

Rosscup, James E. *Abiding In Christ: Studies in John 15*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1973. Reprint, Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2003.

The author of this book was one of my professors in seminary. He is a man who truly abides in the vine! I read this because we are getting close to John 15 on Sunday mornings and I figured it would be one of the only times where I might read an entire book on the first six verses of John 15. As you can imagine, this book attempts to look at John 15 from every angle (up to 1973) and state the author's position while interacting with and rejecting other interpretations of the passage. One of the big issues in this passage deals with the Lordship debate – Must a Christian bear fruit to demonstrate s/he is a Christian? Along with this question, the author makes the distinction between a “professor” or a “possessor” of Jesus. Much of the book is dealing with older issues that aren't on the theological radar screen today. Personally, I would have preferred the author to spend more time in the theology of John to solve the interpretive dilemmas instead of comparing & contrasting other passages with similar themes. argument of John. As far as personal application, chapters 11-12 are the highlights of the book. He emphasized the need of the believer to truly be relating to Christ through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Level: Semi-Technical/Slower Read

Theological Stance: Conservative Evangelical

Rating: 5 ½

Recommend? Yes