

# AT THE THRESHOLD

*"Back to the Basics: Remaining in Jesus' Love" - John 15*

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March 15, 2015

John 15: Jesus goes over the basics of staying connected to him in the world.

## THE BASICS:

**1st** - You must remain in me. (vv. 1-11)

Key Verse: *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit."* John 15:5

**2nd** - You must love your teammates. (vv. 12-17)

Key Verse: *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."* John 15:12

**3rd** - The other team wants to defeat you.  
(vv. 18-16:4a)

Key Verse: *"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."* John 15:18

## Next Steps

- I will memorize John 15:5 this week.
- I will express Jesus' love by serving someone this week in a way that means something to them and isn't easy or convenient for me.
- I will attend a Baptism Class, Today, at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.



**Lesson Aim:** To grow in awareness of how we are connected to Jesus Christ.

**Ice-breaker:** What kind of plants do you have in your house or yard?

Open in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

1. **Read John 15:1-5, Matthew 7:17-18 & Galatians 5:22-23.** What does it mean to bear fruit? How might you know when you are personally bearing good fruit?
2. **Read John 15:6-11.** Where is an area of your life that you are currently seeing fruit in your efforts? Where is an area of your life that might need pruning so as to bear more fruit?
3. **Read John 15:12-13.** Why is it difficult sometimes to love others unconditionally? Who is someone in your life that this scripture is motivating you to reach out to?
4. **Read John 15:14-17.** Jesus provides a guideline and expectation for friendship with us. What are some guidelines and expectations you have for friendship with others?
5. **Read John 15:18-19.** What does it mean to “belong to the world,” and how do we know if we are a part of it? What is an area of “worldly connection” that might be interfering with your walk and bearing fruit?
6. Pastor VIN taught us that the world (systems of thinking that oppose God) hates Jesus, and as His followers will possibly hate

us as well. When you consider the possibility of being despised for His name, how does that make you feel? Where can you draw strength from if and when this happens?

7. **Read John 15:26-27.** We are not alone in testifying about our relationship with Jesus Christ. What are some ways that you can or do testify for Jesus Christ in your daily life? How has the Holy Spirit helped you?

8. **Read John 16:1.** Jesus tells us that He is warning us of potential difficulties so that we do not fall away. What does it mean to “fall away”? How can you stay strong and avoid “falling away”?

**Daily Devotional Plan** – Scriptures to help remind us that we are designed to bear fruit.

Day 1 – Matthew 7:15-20

Day 2 – Mark 4:3-9

Day 3 – Luke 3:9

Day 4 –Galatians 5:22

Day 5 –Jeremiah 17:7-8

Day 6 – Matthew 12:33

Day 7 – John 15:4-5

To go deeper: Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper/journal/laptop/etc.:

- What did you hear? (What did God say to you as you read the Scriptures for the day?)
- What do you think? (What does it mean to you, how does it apply to your life, and what difference will it make to you?)
- What will you do? (What action step will you take? How will you think differently? How will you live differently?)
- Now talk to God (Put your thoughts into prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude or praise. It could be a prayer of confession or a request for God’s help. It’s up to you. But take a minute each day to write a prayer response to what you read in the Scriptures.)

