

HIS STORY. YOUR STORY.

WEEK 4: ABIDING

STAYING CONNECTED TO GOD



BIG IDEA: Learning to abide is the secret to living out the Christian life.

DATE: Wednesday, January 21 & Sunday, January 25

SCRIPTURE: John 15:1-10

OPENING QUESTION

Who in here has a green thumb? What are some characteristics of a good gardener?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Describe a time you found yourself in a season of waiting. How did God, our Vinedresser, use this time for your spiritual growth?

What is the difference between abiding and obeying? Why is this distinction important?

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-10 (NIV)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love."

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

What does this passage teach us about God?

What does this passage teach us about humanity?

APPLICATION EXERCISE

Complete the "Abide Time" worksheet using John 15:1-10 printed above.

CHALLENGE: Use this 10:1:1 tool this week as you read your Bible. Read 10 verses, focus in on 1 verse or phrase, circle 1 word and then meditate on that word throughout your day to stay connected to God. *10 verses: 1 verse: 1 word.*

READING PLAN

2/25: Day 22 **2/26:** Day 23 **2/27:** Day 24 **2/28:** Day 25 **2/29:** Day 26 **3/1:** Day 27 **3/2:** Day 28