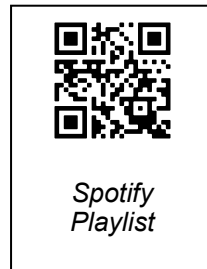


Guest Speaker Bio:

Mark Vincenti and his family have been part of ECC since 2019. Mark served on the Emmanuel Community Church staff for four years and now serves as the campus pastor of Huntington University.

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April 18 & 19, 2026 | His Word My Walk - 2 | John 15:1-9 | Mark A. Vincenti

ABIDING IN CHRIST

KEY WORD #1 = "ABIDE"

The Greek word "μένω (menō)" appears 11 times in John chapter 15.

1. "Remain" (NIV)
2. "Reside" (NET)
3. "Live in" (MSG)

Key aspects of abiding in Christ:

- DEPENDENCE - "...As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself... neither can you, unless you abide in me." (v. 4)
- CONNECTION - "...apart from me you can do nothing." (v. 5)
- LOVE - "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love." (v. 9)

Abiding is: Living in LOVING, DEPENDENT CONNECTION with Jesus.

Ask Yourself

We all abide in SOMETHING.

Where am I abiding?

1. What is captivating my mind's attention?
2. What is holding my heart's affection?
3. What is driving my emotional direction?

"We become what we behold." - William Blake

Psalm 119:37 - Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

2 Corinthians 3:18 - And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Ask Yourself

What am I beholding?

KEY WORD #2 = "FRUIT"

The Greek word, "καρπὸν" appears 8 times in John 15.

John 15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Fruit = CHRISTLIKENESS.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self control;...

HOW DO WE ABIDE IN CHRIST?

John 15:7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

1. Abide in Christ through God's Word.
 - a. Transformation takes TIME.
 - b. Engaging God's Word must be RELATIONAL not just INFORMATIONAL.
 - c. God's Word has to CHANGE us.
2. Abide in Christ through prayer.
 - a. We must become PEOPLE of PRAYER.

"Prayer can be said to be the breath of our spiritual life."
- John Wesley

A.B.I.D.E. = ALWAYS BEING IN DIVINE EMBRACE

- b. We have an ENEMY who is TERRIFIED of what happens when God's people pray.

Abiding is an INVITATION and it is also a CHOICE.

Positive results of accepting	Consequences for rejecting
Fruitfulness	No Fruit
Answered Prayer	Thrown Away
Life	Burned
Intimacy with the God of the universe	Disconnection from our life source, the God of the universe

John 15:9 "...Abide in my love." - Jesus