

# Abide in Me

*Mentored by the Master  
Discipleship in Real Time*



Volume 10 - Number 13

The Week of February 2, 2025

*Come and See\**  
**The Only God**  
John 1:14-18

In one of the most profound passages in the Bible, John gives us a window into the mystery of the Incarnation. He celebrates the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. God did not remain distant but He entered into human history. All that God is, is unveiled in His Son. These verses reveal the uniqueness of Jesus Christ, contrasting the Law given through Moses with the grace and truth realized in Him.

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

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

- Write notes or questions in the left margin that correspond to each verse, such as:
  - V. 14 – What does "dwelt" mean in the original Greek?
  - V. 17 – Why is the contrast between law and grace important?
  - V. 18 – How does Jesus reveal the Father?
  - Think of other questions and write them in the margin.
- Place a circle around "Word" (v. 14) and "Jesus Christ" (v. 17) then draw a line connecting them both.
- Place a box around "full" (v. 14) and "fullness" (v. 16).
- Underline both occurrences of the phrase: "grace and truth."
- Draw opposing arrows and write "contrast" in the margin of v. 17.
- Double underline the phrase, "the only God," (v. 18) and draw a connecting line back to the name of Jesus (v. 17).

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## **SUMMARIZE IN ONE SENTENCE WHAT THIS PASSAGE IS ABOUT:**

(What is the writer's main theme and what is John saying about it?)

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

1. Discuss from different angles what it meant for the Word to become flesh and dwell among us. Why does it matter that John uses the imagery of the Tabernacle [i.e. "tent"] to describe the Incarnation?
2. How does John define the glory of Jesus in this passage? What is the significance of Jesus being called "the only Son from the Father"?
3. How does John the Baptist's testimony support the claims about Jesus?
4. Why does John contrast the Law given through Moses with grace and truth through Jesus? How should we understand the phrase "fullness of grace" (v. 16)?
5. What does it mean that "no one has ever seen God" but the Son has made Him known? In what ways does Jesus uniquely reveal the Father?

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

1. What does it say about God that He would enter into a broken world to love and redeem it, only to be rejected by the very people He came to save?

2. What makes both grace *and* truth essential in the Christian life?

3. How does the fullness of grace in Christ give you confidence in your salvation?

4. How can you align your life with the truth revealed in Jesus Christ?

5. In what ways do we make life more about us than Jesus? How can you live in a way that reflects the glory of Jesus?

\*This study brings to a close the first phase of Jesus' training of the twelve. Take a moment and make a list of all the things you have discovered about Jesus over the past four months:

