

Blueprints

Focusing on UP: Abiding

John 15:1-11

Review

Key word: Κοινωνία

The Blueprint of the UP, IN, and OUT Triangle

UP: God as Father/King, worship as offering, abiding

John 5:1-11

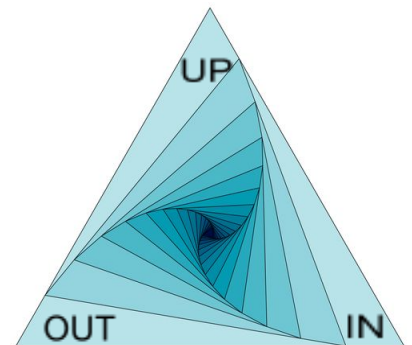
Abiding presumes connectedness

Our work is NOT to try and connect, but to not disconnect

The internet then and now

Riding on top of the car versus seatbelted in

Consider John 10:28,29



Still, what Weakens our Abiding?

Unsubmissive posture: Are we resistant to His pruning? verse 2

Diminished awareness: Are we distracted? verse 7

OT example of “God’s words abiding in us”: Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Conscious Disobedience: Are we making bad choices? verse 10

Assessing our Quality of Abiding

Goal: constant Κοινωνία (see 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Our sense of light quality is not in looking at light but in seeing everything else by it

Quality of abiding is marked by how well you are seeing God, yourself, and others

Dimness is a sign to turn up the lights

Practical Strategies for “Turning up the Light” (Strengthening our Abiding)

Spiritual practices: *things we can do now that help us do later what we cannot do now*

The idea of a rule of life

A delicious buffet of possible practices for every unique person

The Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Adele Calhoun

Streams of Living Water: Richard Foster

Sacred Pathways: Gary Thomas

Using the Triangle for a balanced rule of life: Up, In, and Out

Counteract the unsubmissive posture, distractions, proclivity to disobedience