Prayer John 15:7

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"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

It is interesting to note that this vital Bible verse, this statement from the Lord Himself, begins with the word "if." It is possible to be a Christian and not be abiding in Christ. It is possible to be a Christian and not have His Word abiding in you. It is possible to be a lukewarm, half-hearted, un-disciplined Christian who follows Christ, but follows afar off.

Now, you don't want to be that sort of Christian, do you? Of course not. Especially when you know that sort of Christian misses the adventures of the abundant life; the fulfillment of a fruitful life and satisfaction of a joyful life, and the peace of an obedient life. Well, since you don't want to miss the fullness of fellowship, what do you do?

This verse contains some basic and simple truth that anyone can learn and apply. He says: "if ye abide in me." To abide means to stay firm and steady in our relationship with Him. In simple language it means to base your life on His promises. It means letting Him lead you by His Spirit and acknowledge your dependence upon Him.

You can do this through daily prayer, you can also do this by trusting Him to cleanse you from pride, rebellion, bitterness, fear, doubt, anger, and all of those things that weaken your Christian life, and make you spiritually sick. We all need to keep the glory of God in the forefront of our hearts and minds.

Someone says, "Did you say that was easy?" No. Of course I didn't say that sort of lifestyle was easy. What I said was, it is simple. Christ Himself will give you the strength and power to do it.

It is up to you to desire it, to want it. The whole matter pivots on the one word, "if." He says, "Will you?" What is the basic desire of your heart? What is the alternative to a life lived in intimate union and loving obedience to Christ? The answer to that is obvious.

Look around. You become just one more person following one more shopping cart through one more supermarket. Is that what you want your life to be? Of course not.

As we look further into this vital Bible verse we see one more condition: "If my words abide in you." Now you can do something about that. Tomorrow morning you can sit down with your Bible, open it, and let Christ speak to your heart.

The context of this verse pictures Christ as the vine and we as the branches. As we maintain our strong union with Christ through obedience, His life flows through us, through His Word. He said: "the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life."

Then follows the staggering promise: "Ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you." The promises that live in us, that are stored in our hearts, lie ready to be turned into life-changing prayers. Prayers that have the power of the will of God at their root.

This vital Bible verse is just one of 60 carefully selected scriptures that are contained in The Navigators Scripture Memory course. If you want to memorize Scripture, but aren't sure what to memorize or how to get started, this is exactly what you need. The <u>Topical Memory System</u> includes memory verse cards in eight different Bible versions - NIV, KJV, NASB, NKJV, NLT, NIRV, ESV and The Message. Topics include all of the basics of the Christ-centered Spirit-filled life, sharing your faith, and growing on to maturity in your walk with God. May God bless you as you fill your life with His Word!