

Keys to Everything

July 24, 2005

Review "God is Consuming"

Review "Fullness of Christ"

- The **mind** & **attitude** of Christ is one of humility & service.
- The **will** of Christ is to always please the Father.
- His **heart** is compassionate and merciful.
- The **work** of Christ is to set captives free...
- The **purpose** of Christ is to destroy the devil's work.
- Christ's **eyes** are discerning and wise.
- The **mouth** of Christ is filled with the Word of God.
- Christ's **hands** were hands of healing and miracles.

These things are actually impossible.

So, how can we obey God in them?

1. Surrender

Luke 9:23-24

Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.

You cannot get into life except through death, and you cannot get into death except by life. The only way to go into fullness with God is for the life of Christ to swallow up the natural life. For the natural life to be swallowed up there must be nothing there but helplessness until the life of Christ strengthens the natural life. Yet instead of the natural life being strengthened the spiritual life comes forth with abounding conditions. ---Smith Wigglesworth

James 4:7

Submit yourselves, then, to God.

God says:

"Be holy"

"Be perfect"

"Do greater things"

We say:

"I can't"

God says:

"Exactly"

"Therefore, surrender to me and I'll do these things in and through you."

Holiness is thought of as perfection. But the real essence of holiness (as well as sanctification) is to **be set apart**. Even the very commands of holiness and perfection find their fulfillment in a life of surrender.

Sanctification is not something which you can accomplish yourself. No, it is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of holiness alone who can communicate His holiness to you and renew it continually. --Andrew Murray

Absolute dependence upon God is the secret of all power in work.

What is meant by entire surrender? It means that just as literally as Christ was given up entirely to God, I am given up entirely to Christ. Just as entirely and absolutely as Christ gave up His life to do nothing but seek the Father's pleasure, and depend on the Father absolutely and entirely, I am to do nothing but to seek the pleasure of Christ. I, who have been bought with the blood of Christ, have been bought to live every day with the one thought—How can I please my

Master? Oh, we find the Christian life so difficult because we seek for God's blessing while we live in our own will.

--Andrew Murray

If you make a compromise with surrender, you can remain interested in the abundant life, all the riches of freedom, love, and peace, but it is the same as looking at a display in a shop window. You look through the window but do not go in and buy. You will not pay the price-surrender.

E. Stanley Jones

Our dog, Toby only sits when pushed or intimidated. This is not what God wants!

Romans 6:13

offer yourself to God

Offer = stand ready; yield

offer your body to him (instrument of righteousness)

Righteousness = doing what God requires

Give up yourselves absolutely to the will of God. You know something of that will; not enough, far from all. But say absolutely to the Lord God: "By Thy grace I desire to do Thy will in everything, every moment of every day." Say: "Lord God, not a word upon my tongue but for Thy glory, not a movement of my temper but for Thy glory, not an affection of love or hate in my heart but for Thy glory, and according to Thy blessed will."

--Andrew Murray

Philippians 2:13

it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Come and say: "I give myself absolutely to God, to let Him work in me to will and to do of His good pleasure, as He has promised to do."

Yes, the living God wants to work in His children in a way that we cannot understand, and He wants to work in us every moment of the day. God is willing to maintain our life. Only let our absolute surrender be one of simple, childlike, and unbounded trust.

--Andrew Murray

Romans 12:1

offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship.

We are to walk in total submission to the Holy Spirit, just as Christ walked in constant, absolute submission to the Father... If we're able to grasp this one truth, we can enter in to a life that's free of distress, full of assured direction, and marked by perfect rest. The key is to "just say yes!"

David Wilkerson

2. Abide

John 15:1-8

15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

What a simple thing it is to be a branch— the branch of a tree, or the branch of a vine! The branch grows out of the vine, or out of the tree, and there it lives and in due time bears fruit. It has no responsibility except just to receive from the root and stem, sap and nourishment. And if we only by the Holy Spirit knew our relationship to Jesus Christ, our work would be changed into the brightest and most heavenly thing upon earth. Instead of there ever being soul-weariness or exhaustion, our work would be like a new experience, linking us to Jesus as nothing else can.

Absolute dependence upon God is the secret of all power in work. The branch has nothing but what it gets from the vine, and you and I can have nothing but what we get from Jesus.

The first thing you need is to come and rest in your Lord Jesus. If you would be a true branch of Christ, the living Vine, just rest on Him. Let Christ bear the responsibility.”

You are ordained not only to bear fruit, but to bear much fruit. So, what is wanting? There is wanting the close connection between the worker and the heavenly Vine. You cannot bear heavenly fruit unless you are in close connection with Jesus Christ. As the vine does its work in giving its own peculiar sap to the branch, so expect Christ to give His own Holy Spirit into your heart, and then you will bear much fruit. Remember, that in order to bear more fruit you just require more of Jesus in your life and heart.

The life of the branch is a life of close communion. Abide. Your life is to be an abiding life. And how is the abiding to be? It is to be just like the branch in the vine, abiding every minute of the day. What is the application to our life with regard to this abiding communion? What does it mean? It means close fellowship with Christ in secret prayer. Take time to be alone with Christ.

--Andrew Murray, Divine Healing

Abide = corded vacuum rather than a rechargeable dust-buster

Abiding basically requires two things:

Prayer

1 Thessalonians 5:17
pray continually

Colossians 4:2
Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Luke 18:1
Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Romans 12:12
Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Ephesians 6:18
And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

Word

2 Timothy 2:15
Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Matthew 4:4
Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

Psalms 119:11

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

“Every activity can be transformed into an act of worship when you do it for the praise, glory, and pleasure of God. The Bible says, “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” Martin Luther said, “A dairymaid can milk cows to the glory of God.” How is it possible to do everything to the glory of God? By doing everything as if you were doing it for Jesus and by carrying on a continual conversation with him while you do it! The Bible says, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” This is the secret to a lifestyle of worship—doing everything as if I was doing it for Jesus. Work becomes worship when you dedicate it to God and perform it with an awareness of his presence.

---Rick Warren

Perhaps a third ingredient for abiding is...

Repentance

Jeremiah 15:19

"If you repent, I will restore you

And, this pretty much leads us back to “surrender.”

Presence =

Rest Exodus 33:14

"My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Joy Psalm 21:6

Surely you have granted him eternal blessings and made him glad with the joy of your presence

Shelter Psalm 31:20

In the shelter of your presence you hide them from the intrigues of men; in your dwelling you keep them safe from accusing tongues.

Light Psalm 89:15

15 Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD

Conclusion

Pray Daily

Begin with Thanksgiving:

Psalms 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.

Psalms 95:1-2

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

God has two dwellings: one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart.

Izaak Walton (1593-1683)

Ephesians 5:19-20

19 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Go on to Surrender

Body, soul and spirit

Who, what, when, where, why, how...

"Lord, whoever you will..."

"Lord, whatever you will..."

"Lord, whenever you will..."

"Lord, wherever you will..."

"Lord, for whatever reason you..."

"Lord, however you will..."

Then, simply believe that everything in your day will be ordered by God.

Stay and Abide

1 Thessalonians 5:17

pray continually

John 15:1-8

15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

T.S.A. Everyday – thanks, surrender, abide