

## EAT, PRAY, LOVE

13 Jan 2019

"God's desire for my good matches my greatest felt need."



# The world today is suffering from the epidemic of loneliness.





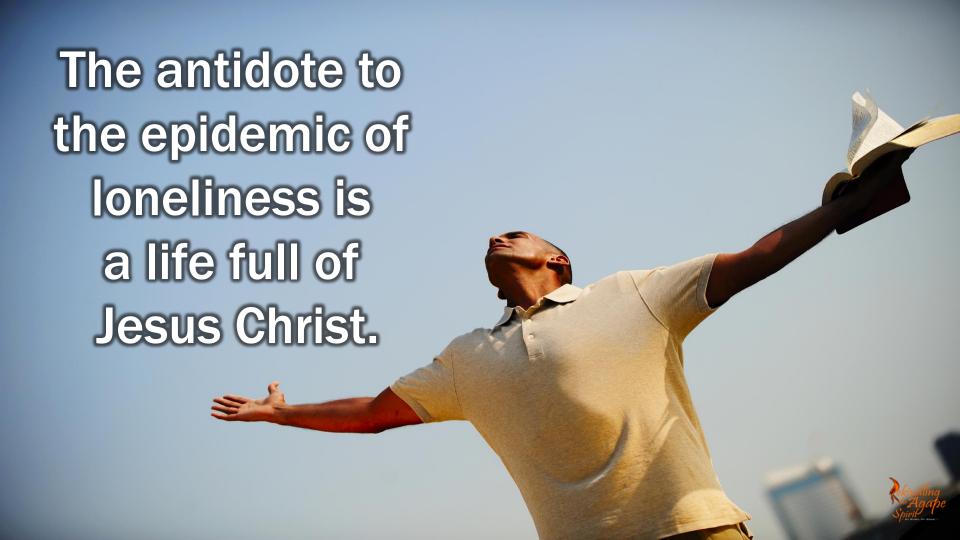




"Loneliness isn't new, and God's redemption includes salvation from its deepest form isolation from God and his people."

- Jeremy Linneman





#### John 15:1-4

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you...



#### **Ezekiel 15:6**



Therefore thus says the Lord God:

<u>Like the wood of the vine</u> among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, <u>so have I given up the inhabitants of Jerusalem.</u>



Every branch in me that does not bear fruit <u>he takes away</u>...



#### John 15:6

If anyone does not abide in me <u>he is</u> thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.



John 6:37, 39



<sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out...<sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.



John **10:27-29** 

<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.<sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.



Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away...

John 15:6

If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.



John 8:30

As he was saying these things, <u>many</u> believed in him.

John 8:31

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples."

John 8:37

I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you.



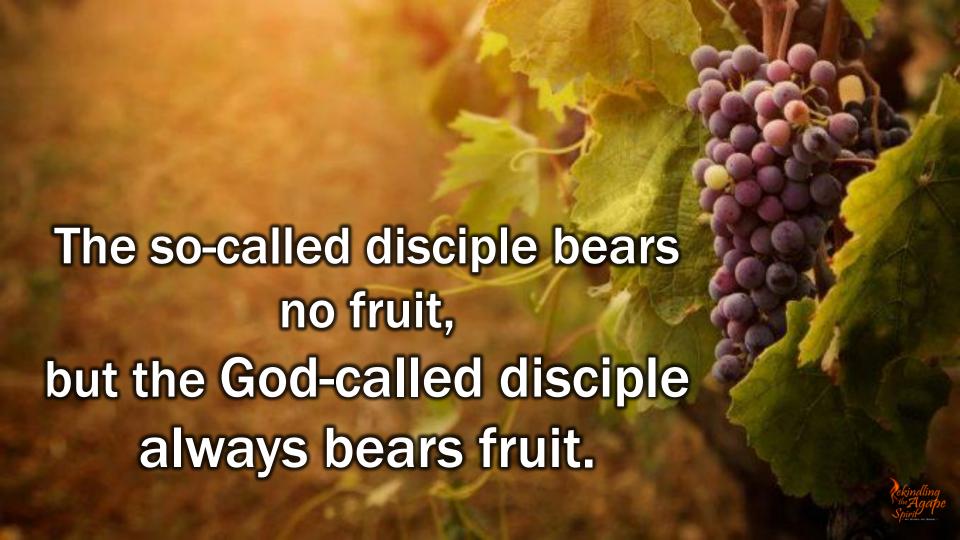
John 6:66

After this <u>many of his disciples</u> turned back and no longer walked with him.

John 8:31

...If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples.





"God's desire for my good matches my greatest felt need."



God can use your loneliness to awaken you to a greater need for his presence, and bring about growth in your life.



Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.





Abide in me, and I in you...

John 15:7

"If you abide in me, <u>and my</u> words abide in you...



#### - D. L. Moody

"A man can no more take in a supply of grace for the future than he can eat enough for the next six months, or take sufficient air into his lungs at one time to sustain life for a week. We must draw upon God's boundless store of grace from day to day as we need it."



#### Matthew 4:4

.....

Man shall not live by bread alone, <u>but by</u> every word that comes from the mouth of <u>God.</u>





.....

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, <u>ask whatever you wish,</u> and it will be done for you.



.....

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.





As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in my love.

John 15:10 "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love..."

John 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."



....I chose you and appointed you that <u>you</u> should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide...

John 4:35-36

35 Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.



### Ultimately, the one who is delivered from the misery of loneliness and isolation gains

#### 3 joyful connections:

- he is connected to Christ,
- connected to others in Christ,
- connecting others to Christ.







Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

