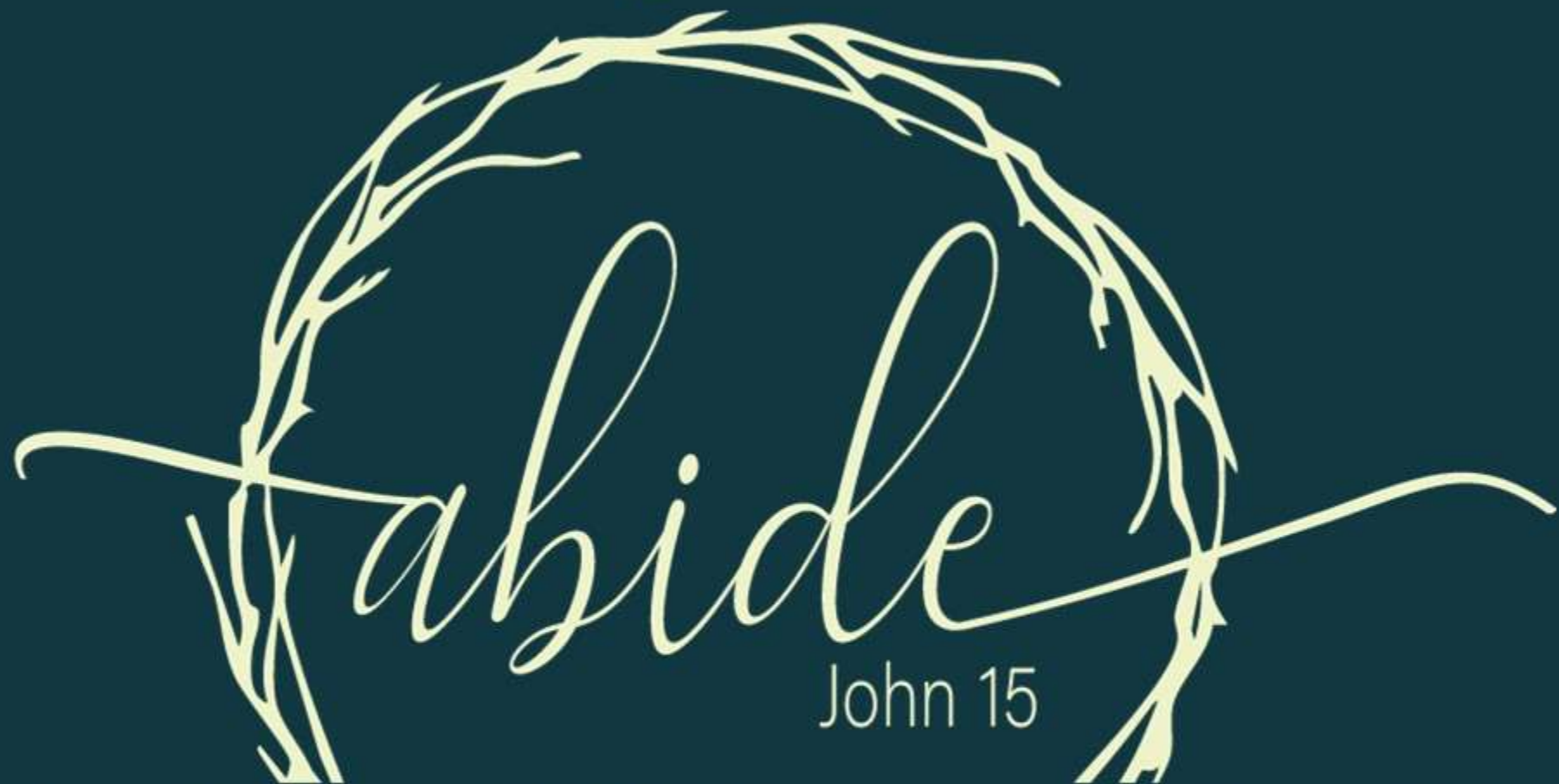


8th Annual 2025 Embracing Biblical Womanhood Conference



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

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Abiding as a True Disciple

Anna Davis



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

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A little bit about me

- I've been married to my husband, Ryan, for 14 years.
- We have 2 precious and energetic boys, Clayton & Bennett.
- We both believed we were Christians our whole lives. We didn't become truly saved until 2019/2020.
- Started attending Berean the beginning of 2022.
- Became members and were baptized in October of 2022.
- We serve in the nursery (4/5s), co-teach 2nd grade Sunday School, and both facilitate micro groups.



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Workshop Outline

- Define the word abide and what that means for our lives as Christians.
- Define a disciple
- Discuss what is a true vs. false disciple
- Who we disciple.
- Asking the Holy Spirit to lead us when discipling others.
- Discuss opportunities to disciple others.

John 15:1-8

1 I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. **5** I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. **6** If any one does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them and cast them into the fire and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.

