

Andrew Murray's Abiding in Christ
Preface & Chapter One

Describe in your own words what it means to abide in Christ.

On page 17, Murray states that a reason we may not be experiencing a fuller Christian life is because we wander. Think about the ways in which we wander.

God's invitation is to "Come to Me to stay with Me". We came to Him in salvation, how can we stay with Him for sanctification? In other words, how do you think we can more effectively abide?

On page 18 we see a beautiful picture of what God is offering to us in the invitation to abide – how God not only wants us to be brought to Him but brought into Him. It is the idea of being taken up/taken in. He opens up His divine fullness of life & love and offers to take you up into its fellowship to make us one with Himself.

How does your present relationship compare to the intimacy of relationship the author is depicting?

Text: And observe especially, it was not that He said, "Come to Me and abide with Me," but "Abide in me." The communion was not only to be broken, but most intimate and complete. He opened His arms to press you to His bosom; He opened His heart to welcome you there; He opened up all His divine fullness of life and love and offered to take you up into its fellowship to make you wholly one with Himself. There was a depth of meaning you cannot you realize in His words: "Abide in Me."

On page 19 of Chapter one, the author sites several reasons why we may not be enjoying that abiding relationship. They may be that we:

- never fully understood the call
- did not know the abiding fellowship was possible
- did not know the secret of attaining it
- did not remain faithful

Which of these reasons can you most identify as that which keeps you from abiding?

What did you find significant in your reading?