



## Prayer of Abiding (Scotty Smith)

Lord Jesus, how can it be? How is it possible you love us just as much as the Father loves you? We believe, help our unbelief. By your Spirit, make this more real to us than the coronavirus, tax season, and March Madness.

Abiding in your love is a command we'll gladly seek to keep, Jesus. Because you perfectly fulfilled the law for us, obedience is no longer a burden to us (1 John 5:3). We've been set free from performance-based living, for a life of wholehearted loving. Hallelujah!

Take us farther up and farther into the ways and means of grace. Not by quickly dipping one toe in sheepishly, but by getting saturated, lingering, and marinating in your endless, unwavering affection for us—that's our goal and joy.



May your Word increasingly become more precious to us than fine gold, and sweeter than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb (Ps. 19:10). For it warns us of the insanity of sin, and woos us unto a life of true freedom and joy (Ps. 19:7-13). May the pleasure we find in obeying you be only second to the pleasure we have in being loved by you.

Jesus, knowing you are praying for the fullness of our joy makes all the difference in the world, as we lean into the demands, surprises, and pains of this day. Thank you. So very Amen we pray, in your magnificent and merciful name.

The Gospel of  
**JOHN**  
*"Come and See"*



February 19, 2023

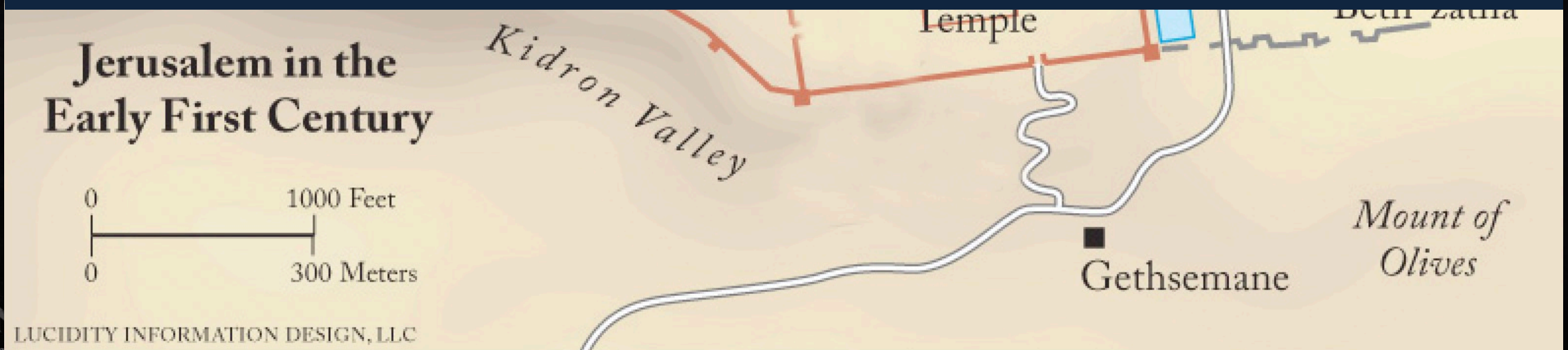
John 15:1-11

*"The Vine"*

An excellent teaching on this passage can be found at  
[WalkingTheText.com/connected-to-the-vine](https://WalkingTheText.com/connected-to-the-vine)



**“<sup>15</sup> If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever..”**





**Last  
Supper**

**14:31b**  
**“Rise, let us go from here.”**

Golgotha  
(traditional location)

*Hinnom Valley*

Pool of  
Beth-zatha

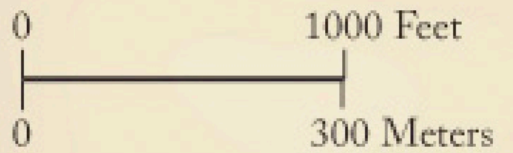
Temple

*Kidron Valley*

*Mount of  
Olives*

Gethsemane

**Jerusalem in the  
Early First Century**





**Last  
Supper**

Golgotha  
(traditional location)

