

“What is the Power of the Church?”

John 15:1-5

Abide... Jesus teaches us that the only way we can have the power to live a fruitful Christian life is to abide in Him (vs. 4). We must continue in a daily, personal relationship of humble dependence upon Jesus.

Renounce... Many of us have been striving to live the Christian life on our own and only calling on Jesus for the big stuff. This self-reliance is the sin of pride and needs to be renounced (vs. 5).

Trust... It is true that we can do *nothing* apart from Jesus, but it is also true that we can do *all* things through Jesus' strength (Philippians 4:13). We need to trust that Jesus is continually at work in and through us to do the impossible as we humbly depend upon Him.

Pray... Our life of abiding in Jesus will naturally express itself through continuous prayer that is powerful to accomplish God's purposes (I Thessalonians 5:17 & James 5:16).

Questions for Discussion & Reflection:

1. How is humble dependence upon Jesus demonstrated in your life?
2. Why are we completely unable to do anything (anything spiritually significant) apart from Jesus?
3. How has Jesus empowered you to do the impossible?
4. What will a life of continuous prayer look like for you?