy Spirit to guide you throughout the day that you will always stay connected to the Vine. And remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name.*

*Before opening God’s word, say prayer, asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

Re-read John 15:1-10

*purgeth = to cleanse, that is, (specifically) to prune; figuratively to expiate: - purge.*

*Purge- to rid (something of (impure or undesirable elements)*

(References from the Strong’s Concordance, Collins Dictionary)

Now that you know what it means to be Purged. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you a deeper understanding of these verses.

We have learned that God, our Heavenly Father is likened to us as a Potter who molds us in a way that is right to Him. Now we are going to look at our Heavenly Father as a Husbandman. “In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.” [Isaiah 27:2-3](#)

When we are purged by God, our Husbandman, we are been cleaned, taking away our impure or undesirable elements. We can grow to be more like

Jesus. However, we must make the choice on allowing God to work within us. When we choose to be in Jesus, The Vine, we are giving God permission to purge us. For when we have anything to do with The Son, we also deal with The Father, our God, for they are one. “I and my Father are one” [John 10:30](#). “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” [John 14:6](#).

Jesus likens Himself as the Vine. He is our way to life eternal. Without Him we can do nothing of ourselves to gain eternal life, we must be connected to the Vine. “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.” [John 15:4 & 5](#)

God is our Heavenly Husbandman. He knows our every need, He cares for us, He knows our hearts and what our hearts desire. “Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” [Matthew 6:31-33](#). “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](#)

God also knows what we do not always see within ourselves, that is our impure or undesirable parts of our hearts. Like the Potter that reshapes our marred hearts, The Husbandman purges us and rids the impure or undesirable elements of our hearts. When we spend time in the Word of God, the Word through the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see our impure or undesirable parts. We give our impure or undesirable parts to God, through Jesus, because of His love for us and our desire to be with Him, we no longer desire them. Through the Word we are cleaned. “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any

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creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.” [Hebrews 4:12-13](#). Jesus said, “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you”. [John 15:3](#)

Read the following verses regarding God knowing the heart.

[Luke 16:15](#), [1 Kings 8:39](#), [1 Chronicles 28:9](#).

We cannot hide anything from the Husbandman; our hearts are fully known yet loved of God and Son. That is why we are given “The Word” that we can be made cleaned if we choose to live in “the Word”, “the Vine” Jesus.

*Pray now and ask God to come into your heart and purge you, for He is our Husbandman that purges us in His Love. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you throughout the day that you will always stay connected to the Vine and remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking these things in Jesus Holy Name.*

*Always pray before opening God’s word, asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and open your heart and mind with understanding of His Blessed Word, always in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.” [John 15:4](#)

God gave us His Word that we may believe in Him and believe that His thoughts toward us, is in His love for us. Believe and have faith in Him at His Word, that we will abide with Him and His Son forever. “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.” [Jeremiah 29:11](#). This expected end is Eternal Life with our Heavenly family. Have Faith. “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” [Romans 10:9](#) “believe in thine heart” for if you believe, with all thy heart, you will walk in the Word of God.

Read [Deuteronomy 30:10-20](#), [1 Kings 2:3 & 4](#).

To say I believe in the Word and yet not walk in it, is a heart issue. That is why we are to believe with all our heart, as it is the heart that moves us. Anyone can believe, but it is from the heart that we truly follow in love for God. It is written in [James 2:19](#) “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.” It is the heart that brings forth action in our behaviour. “A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.” [Matthew 12:35](#). “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.” [Luke 6:45](#).

Belief is not enough; you need to believe with all thy heart, this is a requirement of God, “And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?” [Deuteronomy 10:12-13](#). “My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. **Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.** [Proverbs 4:20-23](#).

Would it be possible to abide in The Vine without belief that comes from the heart?

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Read [James Chapter 2](#)

*Pray now and ask God to come into your heart and lead you in your walk with Him, following His Commandments, doing His will. Pray for the Holy*

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*Spirit to guide you through the day, remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking these things in Jesus Holy Name.*

*Always pray when opening God's word, ask God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and open your heart and mind to understand His Blessed Word, in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

Please take your time reading through the following study.

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me ... If a man abide **not** in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.” **John 15:4,6.**

To understand these verses above, we need to study and read through **Ezekiel 18:21-32** and **Romans 11:13-25**. Please prayerfully read them and think on these things that God has shared with us.

