FOLLOW ME • MESSAGE #5

ABIDE

WALK WITH JESUS

Stay with Jesus. Bear His fruit.

JOHN 15:1–17

OUR SERIES ANCHOR

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO FOLLOW JESUS?

MARK 1:17

FOLLOW ME	I WILL MAKE YOU	FISHERS OF PEOPLE
Relationship + obedience	Jesus changes us	Help others follow

OUR SIMPLE RHYTHM

HEAR → OBEY → PASS ON → CHECK IN

JAMES 1:22 • MATTHEW 28:20

HEAR IT

What did Jesus say?

OBEY IT

What will I do?

PASS IT ON

Who needs to hear?

CHECK IN

Who will ask me?

THE STORY SO FAR

JESUS IS BUILDING DISCIPLES

FOLLOW ME • SERIES REVIEW

- #1 FOLLOW ME — No spectators.
- #2 LOVE PROTECTS — The vulnerable matter.
- #3 HEAR & OBEY — Build on the Rock.
- #4 COUNT THE COST — Surrender, not convenience.

LOOK BACK • COUNT THE COST

DID WE ACT ON WHAT JESUS SAID?

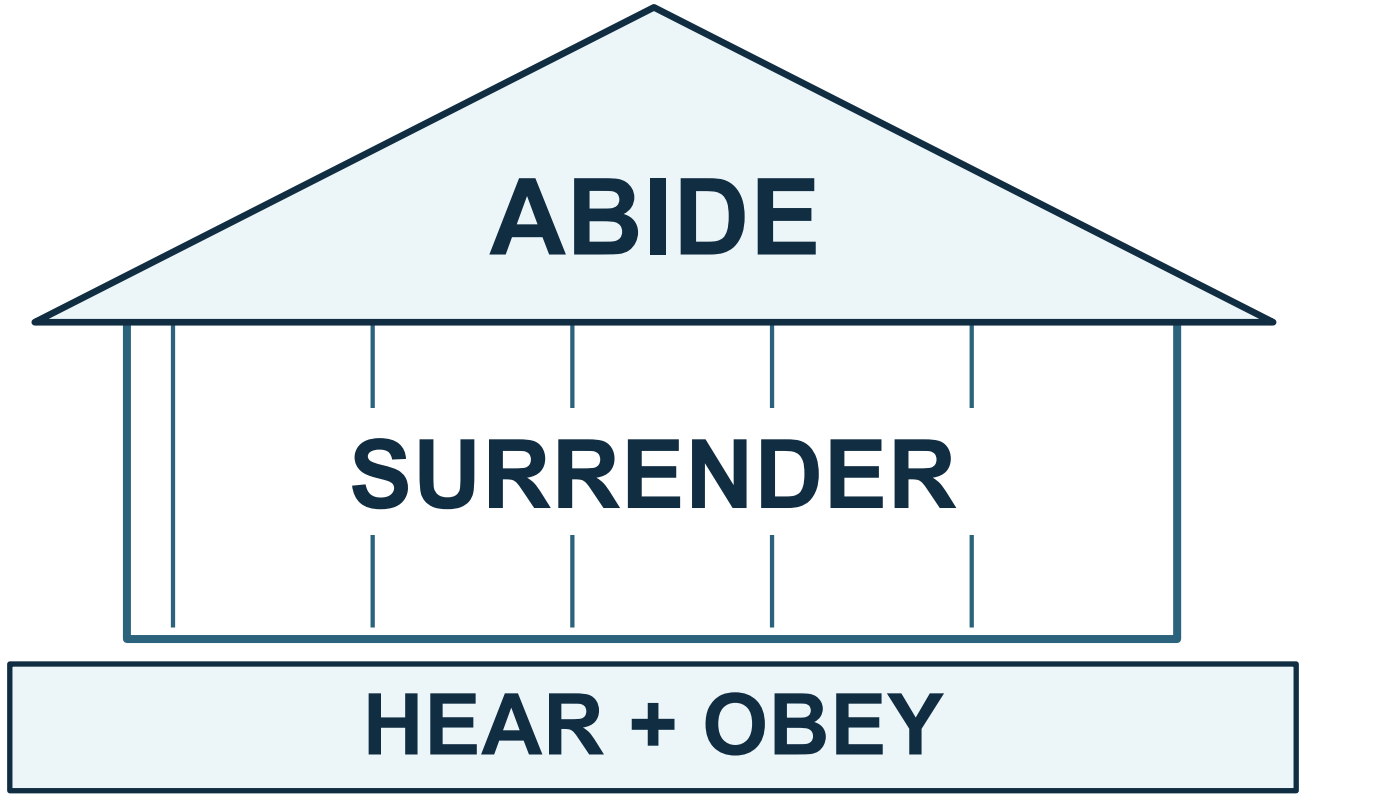
LUKE 9:23 • 23 Then he said to them all, “If anyone wants to become my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me.

