



# Experiencing God



# As your lead pastor, I promise:

I will lead my family.

I will pray for you.

I will preach the Gospel and uphold God's word.

I will live in community with you.

I will look to Jesus for the lead with you.





**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.**

**John 15:5**

# What is God's will ~~for my~~ life?

How important is the answer to this question to me?







## 7 Realities of Experiencing God

1. God is always at work.
2. God pursues a love relationship with me.
3. God invites me into His work.
4. God reveals Himself, His purpose, and His ways to me.
5. God's invitation will lead me to a crisis of belief.
6. I must make major adjustments to join God.
7. I will come to know God by experience as I obey him.





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## John 14:21 (NIV)

Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. Whoever loves me will be loved by the father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.





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# 1 John 4:8-10, 19

God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

We love because he first loved us.



If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (John 14:15)

but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. (John 14:31)

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:3)





“Obedience is an outward expression of your love for God.”

“God’s commands are designed to guide you to life’s best. You will not obey Him however, if you do not believe Him and trust Him. You will not believe Him if you do not love Him.”

Henry Blackaby



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# Jesus' Example

**1** My Father is working until now, and **2** I am working. Truly, truly, I say to you **3** the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what **4** he sees the Father doing. For **5** whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For **6** the Father loves the Son and **7** shows him all that he himself is doing.

John 5:17, 19-20



# Jesus' Example

- 1 The Father has been working right up until now.
- 2 Now the Father has Me working.
- 3 I do nothing on My own initiative.
- 4 I watch to see what the Father is doing.
- 5 I do what I see the Father doing.
- 6 The Father loves Me.
- 7 He shows Me everything He is doing.



But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. (John 14:26)

And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: (John 16:8)



# Things only God can do

- 1 Draw people to Himself
- 2 Cause people to seek Him
- 3 Reveal spiritual truth
- 4 Convict the world of guilt about sin
- 5 Convict the world of righteousness
- 6 Convict the world of judgment





“Unless God opens your spiritual eyes, you will not know He is the One at work. He takes the initiative to open your eyes.”

Henry Blackaby





## Discipleship Cues

1. Pray this prayer, "God, give me the eyes to see what you're doing."
2. Reflect on God's love for you this week. (Out of God's love for us flows our best obedience)
3. Ask God, "what are you inviting me to join you in?"





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