

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

May 4, 2025

Welcome!



"When leaders lead in Israel, When people willingly offer themselves, Bless the LORD! Hear, O kings! Give ear, O princes! I, even I, will sing to the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel."

Join us at 6:00pm for as we continue our series on the minor prophets with Obadiah

Minister: Timothy Agee
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Prayer List

Kim Waller is recovering well from foot surgery

Debbie Roper, Olivia Agee's mother, is undergoing testing to determine the cause of her mobility issues

Barbara Craig, Faye Head's sister-in-law, is doing better

Darlene Baxter is building strength to continue her cancer treatment

Continue to pray for: the **Ross** family, **Ina Sands**, the **Kirk** family, the **Paul** family, **James Gupton**, the **John Hayes** family, **Rebecca Brown**, **Donnie Garrett**, **Camille Brosky**, and **Bill Gillock**



We invite everyone to join us Wednesday night at 7pm as we continue our study of Hebrews

Serving Today

Song Leader:
Steve Buchanan

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Mike Reed

Prayer:
Dwight Pennington

WORSHIP (10:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Royce Harbin
John 15:1-6

Wait On Table:
David Billingsley

Serve:
Doug Demonbreum
Johnny Walker

Prayer:
Jeff Baker

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am
Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

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Outline of John 15

- I. F _____ (1-8)
 - a. The Symbols (1, 5)
 - b. The Steps (2-4, 5-6)
 - c. The Success (7-8)
- II. L _____ (9-17)
 - a. The Priority (9-12)
 - b. The Proof (13-15)
 - c. The Promises (16-17)
- III. S _____ (18-25)
 - a. The Facts (18-24)
 - b. The Foretelling (25)
- IV. W _____ (26-27)

Signs that We are Abiding in Christ – As we begin chapter 15, Jesus is still with the eleven disciples. It is unclear if they are still in the upper room, since the last words of chapter 14 are “Rise, let us go from here”. What is clear is the lesson from Jesus about abiding in Him using the metaphor of a grapevine: “**I AM the true vine**”. In this metaphor, Jesus is the “**true vine**” (1, 5), the Father is the “**vinedresser**” (1), and the disciples are the “**branches**” (5). Building on this, Jesus presents a series of signs that His disciples are truly abiding in Him as one of His branches.

F _____ (1-8) – The first of these is that His true branches will “**bear...much fruit**” (5). There is no concept in scripture of an unfruitful disciple (Mt 7:15-20; 13:8, 23). Jesus specifically says to “**bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples**” (8). Are we helping those in need? Are we planting the seed of the Gospel? Are we bringing others to Christ? What if we are not bearing fruit? Jesus says the branches that do not bear fruit will be “**thrown into the fire and burned**” (6). This is not fun to think about but is a reality we should take as a dire warning. If we do not bear fruit, we will be “**thrown away**” (Mt 7:15-20; Rom 11:17-24).

L _____ (9-17) – He then talks to them about **love** from two perspectives, both of which He has already addressed in the two preceding chapters. First, if we are truly abiding in Christ, and **love Him**, we will “**keep [His] commandments**” (10, 14; 14:15, 21, 23-24). Second, if we truly **love Him**, we will also “**love one another**” (12; 13:34-35). John, who wrote this gospel, and was one of the eleven, will later echo these words of Christ and point out that they are signs of one who truly knows and loves God (1 Jn 2:3-6; 3:11, 24; 4:7-21).

S _____ (18-25) – Another sign of truly abiding in Christ is that we WILL face persecution from the world, because the world “**hates you**” (19). Jesus gives them two reasons for the world hating and persecuting them: 1. “**you are not of this world**” (19) and 2. “**they persecuted [Jesus]**” (20). This is consistent with Jesus’ teaching in the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:10-12). It is also echoed by His apostles (Rom 8:14-17; 2Tim 3:10-13; 1Pet 3:14-17; 4:12-16). John will later say, “**The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him**” (1Jn 3:1, 13) The reality is that if we put ourselves out into the world as a disciple of Christ, we will receive pushback. What if we are not experiencing any persecution?

W _____ (26-27) – The final sign of truly abiding in Christ is bearing witness for Christ to the world. The Holy Spirit would “**bear witness**” to the Apostles, and we in turn are to take their witness and share it with the world (Mt 28:18-20). What does our life say about the things we are sharing with the world?