




Expand Your Vocabulary with Abiding Words

 **PASSION:** Right out of the gate we realize “abide” has a strong variety of meanings. Translations such as “remain,” “continue,” “reside,” “live,” and “dwell” provide dimensions into a deeper understanding of “abide.” We live in a culture where *doing* is our go-to approach to incorporating something like “abiding” in our lives. Certainly, we can “do” some things that would help us abide, but often we equate the *doing* with the *abiding*. In other words, we are abiding when we pray and/or fast. Possibly. Perhaps we abide when we have our quiet time in the morning. Maybe. These practices lack fullness in that they confine us to the activity itself, when abide is more of a constant lifestyle. Perhaps the *doing* is a means to the end of *abiding*.

 **PROBE:** I’ve selected some words, certainly not exhaustive, to lean us more into the realm of “being” rather than “doing” in regard to abiding. Highlight as many of these words as you prefer that help you describe abiding.

Abode	Consideration	Experience	Life	Purpose	Steadfast
Absorbed	Constant	Faith	Lifestyle	Quiet	Still
Accept	Contemplate	Family	Linger	Receive	Stop
Accepted	Content	Fascinated	Linked	Reflect	Strength
Acknowledge	Continue	Favorite	Listen	Relational	Stunned
Agree	Continuous	Feeling	Living	Relax	Subconscious
Alert	Conversation	Filled	Loiter	Release	Sufficiency
Alignment	Coupled	Fixated	Lost	Reliance	Supported
Anticipate	Dedicated	Focused	Love	Remain	Surrender
Assurance	Deliberate	Freedom	Means	Remember	Tenacity
Attention	Dependence	Full	Meditate	Repose	Thoughtful
Attentive	Desire	Gardener	Mindful	Reside	Time
Authority	Determined	Gripped	Motivated	Residence	Tranquil
Aware	Devotion	Grounded	Natural	Resolute	Trust
Being	Dignity	Grow	Normal	Resource	Turn towards
Believe	Dwell	Guidance	Observant	Responsive	Unbroken
Belong	Ease	Harmony	Obsessed	Rest	Unceasing
Blessed	Empower-	Health	Occupied	Return	Understand
Breathe	ment	Hear	One	Riveted	Unhurried
Calm	Encouraged	Home	Organic	Rooted	United
Captivated	Endure	House	Orientation	Same	Unseen
Centered	Energized	Identity	Passionate	Secure	Vigor
Comfort	Engaged	Imagine	Pause	Shared	Vine
Communal	Engrossed	Immersed	Peaceful	Silence	Wait
Community	Enough	Inactivity	Perceive	Single-minded	Watchful
Complete	Enthralled	Inhabit	Persist	Soak	Well-being
Concentration	Enthusiastic	Instinctive	Place	Solitude	Yield
Confidence	Established	Intentional	Planted	Soul	
Connected	Examine	Intuitive	Ponder	Source	
Conscious of	Existence	Joined	Position	Spirit	
Consider	Expectation	Known	Presence	Stay	

PRACTICE:

-  ○ Use the words you identified in a paragraph to describe what it means to abide in Christ. Ignite your creative juices and write a compelling word picture of abiding. Allow your word usage to expand, including fresh, descriptive abiding revelations.
- What other words are you compelled to incorporate into your explanation of abiding?
- What is God saying to you about abiding more deeply?
- How will you live differently?