



# ABIDE IN ME – JOHN 15

## DESCRIPTION

When we honor and approach the Scriptures as the Living Word of God, the Holy Spirit is free to speak directly into our lives today so that we are strengthened to know God's will for our lives and do it.

The origins of *divine reading* (Lectio Divina) date back to Christian monks who meditated on the Word of God in devotion in order to receive divine inspiration rather than theological knowledge. This practice engages with the Word of God in a way that is personal, relevant, and applicable.

To practice this, the same passage of Scripture is read three separate times out loud while listeners listen for the following:

- **First Reading:** One word or short phrase that stands out to you.
- **Second Reading:** What you sense God is speaking to you through this passage.
- **Third Reading:** What you sense God is telling you to do.

## SCRIPTURE PORTION: JOHN 15:1-11

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 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. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 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. 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. 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. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 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. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

## GROUP PRACTICE

1. Pray and invite the Holy Spirit to speak to your hearts. Allow a moment of stillness before the first reading.
  - Keep in mind that since this is devotional, not intellectual, there are no right or wrong responses.
  
2. Have one person read the Scripture Portion out loud and slowly while others listen for one word or short phrase that stands out.
 

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3. Have one person read the Scripture Portion out loud and slowly while others listen for what they sense God is speaking to them through this passage.
 

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4. Have one person read the Scripture Portion out loud and slowly while others listen for what they sense God is telling them to do.
 

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5. Share with one another the insights you received from the Lord.
  - Keep in mind that since this is devotional, not intellectual, there are no right or wrong responses.

### PURPOSE:

Listen to God speak to you through the Scriptures.

Hear the promptings of the Holy Spirit for your life today.

### GROUP SIZE:

Any size group.

### DO THIS WITH OTHER SCRIPTURE PORTIONS:

Psalm 1

Psalm 23

Exodus 15

Isaiah 54

1 Corinthians 13

Romans 8

Matthew 5