

# Discussion Questions

## **INTRODUCTION**

The New Year is a season of resolutions. However, before the resolutions are the swarm of decisions we must make regarding an exponentially growing number of choices. Jesus presents us a decision tree that safeguards our peace, expands our opportunities, and preserves our freedom of choice.

## **GETTING STARTED**

1. What is at the forefront of your mind as you enter the New Year?
2. What is your greatest hope for the New Year? If it went the way you wanted, what would occur?

## **BIBLE IDEA**

3. Jesus introduces the idea and implications of human dependency. How does that message strike you? Is it a welcomed reality or is it something you resist and/or resent?
4. What does “remaining in Jesus” look like to you? To what degree are you living dependent on Him and to what degree are you living independent?
5. Describe how you practice keeping Jesus’ word inside you? What works for you and where do you struggle?

## **NEXT STEPS**

6. What can you do to remind yourself to keep the first decision, the first decision?
7. What will your Bible reading look like in the New Year?

## Decision Tree

John 15:5-8

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

An observation:

When \_\_\_\_\_ things act in ways consistent with their nature they bear fruit.

When \_\_\_\_\_ things act like \_\_\_\_\_ things they don't.

The first decision is always...

Will I act \_\_\_\_\_ with my nature?

Do you need help with Bible reading this year? Try this free, online course:

[www.reallife.org/biblevirtuosity](http://www.reallife.org/biblevirtuosity)