*Hinnom Valley*

LOWER  
CITY

Temple

Pool of  
Beth-zatha

**Jerusalem in the  
Early First Century**

*Kidron Valley*

**Arrested**  
Gethsemane *Mount of  
Olives*

0 1000 Feet  
0 300 Meters



**Trial**

Golgotha  
(traditional location)

**Last  
Supper**

*Hinnom Valley*

LOWER  
CITY

Temple

Pool of  
Beth-zatha

*Kidron Valley*

**Arrested**

Gethsemane

*Mount of  
Olives*

**Jerusalem in the  
Early First Century**

0 1000 Feet  
0 300 Meters



**Jerusalem in the  
Early First Century**

0 1000 Feet  
0 300 Meters

**Last  
Supper**

**Trial**

Golgotha  
(traditional location)

LOWER  
CITY

**Temple**

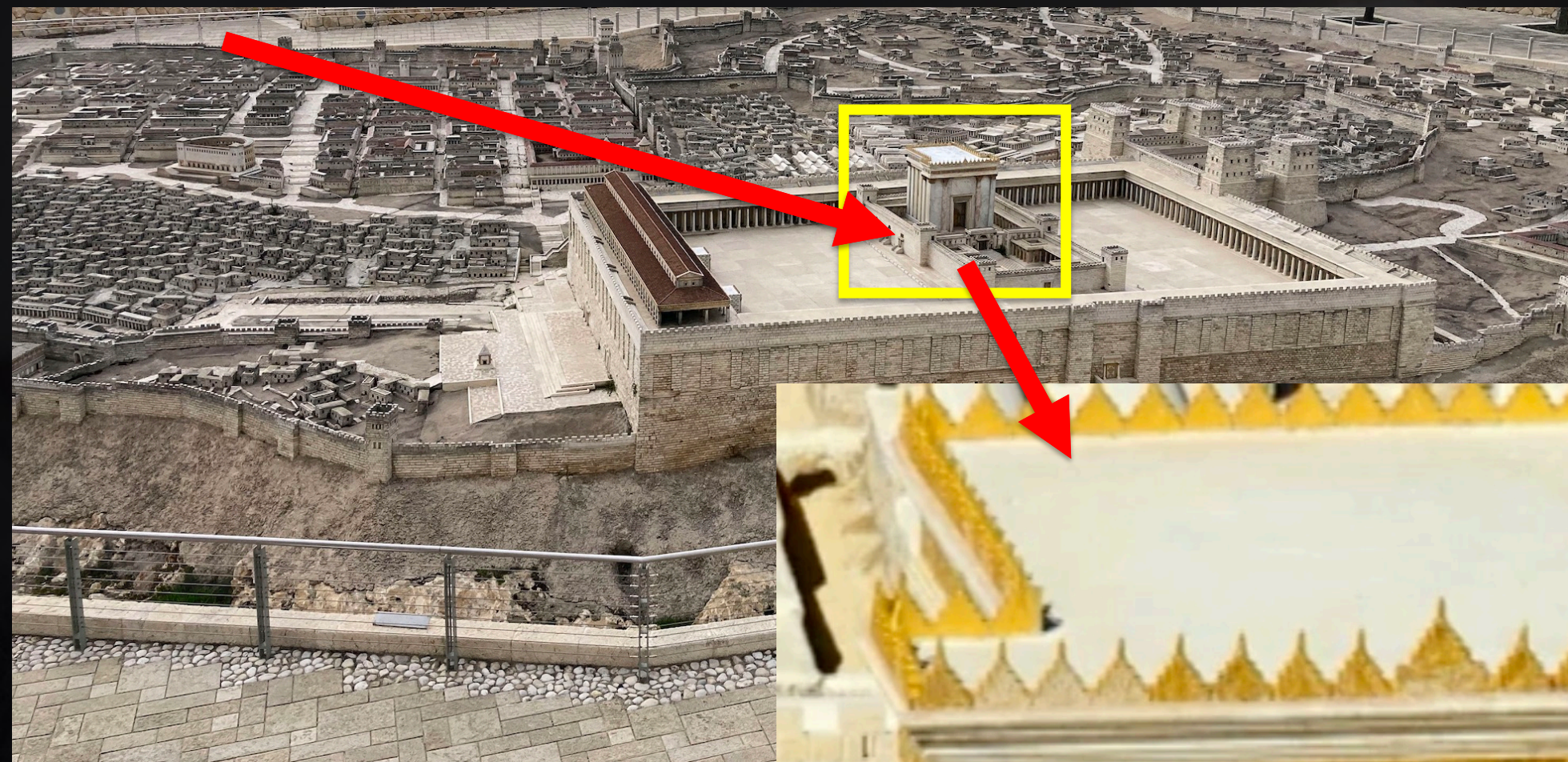
Pool of  
Beth-zatha

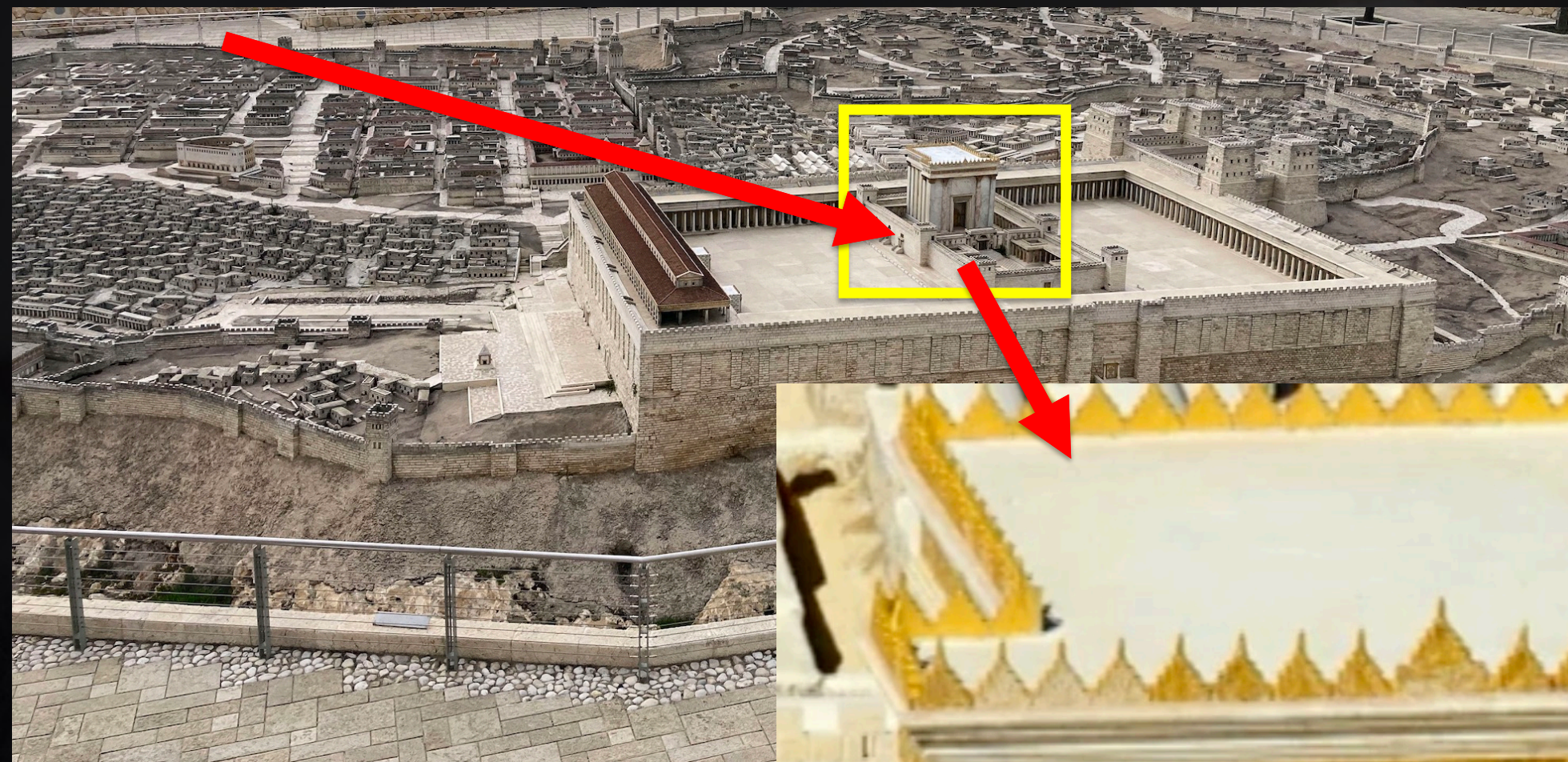
**Arrested**

Gethsemane

Mount of  
Olives







Grapevines

## John 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

**“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.”**



**“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.”**









A photograph of a vineyard with two white arrows pointing to the branches and the main vine. The image shows a row of grapevines with green leaves and some clusters of grapes. The sun is shining from the upper right, creating a bright glow. Two white arrows with black outlines are overlaid on the image. One arrow points to the upper branches of a vine, and the other points to the main trunk of a vine.

**BRANCHES**

**VINE**



**BRANCHES**

**VINE**

- The Gift of Abiding
- The Practice of Abiding
- The Fruit of Abiding



# The Gift of Abiding

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”



# The Gift of Abiding

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you



John 14

<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, *for he dwells with you and will be in you.*



# The Gift of Abiding

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you



Romans 11:17

...and you, although a wild olive shoot, were ***grafted in*** among the others and now share in the ***nourishing root*** of the olive tree...

**Beginning** our Connection to God



# The Gift of Abiding

Luke 23:18

But they all cried out together, “**Away** with this man, and release to us Barabbas”



Mark 15:34

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”



