

***“That Your Joy May Be Full”***  
***John 15:6-11***

**Introduction:**

1. Let’ Turn Back In Our Bibles:
  - To John 15 This Morning:
    - Where Jesus Continues His Conversation:
      - With His Disciples:
        - As They Make Their Way:
          - From The Upper Room In Jerusalem:
            - To The Garden Of Gethsemane!
2. All This - On The Their Final Night Together:
  - Before Jesus Would Be Crucified:
    - On The Cross!
  - But - Even Though:
    - Jesus Knew That His Relationship:
      - With His Disciples:
        - Would Change Dramatically:
          - That Night!
      - He Also Wanted Them To Know:
        - That It Would Be:
          - For The Better!
  - Because - It Would Lead To:
    - His Greater Glory - And:
      - To Their:
        - Greater Good!
3. So - In John 15:
  - Jesus Uses The Familiar Illustration:
    - Of A Grape-Vine:
      - To Instruct All Of His Disciples:
        - To Just “Abide In Him!”
  - Even Though:
    - In Just A Few Hours Time:
      - He Would No Longer:
        - Abide With Them:
          - With His Physical Presence:
            - As He Had Done For Three Years!
  - We Heard This In:
    - 15:4 - “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me!”
4. Jesus Knew That:
  - His Spiritual Presence:
    - Through His *Going* From Them:
      - Would Be All The Greater:
        - Than It Was:
          - At His *Coming* For Them!
  - And So - He Continues To Urge Them & Us:
    - To “Abide / Remain / Continue In Him!”
      - And In The Verses We Come To This Morning:
        - Starting In 15:6 - He Gives Us Even More Reason To Do So!
  - Let’s Read Together:
    - 5:6-11 - “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. / If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. / If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. / Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. / 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!”

5. We Need To Remember That:
  - That Night For The Disciples:
    - Was & Still Would Be:
      - A Night Of Trial & Trouble!
  - But - Jesus Has Been Speaking:
    - Word Of Comfort:
      - To Their Hearts & Souls!
  - And - This Is Why:
    - In 5:11 - He Even Tells Them Some More Of:
      - The Reasons Why:
        - “These Things Have I Spoken Unto You!”
      - And - What Are Those Reasons?
6. First - “That My Joy Might Remain In You!”
  - Though The Scriptures Tell Us That:
    - Jesus Was A “Man Of Sorrows, And Acquainted With Grief!”
  - At The Same Time:
    - Jesus Was Also A Man Of Joy!
      - Which Shows Us That True Joy Is Stronger Than Sorrow - And:
        - Can Persist Even Through Sorrow!
  - And - The Joy He Had:
    - In & Through His Own Relationship:
      - With His Father!
    - He Wanted Them To Know:
      - And Experience As Well!
    - His Joy Could Be:
      - Their Joy! And Even:
        - Our Joy!
    - And - Not The Kind Of Joy:
      - You Can Have For Someone:
        - When You Might Say: “I’m Happy *For* You!”
    - But - The Kind Of Joy:
      - You Can Have In Jesus:
        - And Say: “I’m Happy *Like* You!”
    - Do You Have This Kind Of Joy?
      - “Abide In Me” - Jesus Says:
        - And You Can!
      - Because - 15:11:
        - “These Things Have I Spoken Unto You, That My Joy Might Remain In You!”
  - 7. But Then - Jesus Adds A Second Reason:
    - For His Words!
      - 15:11 - “And That Your Joy Might Be Full!”
      - And Even - “Complete!”
    - Jesus Wants You:
      - To Experience The Fullest Kind Of Joy Possible!
        - **IE:** If Joy Could Be Poured Into A Cup - He Wants His Joy To Be Filled Into The Cup Of Your Soul - Until It Reaches The Rim & Starts To Overflow!
    - Do You Have This Kind Of Joy?
      - Do You Want This Kind Of Joy?
        - Then Listen To:
          - These Words:
            - Of Jesus!
        - Because - As You Listen To Them:
          - And Believe In Them:
            - And Appropriate Them:
              - As Your Own!
      - You Can Experience:

- The Joy Of Jesus Himself:
- In The Fullest Way Possible!
- 8. And From Verses 6-10 - Jesus Tells Us:
- Four Truths That:
- Can Bring You:
- His Kind Of Joy!

