



SPIRITUAL FAITHFULNESS

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *John 15:1-8*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

Jesus is the True Vine and the source of eternal life. Believers born of water and of the Spirit have been grafted into the Vine (Jesus Christ), by the baptism of the Holy Spirit; making us one with God (*John 15:1*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him (I John 2:27).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. Jesus is the Sower of the Word of God. When fallen upon good ground (a heart of faith), the Word of God will bring forth much fruit and thus we become His disciples. To the branch that bears fruit, Jesus purges to bring forth more fruit. To the branch that does not bear fruit, He takes away (*John 15:2; Galatians 5:22-23*).
2. We are sanctified by the Word of God, which reproves us of sin (*John 15:3; 16:8; 17:17*).
3. Jesus did everything through the power of the Holy Spirit. If we walk in obedience, we can also do the same (*John 15:4*).
4. As long as we keep His commandments and abide in His love, we will bring forth much fruit because without Him we can do nothing (*John 14:23-24, 15:5; Galatians 5:22*).

5. If one does not abide in Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit, one is unable to do God's work. Due to disobedience, we will be found unfit for His service and be cut off from the Vine that is Christ Jesus (*John 15:6*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

Jesus, while walking with His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane, looked upon the fruit of the vines and began to teach them a strong spiritual lesson. *"I am the vine, and 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 15:5*). Jesus stressed the importance of abiding in the Vine through obedience, with the Holy Spirit. Spiritually, we are united to Jesus (and each other) by the baptism of the Holy Spirit. For apart from the Vine (Jesus Christ), we can do nothing.

LESSON SUMMARY:

A Christian life should be lived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Without Jesus we can do nothing. Everything Jesus did was through the power of the Holy Spirit, leaving us a great example to follow. Through God's Holy Spirit, as we abide in the Vine that is Christ Jesus, He will be able to use us to His own honor and glory, manifesting the life of Christ through us, bearing much fruit, giving God all the glory, thus remaining His disciples.

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