



Justapreacher Ministries

Preach the Word, be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. — 1 Timothy 4:2

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- God to use the recent meeting with FBC leadership as He sees fit
- A Call to Revival at De Funiak Springs Baptist Church Nov. 11-16
- Board of Directors meeting Nov. 19
- Possible ministry opportunity the last week in November in Alabama

YOUR GIFTS ARE APPRECIATED!

As this year draws to a close, we ask that you pray about what God might ask you to give to further this ministry and the message of focusing the Bride's attention back on the Lord Jesus. **Thank you** to those who have given!

If you would like to help support the ministry, please send your tax-deductible gift to:
 Justapreacher Ministries
 P.O. Box 372236
 Satellite Beach, FL 32937

We're on the web
www.justapreacherministries.org

How Do We Abide in Christ?

Jim was asked this question in a recent email, and we felt led to share his response with you.

The answer for how to abide in Christ, is to practice the spiritual disciplines, (prayer, study, silence, worship, etc.) but to do so out of a love response instead of duty. We have been taught for too long that the emphasis should be on *us* and *our effort* in order to get God to “respond”, or “work in our lives”. What God is trying to help us see is that He responds to those who come to Him and trust in Him, not because they have to, but because of an understanding of who He is, and what His heart toward them is really like. In other words, the focus of our abiding should not be on us or our efforts, but on Him and His greatness and love!

Look at what Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15. He said it was the LOVE that Jesus had given to them that compelled them to live obedi-

ent lives. Yes, we should no longer live for ourselves, but for the One who died for us and rose again. Moreover, we should be doing this in response to His love for us, not in legalistic obedience. The church has tried to “sanctify” believers today through rules and regulations with a focus on what is right and wrong.

All I am saying is that if we once again go back to a real understanding of the sufficiency of Christ, who we are in Christ, where we truly stand in Christ, and the *freedom* that we have received through Christ, what is right and what is wrong will be a natural outflow of living in this understanding. The idea of freedom in Christ is frightening to many Christians, so we have tried to humanly produce what only the Holy Spirit of God living in and through us can produce! So, in essence, abiding means realizing that if we **are** in Christ, we **will** abide or remain (Jude 24, Phil. 1:6), and then it means living with Him daily in the joy of this wonderful truth.

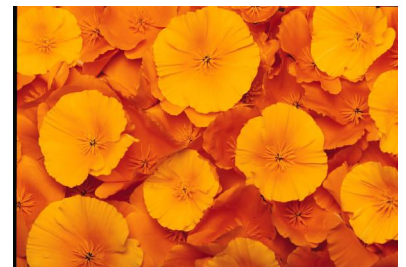
So, before you focus on abiding, make sure that you truly understand what this great salvation you have received really is and what that means to you. (I cannot say that I truly understand all of it yet, but what God has taught me has produced a peace in my heart that makes me respond to Him more out of love than fear, I as I used to do.) I find myself much more desirous to spend time with Him now, in response to His welcoming presence, when before I often spent time with God daily because of guilt or duty. (You know, “it was the right thing to do.”) David Brainerd, a missionary who spent his years serving the Native Americans found that they much more truly and easily repented in response to the love of God than the fear of God. Remember, the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, but eventually we come to realize that perfect love casts out fear. (Proverbs 9: 10, 1 John 4: 18)

Recent and Upcoming Events

November has been busy, as Jim has already had two trips, and we are only 8 days into the month! On Nov. 2-4, Jim taught a “Principles of a God-Centered Church” Seminar to the leadership of First Baptist New Tampa to prepare them to teach the workbook to church members on some upcoming Wednesday nights.

Jim also had the opportunity to speak to some Department leaders at the Florida Baptist Convention in Jacksonville on Nov.6. That was a terrific opportunity, and God blessed the time there. Please pray God will use that as He sees fit.

Coming up on November 11-16, Jim will be preaching “A Call to Revival” at Westside Baptist in



De Funiak Springs, FL. He will be preaching two Sunday services, and Monday-Friday nights. Please be praying for that time.

Jim may travel to Alabama the end of this month to minister to a church. Also, in December Jim will be attending a prophecy conference in Dallas.