John 15:7

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(1)
Think about John 15:7.

(Jesus said) *"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*

The meaning of this word "*abide*" is: continue to stay; remain; depart not from.

- Jesus often used conditional statements to teach God's ways. In this *If-Then* statement Jesus sets several conditions that if they are met God will do something. What are the conditions?

- If a person meets these conditions, what will God do?

- If someone is abiding in the Christ and Christ's words are abiding in that one, what kind of things will he or she be wishing and asking for?

  Consider 1John 5:14-15. *And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.*

- What is one reason why God would not do what we ask?

  Consider James 4:2-3. *You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong -- you want only what will give you pleasure.*

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(2)
Think about John 15:8.

(Jesus said) *"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."*

- How does someone show that they are a true follower of Jesus?

- What is the fruit that gives glory to the Father?

  Consider Matthew 5:14-16. (Jesus said to his students) *"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ... In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."*

(3)
Think about John 15:9-10.

(Jesus said) *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love."*

- What is true about the Father's love for his son Jesus the Christ?

  Consider John 17:24. (Jesus prayed) *"Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world."*

  Consider John 3:35. (John the Baptist said) *"The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand."*

- How did Jesus describe his love for those who follow his teachings. (See John 15:9-10 quoted above.)

- What did Jesus tell his students they were responsible to do with his love for them? (See John 15:9-10 quoted above.)

- How are they to do that? (See John 15:9-10 quoted above.)

  Also consider John 15:12. (Jesus said) "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

- In what way did Jesus give an example of how to stay in God's love? (See John 15:9-10 quoted above.)

  Also consider John 10:14-18. (Jesus said) *"I am the good shepherd. ... I lay down my life for the sheep. ... For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ... This charge I have received from my Father."*

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(4)
Think about John 15:11.

(Jesus said) *"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."*

- Why did Jesus teach these things to his students?