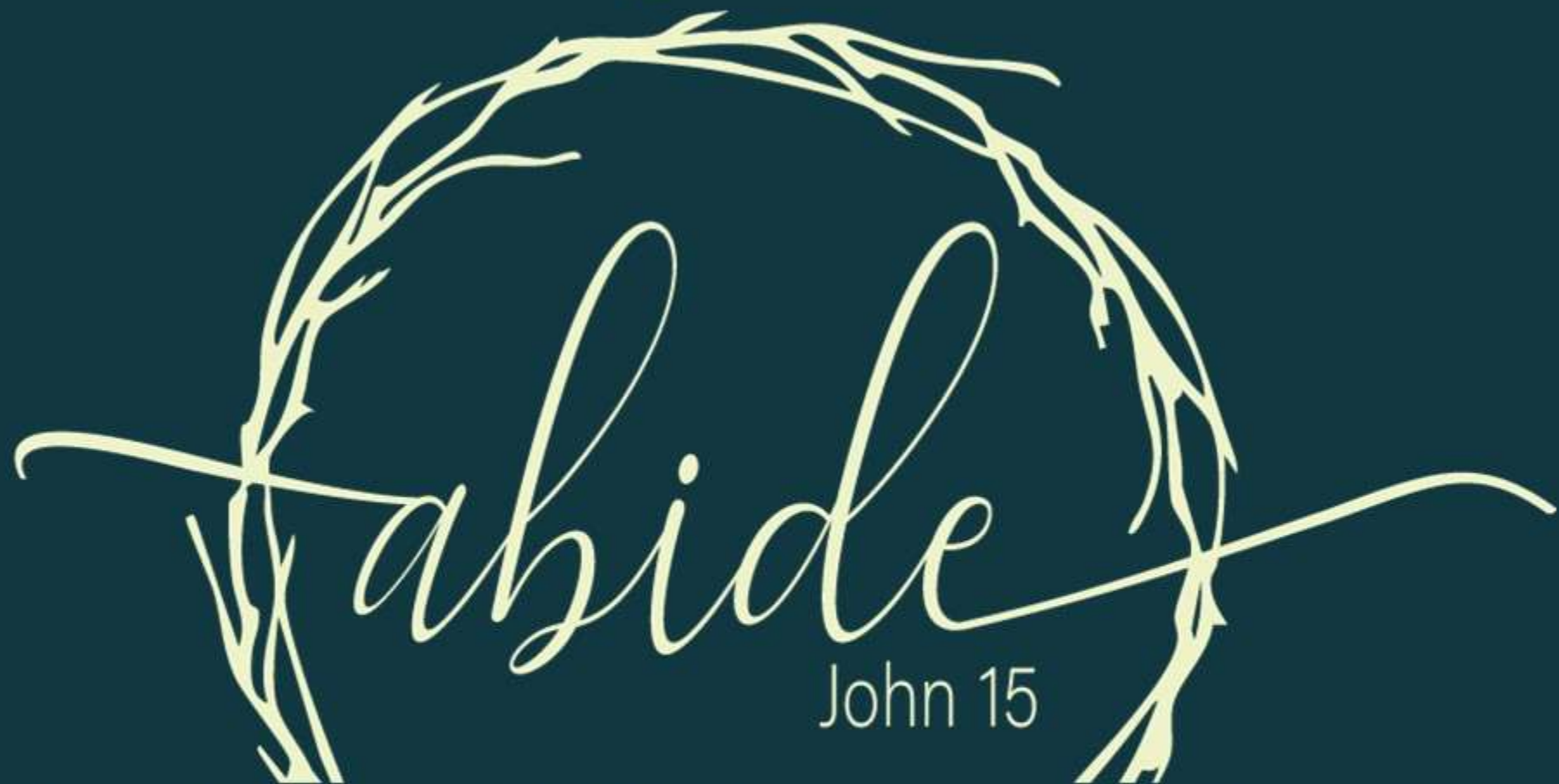


8th Annual 2025 Embracing Biblical Womanhood Conference



*"Apart from **HIM**, we can do nothing"*

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COMA Bible Study Method

Dee Dee Boarts



*"Apart from **HIM**, we can do nothing"*

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❖ A Little About Me



- I am married to Mike, since 1995
 - We have 2 married children; Matthew (Laura) and Kinsey (Blake)
 - We have 5 grandchildren; Asher(12), Ace(10), Atlas(8), Jonah(7) and Evie(23 months)
 - I am a retired public-school teacher (30 years)
 - By God's Grace we have been in ministry for almost 30 years
- (and I still have much to learn, and I still get nervous in front of my peers!)



