

OUR SOUL RESPONSIBILITY

John 15:1-16

John 15:1-5 Jesus discusses the believers relationship with God the Father and Jesus the Son. The life of Christ flows through us in order that we may do the work of bringing forth fruit, (souls). To *abide* means to submit or to stand fast. When we submit to Christ and His commandments we can be Spirit filled and be the soul winners that we should be.

John 15:7-8 We are given three promises here but they are contingent on our obedience which is the quality of *abiding*. We can have our prayers answered, we can have the assurance of pleasing the Father, and we can assume the title of Jesus disciple if we continue to *abide* in Christ and win souls.

John 15:10-16 In these verses we are given even more promises: We can be sure of having the fellowship of the love of Christ, the joy of Christ, being a friend of Jesus, and have our prayers answered. These promises are ours only if we are obedient to love each other and win souls.

OUR JERUSALEM

Luke 24:47-48 We are all going to have to account for the souls of those that were nearest to us. Jesus said, "beginning at Jerusalem." The great commission must begin where you and I live. We are to be the "light of the world" (**Mt. 5:14**) but the light that does not shine at home will not shine in China.

Romans 1:16 The Gospel was born in Jerusalem where Jesus, a Jew, was born and died for all sinners. The Apostles lived in Jerusalem and Jesus told them to stay there for the coming of the Holy Spirit. They knew the Jewish traditions, their families were there, their friends were there. Jesus wanted them to win those they knew first. Thousands were saved in Jerusalem before they went to Judea, etc.

Luke 8:26-40 No doubt this demon possessed man had a family, relatives and friends where he used to live. After Jesus healed him he wanted to go away with the Lord but Jesus gave us a great example of what He wants us to do after we are saved and free from Satan's bondage; be light and salt at home.

Luke 16:19-31 Why can't we remember this poor lost sinner in hell crying out for someone to go tell his family about this place of torment. How many of us have a lost family member who will end up in hell if we don't witness to them and beg them to be saved?

THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY

Genesis 18:17-19; Joshua 24:15 All through the bible, especially in the O.T. God gives example after example that the head of the home is responsible for the spiritual well being of their family.

Acts 10:23-33 Here is probably the greatest example to us of the head of a household that took responsibility for the souls of his family. This man was lost but cared enough about his family, his kin folk and his friends to get them in his house to hear the Gospel of Christ and they all were saved.

Acts 16:27-34 Another example of the head of the home taking responsibility for the salvation of his family. These stories are not for God to fill pages but to let us know of our responsibility to win family.

Mark 9:17-27 Here is another great example of a father with a uncontrollable son, demon possessed. The father showed an attitude of not giving up on his son even though the father had just a little faith.

THE TIES THAT BIND

John 1:40-45 Will we meet Jesus and have to leave a lost brother or sister behind because we never tried to get them to Jesus? A concerned heart, prayer, and the influence of the Holy Spirit can win them.

John 4:7-30 What an embarrassment it will be if we meet this lady in heaven with all those from her town that were saved because of her concern as a new believer.