

CONFIRMATION WORSHIP NOTES

Name: _____

Date: _____

1) How were you able to consciously abide in Christ this week?

2) Why do you think we are spending 7 weeks on this one scripture passage?

3) What question(s) do you have regarding the order of service?

4) Write down one word to describe your response to the service today.

Confirmation Sermon Notes

Sermon Series: Abide

Sermon Title:

Text: John 15:1-17

Write down the Next Step for this week:

Study Guide

Read/Listen to John 15:1-17

What did you notice this past week about vines/branches/pruning?

Can you describe what it was like for you to abide in Christ this past week?

How do you think the Father is pruning you so you can bear more fruit?

Imagine being in the upper room with Jesus, listening to him speaking these words;
Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. (Jn. 15:3)
What do you think your response would have been? Why?

Look back to John 13:1-20.

What do you notice about Jesus' words that is similar?

Scan John 13:21-14:31.

Is there anything else from this scene that would impact the way the disciples would have heard Jesus' teaching in John 15? Be specific.

The word "clean" and the word "prune" sound very different to us in English. In the original Greek, the words are nearly identical. The word "prune" is *kathairei* which is a verb. The word "clean" is *kathairos* which is an adjective.

Understanding this distinction, how does Jesus' statement sit with you?
Does this change your thinking about pruning? Why or why not?

Read John 15:3 again.

Why are the disciples already clean, according to Jesus?

How does the word of Jesus relate to the work of the Father?

Have you ever experienced pruning simply because of Jesus' word being heard?

Think about your relationship with God's Word.

How has God's Word made you clean already?

In what way(s) do you see God's Word continuing to make it possible for you to abide in Christ?

What is one area of knowing God's Word that you want to grow in? How might you abide in Christ by growing in your knowing?

Martin Luther makes the point that God's Word is to be "received and embraced by faith."
How does this connect with the idea of abiding?

Is it possible to abide in Christ without God's Word? Why/why not?

Read John 15:1-3 one more time.

What questions do you think you would have had for Jesus if you were one of the disciples in the room during this teaching?

How difficult is it for you to sit with these first three verses? How important is the rest of the thought?

Why do you think Jesus used the image of the vine/branches to teach about the importance of abiding in Him?

How would you explain to someone else what it means to abide in Christ?

Would you use the same image of the vine/branches? If not, what metaphor would you use?

Next Step: Think about the Word become flesh (Jesus) and what He has said that makes you clean.

Next Week's Scripture: John 15:1-17