\* The First Truth Is:

**1. *The Truth Of His Preservation!***

- Now - In 15:5 - Where We Finished Last Time:
- Jesus Explained:
- What Happens When You:
- *Do* Abide In Him!
- “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing!”
- So - Jesus Wants You:
- To Cling To Him - Even As:
- A Branch Clings To Its Vine:
- So That You Might Bring Forth:
- “Much Fruit!”
- And So - To “Abide In Christ” Involves:
- Having Faith In Him!
- Having Fellowship With Him! And:
- Being Faithful To Him!
- Which Then Will Bring Forth:
- Fruit From Him!
- This Is What The Normal Christian Life:
- Is & Ought To Be!
- But - When We Come To:
- 15:6 - Jesus Explains Further:
- What Happens When You:
- Do *Not* Abide In Him!
- “If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned!”
- It Is Clear From This Verse - And What We Learned From 15:2:
- That This Describes Someone Who Is *Not* A Christian:
- And Never Was!
- Its Not Just Because:
- There Is No Fruit!
- It’s The Reasons Why:
- There Is No Fruit!
- There Is No True Fruit:
- Because There Is No Faithfulness!
- There Is No True Faithfulness:
- Because There Is No Fellowship!
- And - There Is No True Fellowship:
- Ultimately - Because There Is No Faith!
- But - If You *Do* Believe In Jesus Christ:
- With A Saving, Spirit-Rendered Faith:
- Then - When You Look At 15:6:
- Your Joy Can Be Full!
- Because Its Not About You!
- Instead - You Have Been & Are Being Preserved:
- By The Lord!
- Preserved From Spiritual Death:
- First & Foremost!
- Because - When You Abide In Christ:
- He Abides In You!

- And His Life:
  - Is Your Life!
- And - Instead Of Being:
  - “Cast Forth As A Branch!”
    - Remember What Jesus Said Back In:
      - 6:37 - “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out!”
- When You Belong To Christ:
  - And Abide In Him Through Faith:
    - Your Joy Can Be Full:
      - Because - You Do Not Have To Fear The End Of These Dead Branches!
  - As When - “Men Gather Them, And Cast Them Into The Fire, And They Are Burned!”
    - In Christ - You Are Preserved Forever:
      - From Spiritual Death!
- But Even More - You Are Also:
  - Preserved From Spiritual Dryness!
    - Because - Even Before Those Dead Branches Are Burned:
      - Jesus Describes Them As “Withered!”
        - A Branch Will Become:
          - On The Outside - What It Is:
            - On The Inside!
      - A Branch That Is Dead Or Dying:
        - On The Inside - Will Soon:
          - Dry Up - On The Outside:
            - So Dry - That It Will Easily Snap When Any Pressure Is Applied!
      - But - When You Abide In Christ:
        - Starting With Faith In Christ:
          - You Have Been Preserved:
            - From This Kind Of Spiritual Dryness!
        - Instead - The Life Jesus Christ Himself:
          - Courses Through Veins Of Your Soul:
            - So That You Might Be Green & Fresh & Alive!
      - Even As Paul Described:
        - In Galatians 2:20 - “Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me!”
    - Your Joy In Jesus:
      - Can Be Full:
        - When You Remember This Truth:
          - You Have Been & Are Being Forever Preserved From The Fate:
            - Of A Dead, Dry Branch!
      - And - You Have Been Given:
        - A Home In Heaven:
          - With The Lord! His Own Home!
        - Luke 10:20 - With The Disciples:
          - “Rejoice, because your names are written in heaven!”
      - Because You Are:
        - Abiding In Christ - Through Faith!
          - Is This True For You?

\* The Second Truth Is:

2. ***The Truth Of His Promise!***

- Which We Find Next In:
  - 15:7 - Even - The Promise Of Answered Prayer!
    - “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you!”
      - This Is A Great Promise:
        - That Can Lead To Even:
          - Greater, Fuller Joy!

