

## TAKING IT HOME

**1. Remaining in Him.** One way we can keep our relationship with Christ intimate and thriving is to observe a God-focused Sabbath. What is ONE thing you can do this week to allow the Sabbath to be intentionally focused on the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

*I will make my relationship with God a part of the Sabbath this week by:*

**2. Remaining in His Love.** 1 John 4:19 says: “We love because He first loved us.” What is ONE way you will allow Christ’s love to spill out of you and into another person’s life this week?

*I will love \_\_\_\_\_ with the love Christ loved me with by:*

## NEXT STEPS

Which of these NEXT STEPS will you do in order to encourage people to begin, resume or continue their spiritual journey?

- \_\_\_ Join a Small Group for the DISCIPLE series.
- \_\_\_ Become a disciple by placing your faith in Christ.
- \_\_\_ Identify with Jesus’ death/resurrection by being baptized into Christ.
- \_\_\_ Make one significant change in your obedience to Christ’s teachings.
- \_\_\_ Make a kingdom introduction with someone on your Pi2 card.
- \_\_\_ Your Next Step: \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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## Abiding Always

<sup>4</sup>“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

John 15:4-5 (NIV84)

## Q: How do we continue as disciples?

Discipleship is a heart issue that works itself out through all of our extremities.

Jesus’ primary appeal: Remain in Him.

This is a heart issue.

Remaining in Jesus comes through:

Relationally connecting with Him.

Allowing His words to remain in us.

Jesus’ resulting appeal: Remain in His love.

This is an extremity issue.

Our fruit is our obedience to His command.

His command: love each other.

Our obedience is fueled by His love for us.

Motion: Keep the Connection...Always

Listen to sermons online at [lakeviewowego.com](http://lakeviewowego.com)

# Deepening Your Walk with God

For the week of April 10, 2016

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## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at the Taking It Home section and Next Steps from last week, how did last week's sermon cause you to live differently?  
(Be sure to check out [lakeviewowego.com](http://lakeviewowego.com) for additional resources for this week's sermon.)

## MY STORY

1. How long have you been a disciple of Jesus? What would you say has made being consistent in your life as a disciple difficult?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would you say you spend more effort being with Jesus or trying to live the way that you think Jesus wants you to live? Why do you think this is so?

## DIGGING DEEPER

*Freely confess your intimacy with Jesus is not everything it should be. Ask Him to intensify your desire for this intimacy while also finding joy in your wholeness and righteousness found only in Him.*

1. **John 15:** Read John 15:1-17 from the paper provided in this insert. Re-read it several times, each time marking the words below in a unique way.

First reading: "remain"

Second reading: fruit/fruitful

Third reading: love/loved

Fourth reading: obey/command/commands

What initial insights do you have after reading through these verses several times?

2. **Remaining in Jesus.** Look at verses 1-8. Each time we are told to "remain," what are we told to remain in? Look to see how the word "remain" is translated in several different translations of the Bible.

What do you see as the connection between being commanded to remain in Jesus and our bearing fruit?

List some practical ways that you can remain in Jesus through the activities of the day.

3. **Remaining in Jesus' Love.** Look at verses 9-17. Each time we are told to "remain" in these verses, what are we told to remain in? What do you think is the difference between "remaining in me" and "remaining in my love?"

How does Jesus define His command in these verses?

What do you see as the connection between "remaining in His love" and obeying His command to love each other? What happens when our loving others is separated from His love for us?

List some practical ways you can remain in Jesus' love by loving others throughout the activities of your day.