

Deep Dive Discussion Guide

Abiding — Staying Connected - *Pastor Stewart Farley*

Scriptures for Today

John 15:1–2, 5, 8 / Titus 3:2–8, 14 / Galatians 5:16–22 / 2 Peter 1:3 / Ephesians 3:20

Opening Reflection — Follow-Up From Last Week

Last week's call to action was:

“This week, deepen your abiding. Choose one intentional practice that keeps you connected to Jesus throughout the day — inviting Him into your decisions, conversations, work, and quiet moments. Ask Him again for a Rhema word, and respond to it with trust and obedience. Let your life shift from performance to presence, from pressure to peace, and from me-ness to we-ness with Christ.”

Where did you intentionally stay connected to Jesus this past week, and how did that practice shift your awareness of Him throughout the day? What Rhema word did He speak, and how did you respond?

1. The Vineyard Picture — Jesus' Final Lesson

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus didn't talk about Rome, escape plans, or strategy — He talked about a **vine and branches**. **Why do you think Jesus chose fruitfulness as His final teaching before the cross?**

2. Fruitfulness Is God's Mission for Your Life

Pastor said: *“God didn't just save you FROM judgment — He saved you TO a life that produces a harvest.”* **Where do you sense God calling you to produce fruit that impacts others?**

3. Fruit = Good Works That Meet Needs & Bring Glory

Titus 3:7–8, 14 — Fruit is visible, practical, and beneficial. **What “good works” has the Spirit been prompting you to step into recently?**

4. Fruit Is the Visible Expression of God's Invisible Work

Galatians 5:22 — The fruit of the Spirit is produced **in you**, not by you. **Where have you seen God producing something in you that wasn't there before?**

**Get Involved with Us as We Pursue Excellence, Value ALL People, Fuel and Display Passion,
Choose a Good Attitude at ALL Times**

5. Identifying the Flesh vs. the Spirit

Pastor emphasized the importance of recognizing the “old man” and the “new man.” **What part of your flesh tries to dominate, and what part of the Spirit is trying to grow?**

6. Transformation Is a Process — Not Instant

Fruit grows gradually:

- Fruit → More Fruit → Much Fruit **Where do you see progress — even small progress — in your spiritual growth?**

7. Staying Connected to the Vine

Pastor said: “*A branch draws its life from the vine — we must draw our life from Christ.*” **What helps you stay connected to Jesus throughout the day? What disconnects you?**

8. Abiding Is a Relationship, Not a Performance

Pastor reminded us:

- God doesn’t leave you
- We walk away from Him **Where have you slipped into performance instead of connection?**

9. Everything Needed for Fruit Is Already Inside You

2 Peter 1:3 — “He has given us everything we need for a godly life.” *Ephesians 3:20* — “His power works within us.” **What would change if you truly believed you already have everything needed for transformation?**

10. Feeding the Spirit, Starving the Flesh

Pastor’s illustration: whatever you feed grows; whatever you starve weakens. **What is one practical way you can feed your spirit this week — and starve your flesh?**

Closing Call to Action

This week, intentionally STAY CONNECTED. Choose one daily practice that keeps your heart plugged into the Vine — a Scripture you meditate on, a prayer rhythm, a moment of silence, or a habit of inviting Jesus into each decision. Feed your spirit, starve your flesh, and let the Holy Spirit produce fruit that meets needs, blesses others, and brings glory to God.