- And - Once Again - It All Starts With Your:
- Walk With The Lord!
  - “If Ye Abide In Me” - Jesus Says!
    - And - What Does It Mean:
      - To Abide In Christ?
  - To Cling To Him:
    - Through Faith!
    - Through Fellowship!
    - Through Faithfulness!
    - That Will Lead To Fruitfulness!
  - But - As You Walk With The Lord:
    - In This Way - Then You Also Need To:
      - Remember The Importance Of The:
- Word Of The Lord!
  - Because - His Words Also:
    - Need To Abide In You!
  - Which Means That You Need To Continually:
    - Receive His Words & Relish Them:
      - As Your Own!
  - In Colossians 3:6 - It Is Put This Way:
    - “Let The Word Of Christ Dwell In You Richly!”
      - Because - It Is Through His Word:
        - That He Continues To Manifest Himself & His Presence To You!
  - And So - As You Pursue Both:
    - This Walk With The Lord - And:
      - The Word Of The Lord:
        - Guess What Will Happen?
          - It Will Provide You With:
- The Will From The Lord:
  - So That When:
    - “You Shall Ask What Ye Will” - What Is The Promise?
      - “It Shall Be Done Unto You!”
  - The Closer You Walk With Christ - And:
    - The Closer Christ’s Word Is With You:
      - Your Will & Desires Will Become More & More Like His Will & Desire!
        - So That You Can Ask & Pray According To His Will:
          - And Receive His Answer!
  - And John Seems To Have Experienced This For Himself!
    - Because Later - In 1 John 5:14-15:
      - He Would Write - “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: / And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him!”
- And Like John - Your Joy In Jesus:
  - Can Be Full:
    - When You Remember This Truth:
      - And This Promise!
    - “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you!”
      - This Kind Of Connection With Christ:
        - Is Only Available To:
          - Christians!
        - You Have His Ear! You Have His Hearing!
          - And - God Can & Will:
            - Hear & Answer Your Prayers!

\* The Third Truth That Can Give You The Joy Of Jesus Is:

### 3. ***The Truth Of His Purpose!***

- Which We Find Next In:
  - 15:8 - “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples!”

- Remember That Spiritual Fruit:
  - Is One Of The Reasons:
    - That God Saved You:
      - If You Believe In & Belong To Christ!
- And So - One Of The Ways To Know:
  - If You Are Saved:
    - Is That You Want What God Wants In Your Life!
      - You Want To Grow & To Bear Fruit For Him!
- And - Like The Branch Of A Vine:
  - That Fruit - Is Nothing Less:
    - Than The Nature Of The Jesus Christ Expressing Itself:
      - In Our Life!
- Its Becoming More & More Like:
  - Jesus Christ Himself!
    - And The Desire That Thomas Chisolm Once Expressed With These Words:
      - Oh! to be like Thee, oh! to be like Thee, / Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art;  
/ Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; / Stamp Thine own image deep  
on my heart!"
- And - As A Christian:
  - You Can & Will Experience:
    - A Greater & Fuller Joy:
      - When You Bear This Kind Of Fruit! Especially Since:
- It Brings Glory To God!
  - Even As Jesus Says Here:
    - "Herein Is My Father Glorified!"
  - When You Abide In Christ:
    - Through Faith & Fellowship & Faithfulness:
      - It Will Bring Forth Fruit:
        - That Brings Glory To God!
    - And In So Doing:
      - It Will Fulfill The Very Purpose:
        - For Which You Were Created!
  - From The First Question:
    - Of The Old Westminster Catechism:
      - What Is The Whole Duty Of Man?
        - To Glorify God & To Enjoy Him Forever!
  - A True Believer In Christ:
    - Will Have This Purpose & Goal!
      - To Glorify God!
    - And - When You Bear Fruit!
      - When You Look More & More Like Christ!
        - It Pleases God!
        - It Praises God!
        - It Brings Glory To God!
  - And Jesus Wants You To Know This:
    - "That Your Joy Might Be Full!"
      - But - Even More - When You Bear Fruit
        - At The Same Time:
- It Brings Glory From God!
  - That Is - As You Honor God:
    - He Honors You!
  - Which Is Why Jesus Adds In:
    - 15:8 - "So Shall Ye Be My Disciples!"
      - Now - Weren't His Disciples:
        - Already His Disciples?
    - Absolutely - In Fact:
      - Jesus Already Called Them So!
  - But What Jesus Is Saying Here:

- Is That - He Will Reassure:
  - His True Disciples:
    - That They Really Do:
      - Belong To Him!
- So - As You Claim Jesus:
  - To Be Yours - He Will Claim You:
    - To Be His!
- But - Even Though You May Be:
  - A Disciple Of Christ Now:
    - There Is Still So Much For You To Learn:
      - About Being His Disciple!
- **IE:** In The Year 107 - The Pastor Of Antioch - Ignatius - Was On His Way To Rome - To Be Tried & Executed For His Faith & Faithfulness To The Lord - And At 70 Years Old - He Said To One Of His Companions - "Now Is The Moment I Am Beginning To Be A Disciple!"
  - And - Through His Martyrdom In The Coliseum Of Rome - Jesus Would Reassure Ignatius:
    - Not Only About:
      - His Life Of Glory:
        - To God!
    - But Also About:
      - The Love & Glory:
        - From God!
  - "So Shall Ye Be My Disciple!"
- And This Truth:
  - Of Fulfilling God's True Purpose:
    - For Your Life:
      - Can & Ought To Bring:
        - Even Greater Joy!
  - As You Claim & Honor & Glorify God:
    - As He Rightly Deserves!
      - He Will Claim & Honor & Glorify You!
        - Because Of His Grace!
    - You Have His Honor!
  - And Jesus Wants You To Know:
    - About Your Preservation!
    - About His Promise! And:
    - About This Purpose!
      - "So That Your Joy Might Be Full!"