- What did Jesus ask you to surrender?
- Did you take ONE concrete step?
- Who did you pass it on to?
- Did your scuba buddy ask?

TODAY WE ADD THE ROOF

#5 ABIDE / WALK WITH JESUS

JOHN 15:1–17



CHRIST — CRUCIFIED • RISEN • LORD

VISION CAST • 1 OF 2

A FRAME IS NOT A HOME

JOHN 15:4

- A decision to follow Jesus is a beginning.
- A strong frame still needs ongoing care.
- Discipleship is a life WITH Jesus.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

READ JOHN 15:1–17 TOGETHER

JOHN 15:1–17

1–6 **THE VINE**	Where does life come from?
7–11 **REMAIN**	Word • prayer obedience • joy
12–17 **LOVE**	Love one another and bear fruit

John 15:1–17

15 “I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. **2** He **takes away every branch** that does not bear fruit in me. He **prunes every branch** that bears fruit so that it will bear more fruit.

John 15:1–17

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and **dries up**; and such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and are burned up.

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and bear fruit, fruit that remains, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. **17** This I
command you—**to love one another**.

THE BIG IDEA



TAKE NOTE

JOHN 15:4–5

STAY WITH JESUS.
HIS LIFE PRODUCES FRUIT
THROUGH YOU.

Another important principle runs throughout the Gospels and the book of Acts.

MARK 3:13–15

13 Now Jesus went up the mountain and **called** for those he
wanted, and they **came** to him. 14 He appointed twelve so that they
would **be with him** and **he could send them** to preach 15 and to
have authority to cast out demons.

MARK 3:13–15

BE WITH HIM BEFORE BEING SENT

MARK 3:13–15, (JOHN 15:16)

WITH HIM

Know His voice.
Learn His way.

SENT OUT

Speak of Him.
Serve His mission.

JOHN 15:1–3

JESUS TELLS US WHO IS WHO

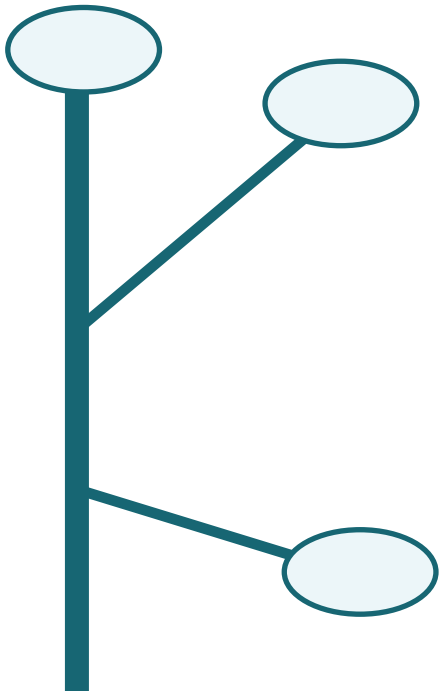
JOHN 15:1–5

JESUS	The TRUE VINE
THE FATHER	The GARDENER
DISCIPLES	The BRANCHES

JOHN 15:4–5

A BRANCH CANNOT LIVE BY ITSELF

JOHN 15:4–5



JESUS — THE VINE

WE — THE BRANCHES

LIFE FLOWS FROM HIM

JESUS IS CLEAR

DEPENDENCE, NOT SELF-SUFFICIENCY

JOHN 15:5 (NOT WORKS BASED)

“APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.”

WHAT IS ABIDING?