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Initial Takeaways

the true vine = Jesus

the vinedresser = God

the branches = us (believers & non-believers)

abide = 7x

fruit = 6x



final "I Am" sayings

Transliteration: *menō***Pronunciation:** men'-o **Part of Speech:** verb**Root Word (Etymology):** A root word**TDNT Reference:** 4:574,581**Outline of Biblical Usage:**

- I.* to remain, abide
 - A.* in reference to place
 - i.* to sojourn, tarry
 - ii.* not to depart
 - a.* to continue to be present
 - b.* to be held, kept, continually
 - B.* in reference to time
 - i.* to continue to be, not to perish, to last, endure
 - a.* of persons, to survive, live
 - C.* in reference to state or condition
 - i.* to remain as one, not to become another or different
- II.* to wait for, await one

Synonyms for Abide

enduring continuing
 fixed
 lasting remaining
 durable
 persisting everlasting
 eternal
 lifelong



To abide is to stay, remain

We remain with Him. We stay in the faith. We don't leave Jesus. We continue to obey His word. We don't forsake Him. Everyday we wake up we continue in the faith, continue trusting in our Lord. We do not depart. We endure until the end.

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.”



2 Timothy 4:7

He abides in us - He dwells in us

Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him”.



John 14:23

Abiding in Christ proves we are his disciples.

Abiding in Christ is the position of all true believers.

Abiding isn't what saves us, but it is one of the signs of salvation.

What is a disciple?

Merriam Webster - one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another.

Cambridge Dictionary - a person who believes in the ideas of a leader.

Desiring God Website - someone who adheres to the teachings of another.



Blue Letter Bible

Noun definition of
the word disciple.

learner
this is who
we are



G3101 - <i>mathētēs</i>
μαθητής
Transliteration: <i>mathētēs</i>
Pronunciation: math-ay-tes' 
Part of Speech: masculine noun
Root Word (Etymology): From μανθάνω (G3129)
TDNT Reference: 4:415,552
Outline of Biblical Usage: <i>1.</i> a learner, pupil, disciple
KJV Translation Count: 269x The KJV translates Strong's G3101 in the following manner: disciple (268x), variations of 'disciple' (1x).

Blue Letter Bible

Verb definition of
the word disciple.

to teach
this is what
we do



« G3099

G3101 »

μαθητεύω

Transliteration: *mathēteuō*

Pronunciation: math-ayt-yoo'-o 

Part of Speech: verb

Root Word (Etymology): From
μαθητής (G3101)

TDNT Reference: 4:461,552

Outline of Biblical Usage:

- I.* to be a disciple of one
 - A.* to follow his precepts and instructions
- II.* to make a disciple
 - A.* to teach, instruct

When you think of being a true disciple, what verses do you think of?

I have 3 in mind



John 8:31

“So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed in Him, “If you **continue in My word**, then you are truly disciples of Mine.”



John 13:35

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love for one another.**”

John 15:8

“My Father is glorified by this, that
you **bear much fruit**, and so prove
to be My disciples.”



Recap

Disciples:

- continue in Jesus' word (obey His teachings and the scriptures)
- have love for one another
- bear much fruit



How are we doing so far?

Do we obey Christ's teachings?

Do we have love for one another?

Do we bear fruit?

When I think about being a
disciple of Christ, and what we
are charged to do,
Matthew 28:19-20
comes to mind.



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Matthew 28:19-20

"Go therefore and make **disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

We are called/commanded to
make disciples in Matthew
28:19.

We can't force people to become disciples,
but we as disciples can teach people.



John 15:1-8

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True Disciple vs False Disciple?

True disciples bear much fruit, continue in His word, and love one another.

So, who is a false disciple? We know Judas Iscariot was as well as the crowds that followed him around the beginning of his ministry.



Please turn with me to **John 4**.

Many miracles performed in John 4-6

John 4:48

- Jesus heals the son of the royal official in Galilee.

John 5

- Jesus tells a man ill for 38 years to pick up his mat and walk.

John 6

- Jesus fed 5,000 men (not including women and children) with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish.
- Jesus walking on the sea.



Why did the crowds follow Jesus?

John 4:48 - “Unless you people see signs & wonders, you simply will not believe.”

John 6:23 - “There came other small boats from Tiberias near the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks.”

John 6:36 - “But I said to you that you have seen me, and yet you do not believe.”



Bread - These people wanted the physical and temporal instead of realizing He provides the spiritual and eternal.

They wanted to physically eat the bread, they didn't want the Bread of Life.



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Signs & wonders - They wanted to see people healed and miracles take place, but that defeats the purpose of faith. We continue to see throughout the book of John that there are never going to be enough miracles for them to believe.

They wanted to see the miracles He would perform, but they didn't want the miracle of salvation He offers.

