

**December 29, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**John 15:5** *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."* (NIV)

This is one of my favorite verses because of the impact it has made on my understanding of experiencing real life. It all has to do with where and Who I am connected to. Just as a branch needs to be connected to the vine or main part of a tree to get the nourishment they need, so we need to be 'in Christ' to receive of His power, His wisdom and His peace. As fundamentally sound as this is, it is pragmatically important for us to put it into practice. With Him we have power, without Him, we are weak. With Him we have wisdom, without Him we are foolish. I think you get the picture here. We must abide in Him to enjoy the benefits of Him.

Jesus then makes an impactful statement, *apart from Me you can do nothing*. This means nothing of eternal value. We can exist in this world and do many things, but they will soon fade away. They are all temporal. What we do for Jesus will never fade away. The most important thing we can do is abide in Him so that we can be obedient to His will.

**Dear LORD, help me be reminded today and every day you give Me, that it is always better in Your presence than in this world's. I desire to be in You today. When my mind drifts and my will gets weak, help me to place all of my trust in You. In Jesus Name, Amen**