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❖ Why do we need a Bible Study method?

- Acts 17:10-12

❖ When do I need to use it?

- Daily reading/listening to scripture (No)
- Intentional Scripture Study (YES!)



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COMA (Let's look at the booklet. The teal pages.)

- **C**ontext

What is the background information of this passage?

- **O**bservation

What does this passage say?

- **M**eaning

How should this passage be rightly understood?

- **A**pplication

How should I live out this passage?

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COMA : "C" = CONTEXT (Navy pages)

- What is the background of this passage?
- Context is King. Zoom out for the big picture.
 - Questions to ask...
 - Literary Context
 - How does this passage fit within the structure of the Bible?
 - What is the genre? (law, history, wisdom, narrative, gospels, epistles, prophecy, or apocalyptic)
 - How does the writing of this passage connect to other passages and books of the Bible?
 - Historical Context
 - Who? Whom? Where? When? What? Why? How?
 - What cultural or historical knowledge helps place you within this passage?
 - Biblical Context
 - How does this passage fit within God's story throughout the Bible?
 - What is being emphasized and pointed out in the verses before and after this passage?
 - Where in redemptive history (Creation, Fall, Redemption, New Creation) is this passage

[Where to find Context?? A good study Bible, BLB, commentaries, Google](#)

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COMA : "O" = OBSERVATION

- What does this passage say?
- Read the text. Reread the text. Read in other translations.
 - Questions to ask...
 - What is emphasized, along with new or unknown words/phrases, and/or keywords to be identified or defined (repeated words, ideas, phrases, people, places, actions, lists)?
 - What differences, variations, and/or footnotes appear through reading different Bible translations (ESV, CSB, NASB, LSB, NET, NKJV, KJV, etc.)?
 - What about the grammar, sentence structure, and/or chapters/verses, helps provide clarity (original language, conjunctions, transitions, prepositions, verbs, pronouns, etc.)?

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COMA : "M" = MEANING

- How should this passage be rightly understood?
- This is the interpretation step.
 - Questions to ask...
 - What is the plain reading that the human author and original audience would have understood?
 - What truths are taught about the Triune God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), man, biblical metanarrative, etc.?
 - How would you summarize this passage, identify the big idea, and/or check alignment with other Scripture passages?

How would I explain this to an unchurched person?

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COMA : "A" = APPLICATION

- How should I live out this passage?
- Move from learning to living and from hearing to doing.
 - Questions to ask...
 - What Christlike transformation should occur through my thinking, being, doing, and proclaiming?
 - What changes is the Holy Spirit leading me to make, and how should my life be different?
 - Through the theological truths learned, is there a connecting personal or corporate church application?

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COMA – 1 John 2:3-6

- Context

What is the background information of this passage?

- Observation

What does this passage say?

- Meaning

How should this passage be rightly understood?

- Application

How should I live out this passage?

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1 John 2:3-6 ESV

³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

*“Apart from
HIM,
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³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. **By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:3-6 ESV)**





CONTEXT

What is the background information of this passage?

Literary Context

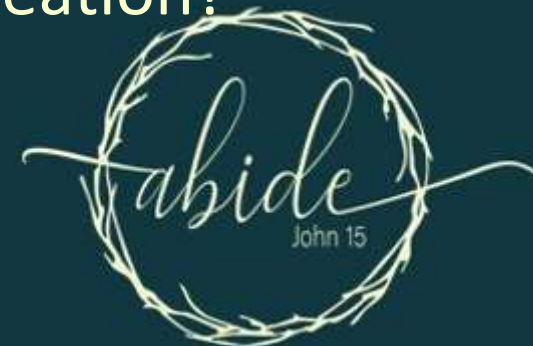
- Structure of the Bible?
- Genre?
- Writing connections within the Bible?

Historical Context

- Who, whom, where, when, what, why, how?
- Cultural or historical knowledge?

Biblical Context

- Verses before and after?
- Creation, Fall, Redemption, New Creation?



CONTEXT

What is the background information of this passage?

Literary Context

- Letter / Epistle
- Written to believers
for assurance of
BELIEF

Historical Context

- Written by John the
Apostle /disciple
- He wrote the John (4th
gospel) and 1,2,3 John
and Revelation

Biblical Context

- Redemption –how to live
godly lives





OBSERVATION

What does the passage say?

Emphasized

New or unknown
words and phrases
– keywords?

Translation

Translational differences,
variations, and/or
footnotes?

Grammar

Sentence structure –
chapters and verses?



OBSERVATION: *What does the passage say?*

Emphasized

Translation

Grammar

³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. (1 John 2:3 ESV)

- *Who is the we?*
- *Who is him / his?*
- *Define Know. Same word?*





MEANING

How should this passage be rightly understood?

Plain Reading

Human author and the
original audience?

Truths

Triune God, Man,
Biblical Metanarrative,
etc.?

Summarize

Big idea – scripture
alignment?



MEANING: How should this passage be rightly understood?

Plain Reading

Truths

Summarize

³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. (1 John 2:3 ESV)

- *1st know means assurance / 100% of my capacity*
- *2nd know means believe / relationship with Jesus*
- *Keep means to guard*
- *If – then statement, but backwards*
- *Commandments = Matt 22:36-40, Mark 12:29, Luke 10:27*

**John 14:26*





APPLICATION

How should I live out this passage?

Christlike

Transformation

Thinking, being,
doing, and proclaiming
like Christ?

Holy Spirit Led

Life differences
and/or changes?

Theological truths

Personal or corporate
church application?



APPLICATION: How should I live out this passage?

Christlike
Transformation

Holy Spirit Led

Theological Truths

³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. (1 John 2:3 ESV)

- *Self Test.*

Am I being led by the Holy Spirit?

Do I know 100% ?

Not perfect, but am I improving?



OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?

Emphasized

Translation

Grammar

⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. (1 John 2:3-5a ESV)

- *Opposites. Parallel statements.*
- *Not keep / keep*
- *Define whoever.*
- *What is truth / truly.*
- *Who is him and his?*



MEANING: How should this passage be rightly understood?

Plain Reading

Truths

Summarize

⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. (1 John 2:3-5a ESV)

- *Just because I say it ... doesn't mean it's true.*
- *No truth means I am a liar.*
- *If I keep his word then I truly follow Him.*

opposites



APPLICATION: How should I live out this passage?

Christlike
Transformation

Holy Spirit Led

Theological Truths

⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. (1 John 2:3-5a ESV)

- *Does my life prove I know Him?*
- *Am I walking what I am talking?*



OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?

Emphasized

Translation

Grammar

By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:5b-6 ESV)

- *What is this?*
- *What is know?*
- *Who is we?*
- *Who is him/he?*
- *Define abide.*
- *Define walk.*



MEANING: How should this passage be rightly understood?

Plain Reading

Truths

Summarize

By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:5b-6 ESV)

- *If I am abiding, I am walking with Him.*
- *I am walking/living just like He did.*
- *This restates verse 3.*



APPLICATION: How should I live out this passage?

Christlike
Transformation

Holy Spirit Led

Theological Truths

By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:5b-6 ESV)

• *Do I walk/love/give/serve like Jesus?*



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Questions & Comments

(If I can do it...You can do it!!)

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COMA – 1 John 5:3-5

- Context

What is the background information of this passage?

- Observation

What does this passage say?

- Meaning

How should this passage be rightly understood?

- Application

How should I live out this passage?