**It’s Thrive Time with Rachel**

**Determined and Intentional - Abiding in His Love**

**Lesson 3- John 15:9-11**

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**The Care, The Commitment, The Command, The Consequence**

John 15: 9-11

KJV - As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Amp-C - I have loved you, [just] as the Father has loved Me; abide in My love [continue in His love with Me].If you keep My commandments [if you continue to obey My instructions], you will abide in My love *and* live on in it, just as I have obeyed My Father’s commandments and live on in His love.I have told you these things, that My joy *and* delight may be in you, and that your joy *and* gladness may be of full measure *and* complete *and* overflowing.

NLT - “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!

**The Care**

Jesus deliberately loved His disciples according to the way God the Father loved Him.

He heard His prayers- John 11:41- Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

He encouraged Him Matthew 3:17 - And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

He provided for Him - John 3:35- The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

He welcomed the nearness- Mark 14:36 - “And he said, Abba, Father, all things *are* possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.”

Mark 14:36 This is the character of our “Abba” Father—a God who relentlessly pursues us and wants a deep and intimate relationship with us. He wants to bridge every gap or chasm between him and us, to know us completely and love us unconditionally.

**How did Jesus love His disciples?- Jesus is committed to loving us after the pattern of how God loved Him**

We know that Jesus loved His disciples by teaching them, protecting them, guiding them, sacrificially serving them, and using His power and authority to do these things. In some way, the Father also did all those things for Jesus and Jesus did them for the disciples after that pattern.

**Abide in My love: It is a command-**

There is no single way to describe the nature and character of Jesus. He is filled with power, wisdom, truth, holiness, devotion, submission, sacrifice, and dozens of other qualities. Of all these to emphasize, Jesus said abide in My love.

**If you abide in His love then everything else (power, wisdom, truth, holiness, devotion, submission). However, we sure make things complicated sometimes and we strive to be all of these attributes misunderstanding that we can’t strive for these things, they flow down to us as we abide in His love**

**Promise with a prerequisite:  If** you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love: Again, Jesus connected true discipleship with obedience to His command and honoring His word. Jesus fulfilled this in regard to His Father; the disciple must fulfill it in regard to Jesus.

. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full: When the disciple fails to abide in the love of Jesus and thereby fails to keep His commandments, that disciple will not experience the fullness of joy Jesus promised to those who do abide in His love and obedience.

**The Consequence::**   That My joy may remain in you: The joy of Jesus isn’t the same as what is commonly understood as happiness or excitement. The joy of Jesus is not the pleasure of a life of ease; it is the exhilaration of being right with God, and consciously walking in His love and care. We can have that joy – we can have His joy – and have it as an abiding presence.

Joy is not meant to be a roller coaster ride with ups and downs (Up one day and up the next). Joy is not determined by circumstances

 That your joy may be full: This is the result of abiding in Jesus’ love, and obedience flowing from that abiding relationship.

**“The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand.” (John 3:35 ESV)**

This love of the Father for the Son is far beyond anything we can imagine. God loves His Son with an infinite, eternal love. The Father delights in His Son. His Son brings Him great joy and happiness.

But the Father’s love and gift does not end at His Son. Here is a truth that should leave you speechless: When you are united to the Son by faith, God’s great love and great gift are granted to you!

Because you are united to Christ, God loves you as He loves His Son:

“That the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.” (John 17:23 ESV)

Because you are united to Christ, God gives you all things as a fellow heir with His Son:

“He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:32 ESV)

We do not receive these things because of any merit in ourselves. We receive God’s great love and great gift because of the merit of another, Jesus Christ. He has become our pardon and perfection before the Father. Because we are in the Son, we experience the pleasure of the Father. Thus, as undeserving as we are, we become beneficiaries of the Father’s great love for His Son.

**What keeps us from abiding in His love**

**Disobedience-If we truly know Him then we will obey Him**

**We don’t know the Word of God-** We cant rest in something we know nothing about

**Distracted** - Focus on the seen Instead of the unseen

**Deceived** - Seeking love elsewhere

**Disillusioned** by the sin of one of God’s children

**Lack of understanding of His love without choosing to learn more about that love**

**Lack of desire-** Apathetic - failure to have gratitude for that love, taking that love for granted, never speaking/testifying about that love

**Directed (Misdirected) -** bad directions- by our feelings and not the Word

**How to abide in that love**

Just as Jesus is God’s beloved Son, so are we beloved children of God (1 John 3:1). But there is no other place we need to be than home in God’s love. God’s love for us is enough, and in God’s love we find true security and satisfaction. Resting daily in God’s love and remaining rooted in God’s love keeps us [abiding in Christ](https://thedailygraceco.com/products/abide-collection) continuously

**Attitude/Thoughts**: Continue in the attitude of His love- dwell on His love and it will change you

**Actions:**

Turn away from the visible if you would see and possess the invisible. Take more time with Jesus, gazing on Him as the Heavenly Vine, living in the love of the Father, wanting you to live in His love. Turn away from yourself and your efforts and your faith, if you would have the heart filled with Him and the certainty of His love. Are You may be sure it will reach out to you, and by its power take you up into itself as your abode and your home.