The above readings have lots of lessons in them for us to learn. One is that we all have a choice to make, whether to walk with God or not. No matter what choice you make, it comes with a consequence. The consequences are to have life everlasting or Death. God is not unjust in His dealings with us, as He is not willing for any of us to die and be withered and cast into the fire. As we read these verses, we learn God is longsuffering towards us, longing for us to walk with Him, for us to choose life and not die. Read and note, **2 Peter 3:8-9.**

One important thing to remember is. that each day we must make the choice to walk with him. We cannot choose today to walk with Him, and then go **do as we will.** “Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.” **Hebrews 3:12-15.** “Let love be without dissimulation. **Abhor** that which is

evil; **cleave** to that which is good”. **Romans 12:9** **Abhor** means to dislike intensely, to detest utterly, and to hate. **Cleave** means to cling to or to stick to. We are to “**Abhor that which is evil,**” But “**Cleave to that which is good.**”

If you turn back to God after walking away from Him or have just learned of Him and have accepted to abide with Him, with all your heart, God is willing and able to graft you into or back into His fold.

Never, ever, let the Evil one persuades you to think that you can walk in the way of the world for a time and when you think you will be ready to walk with God you will walk with Him then, as God will take me back. This kind of choice will be proof that your heart is not with God, as you are showing that you love the evil of the world more, as you would be choosing the ways of the world, over God, first. “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” **Matthew 6:21.** Remember we are called to walk with Him **while today is call today, for we know not what the morrow brings.** “Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. **James 4:14.** “Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.” **Hebrews 4:12-15.** **As Moses said** “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest **cleave** unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.” **Deuteronomy 30:19-20.** **As God Said to Moses,** “O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever! **Deuteronomy 5:29.**

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Read Deuteronomy 30:6-20.

Whose laws, whose Commandments and whose ways are we to follow?

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Who are we to love and obey?

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Are there any promises in this scripture and if so, what are they?

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Are there any consequences with the choices you make and if so, what are they?

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Read Deuteronomy 30:6; 10:16, Romans 2:29.

The circumcision of the heart is a stripping away of our pride, our sinfulness, our self-confidence within ourselves; **and placing fully, in faith, our dependence on God, deep within the heart, trusting in His guidance, living on His Word, staying connected to the Vine our Lord and Saviour.** It is important to let God our Husbandman to do the circumcision on our hearts; clearing away anything that may draw us away

from Him. That we may abide with Him forever more and not be cast into the fire and burned, “therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.” Deuteronomy 30:19.

*Pray now and ask God to circumcise your heart and lead you to walk with Him, following His Commandments, doing His will. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you through the day, remember to pray for others and then your needs, in Jesus Holy Name.*

*Remember, before opening God's word, say prayer, ask of God, for the Holy Spirit to guide you into His love, in the Name of our Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ.*

Open your Bible to John 15:1-9 and fill in the blanks in the following verses or write the verses out on paper or in a notebook.

Jesus said,

“ \_\_\_\_\_ am the \_\_\_\_\_ vine, and my Father is \_\_\_\_\_ husbandman. Every branch \_\_\_\_\_ me that beareth not \_\_\_\_\_ he taketh away: and every branch that \_\_\_\_\_ fruit, he \_\_\_\_\_ it, that it may bring \_\_\_\_\_ more fruit. Now ye are \_\_\_\_\_ through the word which I have \_\_\_\_\_ unto you. \_\_\_\_\_ in me, and \_\_\_\_\_ in you. As the branch \_\_\_\_\_ bear fruit of itself, except it abide \_\_\_\_\_ the vine; \_\_\_\_\_ more can ye, except ye abide \_\_\_\_\_ me. I am \_\_\_\_\_ vine, ye are the \_\_\_\_\_: He that abideth \_\_\_\_\_ me, and I \_\_\_\_\_ him, the same bringeth \_\_\_\_\_ much fruit: for \_\_\_\_\_ me ye can do \_\_\_\_\_. If a man abide \_\_\_\_\_ in me, \_\_\_\_\_ is cast forth as a branch, and \_\_\_\_\_ withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye \_\_\_\_\_ in me, and my words \_\_\_\_\_ in you, ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ what ye \_\_\_\_\_, and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ unto you. Herein is my \_\_\_\_\_ glorified, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ much fruit; so shall ye be my \_\_\_\_\_. As the Father hath \_\_\_\_\_ me, so have I loved \_\_\_\_\_. continue ye \_\_\_\_\_ my love.” **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and**

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abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. **John 15:1-12**

Read

Exodus 20:1-17.

1 Kings 2:3&4.

Deuteronomy 30:10-20; 10:12-13.

Micah 6:8.

Joshua 22:5; 24:15

*Pray and ask God, The Husbandman, for the Holy Spirit to guide you and to come into your heart to lead you in your walk with Him every day, forever choosing to always be connected to The Vine, our Lord, and Saviour Jesus Christ. Remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking these things in Jesus Holy Name. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. 1Timothy 1:17*