



IN THE MOVING.

"God has come to us" is a phrase often paired with Christmas. Lots of songs speak of "Emmanuel: God with us" and we think of the cute little baby Jesus and feel thankful and peaceful... and then January comes.

But God *is* with us. He has come to us. And no, we're not doing a Christmas in July thing. Through Jesus' life and the Holy Spirit at Pentecost this is now a simple and consistent 365 reality.

He has come to us. But He has not stood still. He is a God who's in the business of complete transformation, abundant life, and radical grace. He's on the move. He's connecting disconnected people, raising dead hearts to life, meeting people where they're at. And He wants us to join Him. The question is, are you willing to surrender and go with Him?

IN THE BIBLE.

John 15:16-17

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another."

John 15:7-15

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 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. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."

QUESTIONS.

1. What are ways you can surrender to God?
2. What does it mean to you that in John 15, Jesus calls us friends?
3. How do you "abide"? How do you "go" with God? And can these two things be connected?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?