

# Abide in Me

*Mentored by the Master  
Discipleship in Real Time*



Volume 10 - Number 1

The Week of October 6, 2024

*Come and See*  
**Meeting Jesus**  
John 1:29-39

**Icebreaker:** Get to know one another by choosing *one* of the following questions to briefly share.

- 1) Where were you living when you graduated from High School? What happened next?
- 2) What do you like to do when you have the time?

Welcome to the first week of your Growth Group! Our plan for the next three years is to mirror the mentoring process through which Jesus took His first disciples. Our aim is to experience what it is like to sit at the feet of Jesus, stand wide-eyed at His wonder-working miracles, and allow His grace to transform us into what He wants us to be. It is a marvel how Jesus took common people from obscure places, with different personalities and glaring imperfections, and prepared them to change the world.

Discipleship is a journey. It is not a program. It is a process of ever becoming like Jesus. We should never stop repenting, changing, and growing, because becoming like Jesus is a life-long pursuit. Jesus is infinitely glorious. Therefore, our progress towards Christ-likeness should never stop.

Since the end of the Old Testament, 400 years prior, a new voice began to thunder in the desert of Israel. John the Baptist was preaching, baptizing, and preparing the way for the Messiah. He collected his own disciples, until one day, Jesus walked by and John pointed them in Jesus' direction. They began to follow Him and from that day on they were never the same. Thus, begins Phase One of being disciplined by Jesus.

**Date:** Late 26 or early 27 AD  
**Phase 1:** *Come and See (Approximately 4 months)*  
**Place:** Bethany beyond the Jordan

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." 32 And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

## OBSERVATION *(What does the passage say and how does it say it?)*

Before your group meets, read the passage and perform the following prompts:

- Place brackets around the three references to time.
- Circle the pronoun *he* in v. 29 and above it write: *John the Baptist*.
- Place parenthesis around both *beholds* and underline the title that follows.
- Place a † over each reference to Jesus by name, title, and pronoun.
- Above the phrase, *with two of His disciples* (v. 35) write: *Andrew and John*.
- Double underline all the verbs in v. 38 indicating the actions of Jesus.
- Circle Jesus' question in v. 38.
- In the right margin of v. 38 write: *First words spoken by Jesus in the Gospel of John*.
- Circle the word *staying*. In the left margin write: *Abiding*.
- Double underline all the verbs in v. 39 indicating the actions of Andrew and John.

Summarize in one sentence what this passage is about:

## INTERPRETATION *(What does the passage mean?)*

1. What did John the Baptist say about himself? What does this tell you about his own self-awareness and purpose in life?
2. How did John come to know who Jesus is? (Matthew 3:13-17).
3. What did John say about Jesus? What did he mean by "the Lamb of God"? (cf. Exodus 12:1-13) How does the Passover lamb point to Jesus, the Lamb of God? (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7b; Jeremiah 11:19) What else did John say about Jesus? (v. 34). What does it mean?
4. How does verse 37 show that John understood his role and accomplished it superbly?
5. What is the significance of Jesus' question, "What do you want?" Why does He ask them *what* are you seeking instead of *who* are you seeking?

6. What is Jesus doing at the beginning of Phase 1?

**APPLICATION** (*How does the passage apply to our lives?*)

1. If what John is saying is true, what should we do? What does it mean to be a *disciple* of Jesus?
2. Imagine Jesus asking you the same question He asked His first followers. How does His question apply to your deepest longings?
3. Andrew and John asked Jesus where He was staying (μένω, *menō* = dwelling, abiding). For the rest of the day, they abided. To be a disciple of Jesus, abiding in Him is essential. What did it mean for Andrew and John and how do we abide in Jesus today?
4. Part of Jesus' work with the disciples is to change what they want. Why might it be important for us to change the things we want as we follow Jesus?
5. Today we talked about the first question Jesus asked some of His first disciples. Which part of our conversation resonated with you, and what's one thing you want to do about it?

*Did you know LCC has an app? Download the Church Center App on your mobile device to watch sermons, catch all our announcements, find a growth group, and contact the church staff.*