Another verse to consider

1 John 2:19

19 They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have **remained** with us; but they went out so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.



Is this true of us today?

Do we only want what **we** want and not Jesus himself?

Do we only want to talk/communicate with Him when it's convenient for **us** or when we **need** something?

Is He our genie and does what we command?

Do we live with an eternal or earthly mindset?

Do we have faith in Him?

Does He abide in us?



Will we defect like Judas and those
followers?

Will we abandon Jesus and our
beliefs?



False disciples are apathetic about what the Triune God wants for our life.

False disciples unconcerned about the eternal, they are stuck in this temporary life.

False disciples don't care about God's desires - they care about their own.

False disciples are indifferent about having a relationship with the One, True, Living God.

False disciples don't abide in Christ.

False disciples don't disciple others.



True Disciple?

- Obey Christ's teachings
- Have love for one another
- Bear fruit
- Want Jesus for who He is, not what He can do for us
- Have faith in Christ alone
- Disciple others



As true disciples we are given the command to disciple others. This is our charge from the Lord to complete here on earth while there is still time.

We need to disciple with a boldness and an eagerness. Discipling is an opportunity to trust God and His timing. To be less anxious, less nervous, less fearful.



Our Opportunity to Disciple Others

We can be afraid, hesitant, or challenged to disciple others for many reasons:

- we don't have enough time
- we're afraid to put a strain on a relationship
- we're not sure what to say



There's good news!
We have the Helper with us!

We are not alone in these situations or in this life. For the true believer, the Holy Spirit is with us!

Not only is He with us, He dwells within us!

1 John 4:12-13

12 No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. **13** By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us His Spirit.



Our Reality

Discipling others can be hard. We aren't going to disciple others perfectly because none of us are perfect people. But that should inspire us to call out to the perfect God for help.



We are prone to forget the Holy Spirit.

We don't like inconveniencing others, believe we can handle our issues without any help, and when we realize we can't complete the task in our own strength, we ask for help from the Holy Spirit but as a last resort.

We need to have **confidence** in the Holy Spirit and go to Him first.

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Acts 1:8

"But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Colossians 1:28-29

28 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. **29** For this purpose also I labor, striving according to **His power which mightily works within me.**



We need to be asking the Holy Spirit for help every day - not just to disciple others, but in every aspect of our lives.

We need to be praying for the Holy Spirit to give us opportunities to disciple others and share the gospel.

We need to pray the Holy Spirit will prepare the hearts of those we are trying to disciple.

We pray He will give us the words to say when that chance comes, and even if it doesn't come out perfect, that God will use it for His glory.

Workshop Participation!

Who are people God has put in **your**
lives you can disciple or are
discipling?



Who can I disciple? Who
am I discipling?



- I am discipling my children.
- I can and actively try to disciple my coworkers, family members, and friends.



Turn with me to
Romans 10:14-17



Romans 10:14-17

14 How will they call on Him in whom they have not **believed**? How will they believe in Him whom they have **not heard**? And how will they hear without a **preacher**?

15 How will they preach unless they are **sent**? Just as it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!” **16** However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” **17** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.



We must tell others about Jesus and share the gospel before it's too late. James calls this life a mist, a vapor. It will go by so quickly. Day to day, life feels long, but in reality, it's quite short.

Discipling others is the most important work we as believers and true disciples can do on this earth.

So what are some ideas for starting to disciple others?

Ideas to Disciple Others

For people you have a relationship with that may not be believers:

- Pray for them.
- Help them in a time of need.
- Bring God into the conversations.
- Share what you're studying in the Bible.
- Share what the Holy Spirit has revealed to you.
- Invite them to church.
- Invite someone to join your bible study/micro group
- Share the Gospel with them.



Ideas to Disciple Others

For people who you know that may have unbiblical viewpoints:

- Pray for them.
- Pray for strength and wisdom from the Holy Spirit.
- Ask questions.
- Keep the conversation going.
- Keep showing them Christ.
- Share the Gospel with them.



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Nothing is impossible with God
- Luke 1:37.

This includes abiding in Him, being a true disciple, and discipling others. It can feel difficult and impossible to do these things, but with God, all things are possible!

Remember, apart from Him we can do nothing!

And remember this...

Your job is to plant the seed,
not change their heart.

Don't get your role and God's
role mixed up.



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Recap!

- Abiding proves we are disciples.
- A disciple is a is not just a learner but teacher.
- We don't want to be false disciples.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to lead us when discipling others.
- Discipling others is something we're commanded to do and we have many opportunities to do that.
- We can't do anything apart from Him!

Ephesians 3:20-21

20 “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, **21** to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.



He is the one we trust.
He is the one we rely on.
He is the one abide in.
Not in our strength, but
HIS.



We can't ...

be born again

sing

pray

worship

disciple

love

abide

trust

believe

obey

bear fruit

do anything good

do **anything**



without HIM

