

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Maurice Yu
February 22, 2009



Richard Foster writes, "Superficiality is the curse of our age." I agree with what he writes. Today we have largely traded wisdom for information. We have exchanged depth for breadth. Why? It's because we're living in a restless and hurry lifestyle. Even in the realm of spirituality, we want to microwave maturity. We seek for immediate result instead of lifelong transformation.

I believe the cure of superficiality is laid in one of Jesus' famous sayings – John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." The keyword is REMAIN/ABIDE. We can see that remaining is necessary to produce any fruit, which is not information but manifestation of Christ-like character and biblical wisdom in life. We can also see that not remaining means the branch will be useless.

So, what does it mean to REMAIN in Christ? Jesus made it more specific when He said in John 15:7 "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." To "remain in Christ" means we spend time focusing on Him and His words. In practical terms, it means we spend time reading, studying, and meditating on the Bible and then let God's truth permeate into our mind and life. So we have a daily choice to make. Will we spend time in prayer? Will we open the Bible and read? Will we focus on Christ? Do you want to make this daily choice to remain in Jesus?



Pastor's Corner

余榮富傳道
二零零九年二月二十二日



理察科斯達(Richard Foster)曾說過：「膚淺是我們這個世代的詛咒。」我非常讚同他的說法。今日，我們廣泛地將資訊取代智慧；將寬度取代深度。為什麼這樣呢？因為我們活在一個煩躁及匆忙的生活模式裡。就算在屬靈的領域裡，我們也追求「微波爐式」迅速的成熟。我們追求即時的成果，而不是生命的更新。

我相信在耶穌的名言裏能找到治癒膚淺的方法—約翰福音15:5：「我是葡萄樹，你們是枝子。常在我裡面的，我也常在他裡面，這人就多結果子；因為離了我，你們就不能做甚麼。」關鍵語句是「**在我裡面**」。我們看到要在裡面才可結果子，這些果子不是資訊，而是在生命裡彰顯像基督的性情和聖經的智慧。我們亦看到不在主裡面的枝子就沒有用處。

那麼「**在基督裡**」是什麼意思呢？耶穌在約翰福音15:7裡更明確的說：「你們若常在我裡面，我的話也常在你們裡面，凡你們所願意的，祈求，就給你們成就。」「在基督裡」的意思就是我們將時間用在專注於基督及祂的話語上。實際地說就是我們花間時去研讀和默想聖經，然後讓神的真理滲入我們的思想和生命裡。故此，我們每天都要作出選擇。我們會否花時間去禱告呢？我們會否把聖經打開來閱讀呢？我們會專注於基督嗎？你願意每天都做這些選擇去「留在」基督裡嗎？

