ABIDING IN CHRIST – FOR WITHOUT HIM YOU CAN DO NOTHING! (John 15: 1-11)

• What do all these verses have in common? (Matthew 5:13; Luke 1:37; Luke 5:5; John 6:63; John 21:3; Galatians 6:3; John 15:5; Philippians 4:13)

A. The THREE PERSONS of the VINEYARD. (15:1-2a)

- 1. There is the *True Vine* who is ______. (15:1a) 2. There is the *Vinedresser* who is ______. (15:1b) 3. There are the *branches* who are ______. (15:2a,3,5) • What is critically important to remember about this passage in its context? a. The Upper Room Discourse is given in view of the pending ______ _____ of Jesus Christ, and the coming of the ______. b. The individuals present who are hearing the Lord Jesus Christ are ______only as Judas has already departed (13:30) and had already been ______ from their sins (15:3). c. The phrase "in Me" refers to ______. (14:16-20; 17:20-23) B. The THEME of JOHN 15:1-8. 1. The *subject* of our Lord's teaching revolves around ______. (15:2)2. God's *desire* is that every believer bears as much ______ as possible in their lives, as this is the whole purpose of a branch. • How is this expressed in this passage? • Is it possible to be saved and not bear fruit? (Luke 8:14,15; 2 Peter 1:8) C. The LOVING ACTIVITY of the VINEDRESSER Toward the BRANCHES to BEAR FRUIT. (15:2)1. Toward unfruitful branches, He ______ .(15:2a) • What does this mean and not mean? 2. Toward fruitful branches, He ______ them that they may _____
 - What does this involve?

_____. (15:2b)

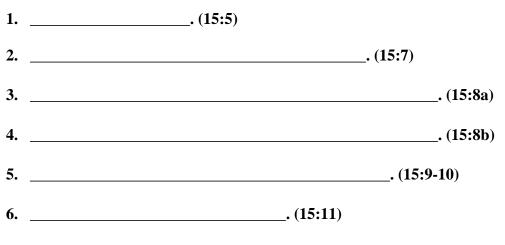
D. The NECESSARY CONDITION of the BRANCH Toward the VINE To BEAR FRUIT. (15:4-5)

- 1. The *singular condition* that needs to be fulfilled is for the believer to ______ in _____ and for Christ to ______ in the believer. (15:4)
 - What does this mean?
 - What must you remember about your object of faith & abiding?
 - What must you grasp when it comes to fruit?
- 2. The *absolute necessity* of abiding in Christ to bear fruit is underscored when our Lord emphatically stated, "For ______ you can do _____." (15:5)
 - Why is this the case?

E. The DISASTROUS ALTERNATIVE to ABIDING IN CHRIST. (15:6)

- 1. The *word "if"* (3rd class condition) denotes that a believer ______ or _____ or _____
 - What truth does this substantiate again?
- 2. The consequences of a failure to abiding in Christ involve...
 - a. Loss of ______... "he is cast out as a branch"
 - b. Loss of ______... "and is withered"
 - c. Loss of ______... "and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned."

F. The SUPERNATURAL FRUIT of the ABIDING BELIEVER. (15:7 – 11)



• What are your options in the Christian life?