



Speaker: Matt Magee

Series: Abide: Cultivating Intimacy with Christ

Sermon Title: Three Necessities for a Fruit-Bearing Life in Christ

Scripture: [John 15:1-8](#)

(Pro Tip: click on the passages linked above to be taken to a page with all the passages in one location.)

Main Idea: To bear fruit as Christians, and so prove to be His disciples, we must realize our dependence on Christ *through* active exposure to His Word so *that* we know what to ask our Heavenly Father for in Jesus' name.

OUTLINE

1. Realize your dependence on Christ (1-6).
 1. John 14:6-11
 2. John 10:25-30
2. Cultivate active exposure to God's Word (3, 7).
 1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 describes a four-step process the Lord has given for
 - THINKING
 - 1. Doctrine/Teaching: How to think right. What perfect truth does God want me to learn from this passage? How does my faith in and love for Jesus Christ motivate me to learn, believe and apply this?
 - 2. Reproof: How not to think wrong. How am I tempted to think differently? Am I willing to believe what God thinks over what I think?
 - ACTING
 - 3. Correction: How not to act wrong. What behaviors am I learning to avoid from this truth?
 - 4. Disciplined Training in Righteousness: How to act right. How can I discipline myself to start and continue doing the right actions from the right motives?
3. Ask for whatever dependence on Christ and understanding God's Word cause you to

desire (7-8, 16).

1. Psalm 37:3-4

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. Reflect on the sermon. What stood out to you in your initial reaction and the content of the passage?
2. How did Pastor Matt compare the dependence of vines on God-given resources to the dependence of Christians on Christ and through His Word and prayer?
3. Why is it necessary to actively expose ourselves to God's Word?
4. What is the significance of asking for what we desire in dependence on Christ and understanding God's Word?
5. In what ways do you need to cultivate dependence on Christ and His word? What steps will you take to do this?
6. How do these verses say we can tell if we truly realize our dependence on Christ?
7. Review point 2 above and discuss the four-step change process God has given in 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Download *A Process for Learning, Believing and Applying Truth*
8. Reminder from last week. Take a look at twenty questions for a new year (in these two articles):
 - *Ten Questions for a New Year*
 - *Ten (More) Questions for a New Year*