

Sermon 5/9/21

## “Abide”

### Bible Readings:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

John 15: 1-8

- As a group re-read the text.
- In this life/world in whom do you abide?
  - Family
  - Spouse
  - Parents
  - Friends
  - Children
- Why?
- If you're willing to share, what was your relationship with your mom?
- As a child what did you expect from your parents?
  - What was unexpected?
- As a parent (if applicable) what did/do you expect from your children?
  - What was/is unexpected?
- As we think about Moses' speech (you review it at Deut. 30: 15-20), why should the people obey the commandments?
  - Is it because they *must*?
  - Is it because they *will earn their way* to heaven?
  - Is it in response to God's love?
- JD asked
  - “How well are you doing?”
  - “How well are you abiding?”
  - “How well are you obeying?”
- We need to stay grounded, and remain with God. Much like the relationship of a mother to her children that JD talked about. Even when our world grows and changes.
  - How do you remain with God & grow everywhere else?
- How comfortable are you with silence?
  - Have you tried silence in your prayers? Remaining with God in quiet contemplation of God.
- How would this change your life if you could do this?

- Why?
- JD talked about the actors entering Willy Wonka's splendid factory, with a sense of awe and wonder, surprised at what they find...
  - How do you enter God's presence?