

Questions from Sunday 2nd August 09

Summary of Chris' preach:

When it comes to wine, which do we want more, the wine or the bottle, wine or the wineskin? Do we get caught up first with structures and systems of church or do we hunger and run after the things of Jesus and the spirit?

The next three weeks will show!

John 15: 1-17 Exodus 3:1-12

Q. Jesus outlines what is normal? 3 things

1. We are called to live lives that bear fruit. V5

Normality for a disciple of Jesus is fruitfulness.

This is what happened for Moses. God had to break in to show Moses what He was like and what Moses could therefore expect.

Two main times that God calls us in for a meeting like this one.....

1. When it is time for a new season or new assignment ie new type of fruit
2. When we have become luke-warm, static or moved away from Jesus ie no existing fruit

2. Fruit-bearing comes from remaining in Jesus, v4

We see this again with Moses: Compare Moses at the end of Ch 2 and the end of Ch 3. If you told him "you're going to bear much fruit.. be the leader of a nation" At the end of Ch 2 he would have answered "No way!" At the end of Ch 3 he would have answered "Given what I have just seen, I'll believe anything"

Q. What had brought difference about?

- Moses met with God

We all remain in something or someone. We all have a vine that we "feed" from

As we do remain/spend time with Jesus what happens?

- **We see who God is and therefore what he has for me.....** God did not want Moses to miss his inheritance so God knows that he needs to get Moses to see who God is again.
 - **Inheritance** (i.e. what God has set aside for me.) If I do not learn to gaze on him and find his rest then I will never find His full inheritance.

What is being held up in your inheritance because of not spending time with Jesus?

What happens when I don't remain and rest in God? Rely on adrenaline/stress/quit/back off from challenges/talk ourselves out of risks

3. Obedience to God reveals that we know His love v10

See the flow here: v9 Jesus knows Father's love, remains in Him, replicates it, shows obedience by loving us and now wants us to experience the thrill of remaining in Father's love, how? Be obedient and love others!

V14 This is not a dominating command "Do what you are told!" Rather, experience God's love and you will be obedient to sharing this love with others

Therefore if we are serious on being obedient to this we need to learn the prayer Jesus taught us, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Matt 6: 9 "make up there come down here"

Questions:

1. **What is the "vine" that you have gone to most in the last 24 hrs to get support in life?** (ie who do you model yourself on, what do you reach for when things get tough?) Is there enough of Jesus in your answer?
2. **What one thing would it look like for you to "remain" in Jesus today?** (ie What spiritual discipline could you engage with?)
3. **In what ways today/this week could you answer your prayer "make up there come down here!"?** This is some of the fruit that God wants for your life