NOT JUST A ONE-TIME DECISION

JOHN 15:4, 9–10

- Keep coming to Jesus, not just remembering Him.
- Listen to His words; respond in faith.
- Walk with Him in ordinary life.

JOHN 15:1–3

THE GARDENER CARES FOR HIS VINE

JOHN 15:1–3

- The **Father** wants fruit that lasts.
- Fruitful branches are pruned for more fruit.
- Jesus’ Word cleanses, shapes and redirects us.
- (Pruning is not permission for **us** to mistreat others.)

JOHN 15:3, 7

LET HIS WORDS LIVE IN YOU

JOHN 15:7

“IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND MY WORDS REMAIN IN YOU...”

THE WORD IN OUR WEEK

A REAL DISCIPLE LISTENS

JOHN 15:7 • JAMES 1:22

- Read a small portion of Jesus’ teaching.
- Ask: What does this show me about Him?
- Ask: What must I believe or obey?
- **Act on the next clear step**.

JOHN 15:7, 16

PRAYER FLOWS FROM ABIDING

JOHN 15:7, 16

- His words reshape what we ask for.
- Prayer is relationship, not a vending machine.
- Ask for what serves the Father’s purposes.

JOHN 15:9–10

LOVE AND OBEDIENCE BELONG TOGETHER

JOHN 15:9–10

- Jesus loved us first.
- We remain in His love by keeping His commands.
- Obedience is the **response** to love, not its price.

JOHN 15:11

JESUS WANTS HIS JOY IN US

JOHN 15:11

**“THAT MY JOY
MAY BE IN YOU,
AND THAT YOUR JOY
MAY BE COMPLETE.”**

JOHN 15:12, 17

THE COMMAND APPEARS TWICE

JOHN 15:12 • 15:17

**“LOVE ONE ANOTHER
AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”**

PASTORAL APPLICATION • ONE OF TWO

BUILDING THE HOUSE — OR BURNING IT DOWN?

JAMES 3:5–6 • EPHESIANS 4:29

- Gossip spreads the fire.
- Distorting truth fuels the fire.
- Confession and truth help stop the fire.
- Gracious words build Christ’s church.

