

Keep God's Commandments and Words to Bear Fruits

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Abstract

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Introduction

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Discussion

To begin with, part of remaining in God is to keep His words in our hearts and minds because Jesus declared that *"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you"* (John, 2021: 15,7). The word of God is living and brings refreshing. So, we must be spending time with God's word, meditating on it, journalizing it, memorizing and using it daily in our lives. When our hearts are so filled with God's words, the result will be that our actions, our thoughts, our words, and our relationships will be filled with God's love. Hence, this is the first way to remain in Him.

Next, the second way to remain in God is to keep His commandments. Jesus confirmed that *“If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love”* and *“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.”* Therefore, loving one another is the best way to remain in Jesus. In fact, Jesus commanded his followers to manifest this love at all times, and that love is expressed in the way we care for one another within the community. This commandment needs to be done by our activities. We need to be “persons for others”: Jesus demonstrated the love of God for us by living for us and dying for us. And so, as Jesus’ disciples, we are to be persons for others - sacrificing our time, talents, and lives for others, treating everyone as a friend, giving everyone the respect... - We have to love those in our families, co-workers, people at church, and everyone we come in contact with. Specifically, in our families, we should *”Cook for each other, Buy gifts for each other, spend every second possible together, Buy her a ring; sing to each other, Go to Church/worship together, give a second chance for other,...”* (Homily, 2021). The highest expression of this love is our willingness to lay down our lives as Jesus did for people who don't deserve it. That is the way we abide in God forever.

Furthermore, Saint John in chapter 15 also shows us the measure to know that Jesus remains in us is by bearing fruits in our lives. *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit”* (John, 2021). Just like the branch that stays connected to the vine will bear grapes, we will bear spiritual fruits if we remain closely connected to Jesus. They are *“love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control”* (Galatians 5:22-23). Every good tree bears good fruit. Thus, we will recognize that God is in us by our fruits.

Conclusion

In brief, we have profound communion with God by keeping His commandments and abiding in His words; and this spiritual union with Him is indicated by the fruit we have. Then, we need to cultivate and carry out God’s words.

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