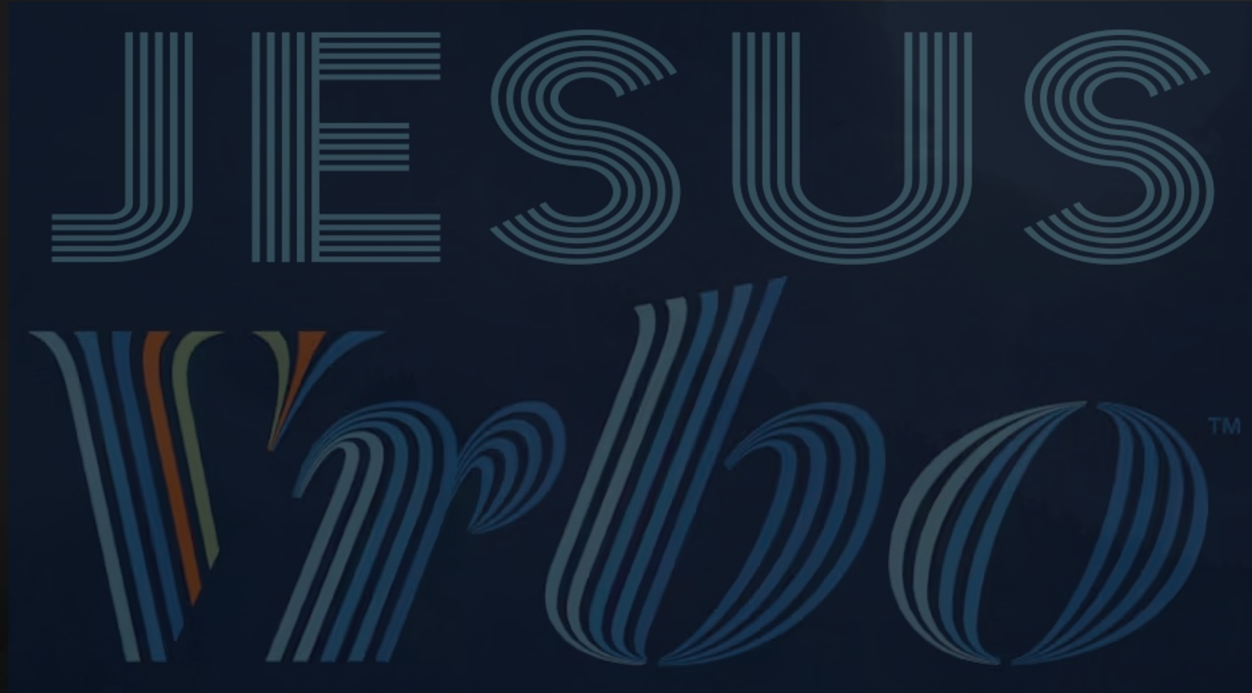
# The Gift of Abiding







# The Gift of Abiding



“Would a soul continually eye His everlasting tenderness and compassion, His thoughts of kindness that have been from of old, His present gracious acceptance, it could not bear an hour’s absence from Him; whereas now, perhaps, it cannot watch with Him one hour.”

- John Owen, Communion with the Triune God, 1657



# The Gift of Abiding

**Living out** our Connection to God

## Colossians 2

<sup>6</sup> Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

To ABIDE is to live out our connection.

A perpetual state of mutual connection that produces fruit

# Computer Issues

# Computer Issues

**I.D.10.T.**



# The Practice of Abiding

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

I am the Bread of Life  
(Jn 6:35)

What sustains you day  
in and day out.



# The Practice of Abiding

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

I am the Bread of Life  
(Jn 6:35)

What sustains you day  
in and day out.

I am the Way, Truth  
and Life (Jn 14:6)

Where you find  
satisfaction and rest.



# The Practice of Abiding

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

I am the Bread of Life  
(Jn 6:35)

What sustains you day  
in and day out.

I am the Way, Truth  
and Life (Jn 14:6)

Where you find  
satisfaction and rest.

I am the Good  
Shepherd (Jn 10:11)

Who you follow; the  
voice you listen to.



# The Practice of Abiding

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and *my words abide in you*, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Prayer

Meditation

Scripture

Clusters





# The Fruit of Abiding

## The Gardener

<sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he *takes away...*

Lifts Up

The Gardener doesn't start by cutting off the fruitless branches, but lifts them up to heal them.





# The Fruit of Abiding

## The Gardener

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, ***and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.***”

## Prunes

<sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.



# The Fruit of Abiding

## The Gardener

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”

***<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.***

**Power and Prayers**



# The Fruit of Abiding

## The Gardener

<sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your *joy may be full*.

Joy



# The Fruit of Abiding

## The Branches

<sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Your connection produces fruit;  
Your fruit doesn't create your connection

Galatians 5

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is

love,  
joy,  
peace,  
patience,  
kindness,  
goodness,  
faithfulness,  
<sup>23</sup> gentleness,  
self-control;

against such things  
there is no law.

Fruit is what God is producing  
IN YOU and THROUGH YOU



**LOVE**

**JOY**

**PEACE**

**PATIENCE**

**KINDNESS**

**GOODNESS**

**FAITHFULNESS**

**GENTLENESS**

**SELF-CONTROL**

# Prayer of Confession

## Psalm 51

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin!
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words  
and blameless in your judgment.

# Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



# Benediction

*A 4000 years old tradition of giving a corporate blessing over God's people.*

Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Please join us up front after worship  
if you'd like for us to pray with you