

missional community

guide

The Way of Jesus

JOHN 15:12-17

Use this guide to help structure your time together. All of these parts are equally valuable for the health and growth of a Missional Community. The examples given below are meant to be a starting point for your time together.

Fellowship

Take time to fellowship with each other.

- How did you keep Jesus' commandments this week?
- What fruit was born in or through you this week?

Prayer

Take time to pray together as a Missional Community incorporating the passage into your corporate prayer.

Adore God for who He is:

- He is our Master
- He is our Friend

Confess the ways that you have not been faithful to God:

- Not loving others
- Laziness

Thank God for what He has done:

- God has chosen me
- God has befriended me
- God died for me

Supplication - Pray for those in your MC and outside of your MC:

- Kingdom: That we would bear much fruit
- Others: To love others as Christ loved me
- Self: To seek God's heart so well that I know what He is doing

Passage

Process through the passage together.

What does the text say?

Before you jump into discussion, make sure that everyone has a good understanding of the passage. Read the passage again and then work together to retell the passage without reading it.

Background info about the author, audience, style, etc. that may be of help.

- John 15:1-11 teaches us to Abide. Verses 9-10 highlight the connection between love and obedience.
- John 15:18-25 warns of a difficult time where the disciples will not be loved by the world.

What do we learn about God from this text?

Have members input what the Holy Spirit has revealed to them about who God is from this text.

- God is our Master. Even though He gives us the designation of friend, we still serve Him.
- God commands us.
- God is the ultimate expression of love, giving His life for His friends.
- God chose and appointed us.
- It is in the name of Jesus that we ought to pray.

What do we learn about man from this text?

Have members input what the Holy Spirit has revealed to them about who man is from this text.

- Love one another as Jesus loved His disciples.
- We should do what we are commanded to do.
- We are chosen and appointed, so that we will bear fruit.

What is there that we can obey from this text?

- Love one another
- Bear fruit
- Pray

Are there commands that still apply to disciples today? If so, what?

- Yes. All of these apply to disciples today.

Other passages in Scripture with similar themes or principles:

These are passages that could be helpful to draw from for further informing today's text.

- John 13:34-35; 1 John 3:11-20 (New commandment: Love)
- Romans 5:7-8 (Lay down your life for your friends)
- Romans 12:1 (Living sacrifice)
- Ephesians 1:3-6; Romans 8:28-30 (Chosen)



Application

Now that a good understanding of who God is and how He relates to man has been established from this passage, how does this impact our lives? What are specific things that each member needs to apply in their life this week?

What applications directly from the passage can be applied this week?

- Abiding, loving, and obeying are not meant to be separate, but interwoven. You cannot do one well without the others.
- He calls me friend. When my negative self-thoughts say, “I’m stupid,” I’ll root my identity in who He says I am.

There may be things that the Holy Spirit is leading us to obey that are not directly from the text, share those as well.

- Set aside time for focused prayer together as a household.
- Choose a verse or passage of scripture to start memorizing.

Be sure to take time to discuss how you can support and encourage each other in the things God is calling you to apply throughout the week.

- Ask the question: “How can we help you with that?”

Mission

Discuss how you will work together this week to impact the world around you.

- Following the recent COPE event, in what ways will our MC better prepare to engage with those coming out of homelessness June 7–9, for Wedgwood’s BLESS Weekend?

VISION: to engage 2000 new unchurched neighbor households by 2028.

MISSION: We exist to glorify Christ by making disciples of all nations who worship, cultivate biblical community, live a generous life, and multiply disciples.

VALUES: Spirit Led / Pursuit of Unity / Kingdom Over Self / Adaptability