PASTORAL APPLICATION • TWO OF TWO

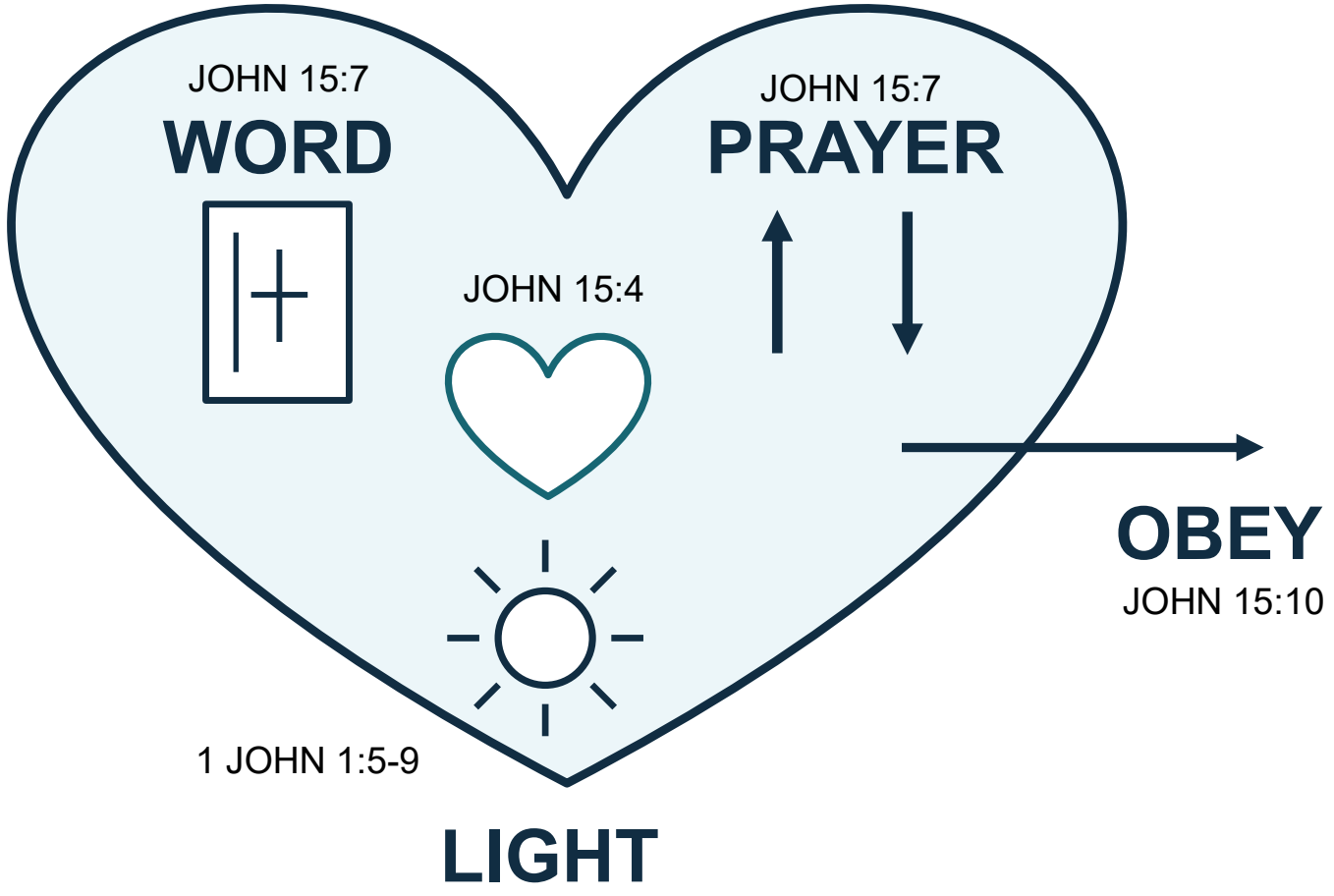
WALK IN THE LIGHT

1 JOHN 1:5–9 • JOHN 15:12, 17

- Choose truth over half-truths and hiding.
- Own and confess OUR part in wrongdoing.
- Seek cleansing and restored fellowship.
- Love never requires concealing harm.

A SIMPLE PICTURE OF ABIDING

HIS LOVE IS AT THE CENTRE



JOHN 15:8, 12, 16

WHAT SORT OF FRUIT?

JOHN 15:8, 12, 16 • GALATIANS 5:22–23

- Love that looks like Jesus.
- Character shaped by His Spirit.
- Obedience that lasts beyond Sunday.
- People helped to follow Him. – That lasts

JOHN 15:8

WHO GETS THE GLORY?

JOHN 15:8

**“THIS IS TO
MY FATHER’S GLORY,
THAT YOU BEAR
MUCH FRUIT.”**

JOHN 15:16 • MARK 3:14

MISSION FLOWS FROM ABIDING

JOHN 15:16 • MARK 3:14

REMAIN

Receive life
from Jesus.
Be transformed

BEAR FRUIT

Love, obey
and help others.

JOHN 15:6

JESUS GIVES A SERIOUS WARNING

JOHN 15:4–6

- Detached branches cannot produce fruit.
- Remaining is not a decorative extra.
- Take Jesus’ warning seriously — and come to Him.

CHECK OUR ASSUMPTIONS

ABIDING IS NOT ...

JOHN 15:4–12 • 1 JOHN 1:6

- Attending meetings while ignoring Jesus.
- Knowing the right words without obeying.
- Serving tirelessly while refusing to love.
- Pretending everything is fine in the dark.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

IS HIS LIFE SHOWING IN MINE?

JOHN 15:4–12 • 1 JOHN 1:9

- Am I listening to Jesus?
- Am I doing what He makes clear?
- Am I loving people as He has loved me?
- Am I owning what I need to confess?

THE GOSPEL COMES FIRST

JESUS DID WHAT WE COULD NOT

- He loved us before we could produce fruit.
- He already laid down His life for us.
- He rose again and showed us that we could trust Him.
- We can remain in Him by His **grace**, not self-improvement/works.

JOHN 15:12–15

LOVE TAKES A CROSS-SHAPED FORM

JOHN 15:12–13

- Love seeks another person’s good.
- Love speaks truth without cruelty.
- Love gives and doesn’t demand.

