



ABIDE IN JOY

ABIDING & COMMUNITY





Abiding in Christ teaches us how to
love in community.

Abiding and Community



Love Equally to build community. (v.1)

Love All to foster community. (v. 4 – 7)

Love Well to grow community. (v.8)



Why is it Important to Love Equally?

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“My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism”

James 2:1 NASBU

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Your Faith Represents His Character

- Your walk of faith displays God's character to a lost and dying world.
- "Glorious Lord Jesus Christ."
- God has no favorites – builds strong community.
- God loves equally and He loves all.



How do I Love All?



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“For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there comes in a poor man in dirty clothes. And you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say You sit here in a good place and you say to the poor man, You stand over there or sit down by my footstool.”

James 2:2-3

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“But the Lord said...God sees not as man sees, for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the hearts.”

1 Samuel 16:7

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Love All



- Get under the skin.
- See value in the community of believers.
- Loving everyone gives a positive outlook toward community.
- God loves equally and loves all.
- God also loves well!

How do I Love Well?



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“If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well.”

James 2:8

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One Last Thought



- Can I be a friend and avoid favoritism?
- Examples: David/Jonathan; Jesus/Disciples; God/Abraham
- Abiding in love means engaging everyone not just certain ones.
- Love equally, love all, and love well.



CONCLUSION

Abiding in Christ teaches us how to love
in community.