



SPIRITUAL

This gauge can represent your relationship with God (how close you feel to Him), your spiritual habits (reading your bible, prayer), and your obedience to the Lord (obeying the scriptures).

DRAW A LINE ON THE GAUGE ABOVE TO INDICATE YOUR CURRENT LEVEL OF SPIRITUAL HEALTH.

WHERE TO START...

In a busy world, it can be difficult to find time to slow down and simply “be” with God. As a result, it can often be difficult to sense God’s presence in our life or feel connected to Him. The passage below gives us the key to that constant presence remaining in us, and it’s our dedication to remaining in Him. Like any relationship, you get out what you put in. Dedicate 30-60 minutes today for time alone with God, put your phone on do-not-disturb, and begin by reading these verses from John’s gospel.

WHAT GOD SAYS...

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also 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.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

John 15:1-13 (NIV)

TODAY, I WILL...

After you've read the passage a few times, prayerfully write out answers to these questions in your journal or in the space below.

FRUIT

Verses 1-4 talk about the good fruit that comes out of our lives when we're connected to Christ. In what ways do you see that being produced in your life? In what ways would you like to see more spiritual fruit? Is there anything in your life currently preventing that?

REMAIN

Verses 5-8 illustrate the importance of consistent devotion in our relationship with Christ. What are some practical ways or times you could find more time alone with God if that's something you desire? Considering your current schedule and commitments, identify a predictable window of time you'd like to try carving out for more intentional time with him for a season. What is "doable" that you could commit to for a trial run?

LOVE

Verse 9 reminds us the starting point for faith and our relationship with God is actually God's love for us. The invitation is not towards more doing, but more resting in His love. Reflect on what it means for God to love you (you!), and write out some sentences that are true about you because of God's love for you (as demonstrated by Jesus' life, death, and resurrection).

COMMAND

Verses 10-13 conclude by highlighting our response to this love- namely, keeping God's commands, and living out his greatest commandment, to love Him and to love others around us. Do you sense any commands of His he's asking you to keep? How could you honor him by extending love, grace, generosity, hospitality, or forgiveness to those around you? Does anyone in particular come to mind? Ask Him to reveal these things to you.

TODAY, MY PRAYER IS...

*Heavenly Father,
give me a desire for You
like the one You have for me.
Produce real fruit in me
as I remain in your love for me.*

LOOKING FOR MORE?

[Old Church Basement](#) by Elevation Worship and Maverick City Music

[The Grace of God](#) by Andy Stanley

[Spirit In A Time of Flesh](#) from Athens Church (2020)