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# Living in Christ

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*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven **in Christ Jesus**” (Ephesians 1: 3)*

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# Living in the vine

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*“I am the vine and you are the branches”.  
(John 15: 5a)*

One branch or many branches?

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# Living in the vine: the fruit

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*“I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him bears much fruit, for without me, you can do nothing” (John 15: 5)*

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# Living in the Word

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*“If my words abide in you, you shall ask what you desire and it will be done for you” (John 15:9)*

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# Bearing fruit

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*“I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for without me, you can do nothing” (John 15: 5)*

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# What did God look for in His vineyard in Isaiah's time

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*“The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel....And He (God) looked for justice but saw bloodshed, and for righteousness but heard cries of distress” Isaiah 5: 1-7)*

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# What does Jesus look for in His vineyard ?

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- ❖ **“I give you a new commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you” (John 15: 12)**
  
- ❖ **“I was hungry and you gave me food”**
- ❖ **“I was thirsty and you gave me drink”**
- ❖ **“I as a stranger and you took me in”**
- ❖ **“I was naked and you clothed me”**
- ❖ **“I was sick and you visited me”**
- ❖ **“I was in prison and you came to me”**
  
- ❖ **(Matthew 25: 35 -36)**

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# How is this possible?

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- ❖ ““God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit” (Acts 5: 5)

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# Living in obedience

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- ❖ “If you love me you will keep my commandments”  
(John 14: 15)
- ❖ But what if we don't?

Such was his purpose and his good pleasure, to the praise of his glory and grace, his free gift to us in the beloved, in whom, through his blood we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. (Ephesians 1: 6)

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# The Lords prayer 1

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- ❖ Looking UP
- ❖ “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
- ❖ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”

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# The Lords prayer 2

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- ❖ Looking IN and OUT
- ❖ Give us each day our daily bread
- ❖ Forgive us our sins
- ❖ As we forgive those who sin against us

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# The Lords Prayer 3

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- ❖ Looking UP
- ❖ Lead us not into temptation
- ❖ Deliver us from evil

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# Celtic encircling prayer

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- ❖ Encircle me O God
- ❖ Keep love within
- ❖ Keep strife out
- ❖ Encircle me O God
- ❖ Keep hope within
- ❖ Keep fear out
- ❖ Encircle me O God
- ❖ Keep peace within
- ❖ Keep harm without

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# The hope of heaven

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- ❖ “And they shall no longer say to each other “Know the Lord”: for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sin no more”
- ❖ (Jeremiah 31: 35)