\* But - There's One More Truth That Can Bring This Kind Of Joy - Which Is:

**4. The Truth Of His Provision!**

- Which We Find In 15:9-10:
  - "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!"
    - You Can Have Fulness Of Joy:
      - When You Remember:
        - The Provision Of Christ's Love!
    - Because - The Love Of Jesus:
      - As We See From 15:9 - Is:
- An Infinite Love!
  - Jesus Says - "As The Father Hath Loved Me, So Have I Loved You!"
    - Now - What Kind Of Love Exists:
      - Between God The Father & God The Son?
        - The Only Kind That Can!
          - An Infinite Love!
    - And - Infinite In Every Way!
      - Infinite In Duration!
        - And So - Eternal!

- And - Infinite In Degree!
- And This Is How:
  - Jesus Loves You!
  - Infinite In Duration!
    - Jeremiah 31:3 - “Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee!”
  - Infinite In Degree!
    - Ephesians 3:17-19 - “That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, / May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; / And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God!”
- But - This Infinite Love Is Also:
- An Inviting Love!
  - Because - Jesus Wants You To:
    - Experience & Enjoy His Infinite Love:
      - To The Fullest!
    - Which Is Why In 15:9 - He Adds:
      - “Continue / Remain / Abide In My Love!”
  - Now - If Jesus’ Love Is Infinite:
    - How Can You Or Anyone:
      - “Continue” In His Love?
    - He’s Not Talking Here:
      - About The Existence Of His Love:
        - But About The Experience Of His Love!
  - As One Writer Put It:
    - “Rejoicing In Its Reality, Depending On Its Support, Doing Nothing That Grieves It, But On The Contrary, Engaging In That Which Delights The Lover!”
  - The Love Of Christ:
    - Is An Objective Fact:
      - For Those Who Abide In Him:
        - Through Faith!
  - But - The Personal & Subjective Experience:
    - Of That Love Is Something:
      - That Jesus Wants You To Know:
        - So That Your Joy Might Be Full!
    - So - This Is An Invitation To You:
      - To Live In The Light Of His Love!
        - Day By Day & Moment By Moment!
  - And - Then Jesus Tells Us That His Love Is:
- An Instructive Love!
  - Because - He Gives Us The Instructions:
    - In Order To:
      - Enjoy & Experience His Love:
        - To The Fullest!
    - In 15:10 - “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!”
  - Does Christ’s Joy:
    - Remain In You Today?
      - Is Your Joy In Christ:
        - Full?
  - If Not - Perhaps Its Because:
    - You Have Forgotten His Instructions:
      - About How You Can:
        - Experience & Enjoy His Love:
          - To The Fullest!
    - And That Is By:
      - Keeping His Commandments!
        - And - Living According To:



- His Word!
- Though Sin Will Never Take Away:
  - The Love Of Christ From A Christian:
    - Because You Have His Heart!
  - Sin Will Always Rob You:
    - Of Your Joy:
      - In His Love!

**Conclusion:**

1. And - Jesus Said All This:
  - So That Your Joy In Him & From Him:
    - Might Be Full!
2. Do You Want This Kind Of Joy?
  - Remember 5:11:
    - “These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full!”
  - He Told You The Truth About The Preservation:
    - You Now Have:
      - In His Own Home - In Heaven!
  - He Told You The Truth About The Promise:
    - You Now Have:
      - In His Own Hearing - Through Prayer!
  - He Told You The Truth About The Purpose:
    - You Now Have:
      - In His Own Honor & Glory - Through Fruit!
  - And - He Told You The Truth About The Provision:
    - You Now Have:
      - In His Own Heart - Of Love!
3. When You Remember These Truths:
  - And - Apply These Truths In Your Own Life:
    - Your Joy Will Be Full!

*Grace Baptist Church*  
*Stephen Elmer, Pastor*  
*4245 North 200 West*  
*Greenfield, Indiana 46140*  
*317-326-2362*  
[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)  
[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)  
[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)