- Because we love him…
- We **choose** to remain in Him and let him transform us.

THIS WEEK • SMALL STEPS

A REPRODUCIBLE ABIDING RHYTHM

JOHN 15:4–12

HEAR	Read John 15:4–12.
RESPOND	Pray and obey one thing.
LOVE	Build up one person.

THIS WEEK • 10 MINUTES

MAKE ROOM TO BE WITH HIM

JOHN 15:7–10

- Read a little of Jesus’ Word slowly.
- Pray honestly about what you heard.
- Try to obey one clear instruction today.
- Repeat tomorrow — not to earn love but to show love.

KNOW • DO • WHO WILL ASK?

WHAT WILL YOU ACTUALLY DO?

JAMES 1:22 • JOHN 15:10

KNOW	What did Jesus make clear?
DO	What ONE thing will I obey?
WHO	Who will ask me next week?

YOUR SCUBA BUDDY

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER TO REMAIN

ECCLESIASTES 4:9–12 • PROVERBS 27:17

- “What did you hear Jesus say?”
- “What did you do about it?”
- “Where was it difficult?”
- “How can I pray with you?”

SUMMARY • FOLLOW ME #5

ABIDING SHOWS ITSELF

JOHN 15:4–17 • 1 JOHN 1:5–9

REMAIN

Stay WITH Jesus

RECEIVE

Word and prayer

RESPOND

Obey through love

BEAR FRUIT

Live and help others follow

TAKE NOTE • #5

TAKE NOTE

JOHN 15:4–17

ABIDE IN JESUS.
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.
BEAR LASTING FRUIT.

CLOSING PRAYER

JESUS, TEACH US TO REMAIN

JOHN 15:4–17 • 1 JOHN 1:9

- Keep us close to You and Your Word.
- Show us what needs pruning or confession.
- Make our words and actions build others up.
- Bear fruit through us for the Father’s glory.

HIDDEN BACKUP • CONTEXT

JOHN 15 IN THE FAREWELL DISCOURSE

JOHN 13–17

- John 13–17: Jesus prepares His disciples.
- John 15:1–6: Vine, branches, gardener.
- John 15:7–11: Word, prayer, obedience, joy.
- John 15:12–17: Love, appointment, fruit.

HIDDEN BACKUP • WORD STUDY

“ABIDE” / “REMAIN” — MENO

JOHN 15:4, 7, 9–10

- Basic sense: remain, stay, continue.
- John 15 links it to Jesus and His words.
- Also linked to His love and His commands.
- The passage defines the practice.

HIDDEN BACKUP • PASTORAL CARE

WHEN SPEAKING ABOUT GOSSIP

JAMES 3:5–6 • EPHESIANS 4:29

- Avoid names, insinuations, or factions.
- Distinguish facts from allegations.
- Concerns about harm need appropriate reporting.
- Truth, fairness, confession and repair matter.

HIDDEN BACKUP • 1 JOHN

THE LIGHT AND FELLOWSHIP

1 JOHN 1:5–2:2

- God is light — not a mixture of truth and lies.
- Claims of fellowship must match our walk.
- Confession is honesty before God.
- Christ is our advocate when we sin.

HIDDEN BACKUP • PRUNING

PRUNING NEEDS CAREFUL LANGUAGE

JOHN 15:1–3

- The Father tends branches to promote fruit.
- Jesus’ Word already made disciples clean.
- Do not call every injury “God’s pruning”.
- Never excuse another person’s wrongdoing.

HIDDEN BACKUP • FRUIT

DO NOT REDUCE FRUIT TO A NUMBER

JOHN 15:8, 12, 16 • GALATIANS 5:22–23

- John 15: love, obedience, lasting fruit.
- Galatians 5: Spirit-shaped character.
- Matthew 28: helping disciples obey Jesus.
- The Father receives the glory.

HIDDEN BACKUP • SERMON FLOW

IF TIME RUNS SHORT

FOLLOW ME #5 • PRESENTER BACKUP

- Keep John 15 read and clearly explained.
- Keep Mark 3 and 1 John 1 briefly.
- Keep both approved application slides.
- Keep Gospel, action and scuba buddy.