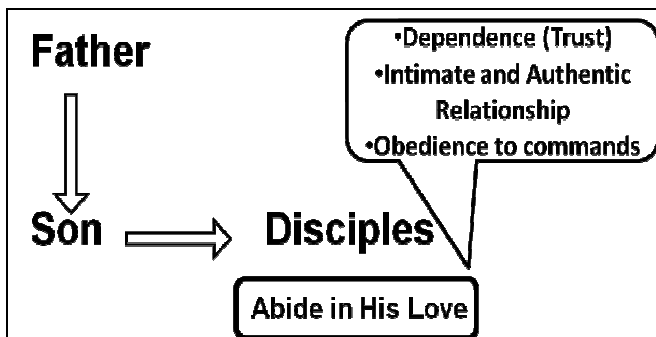
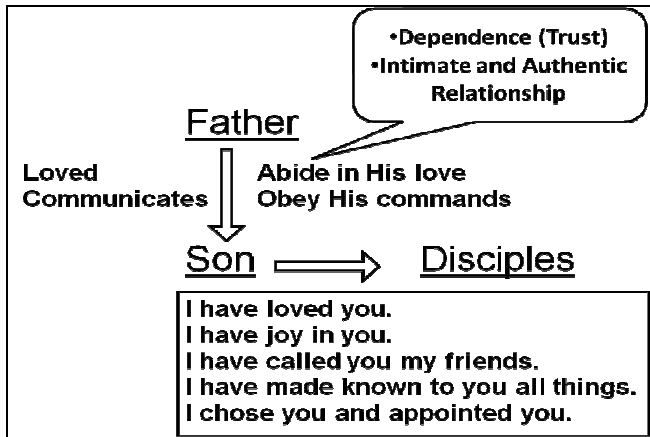
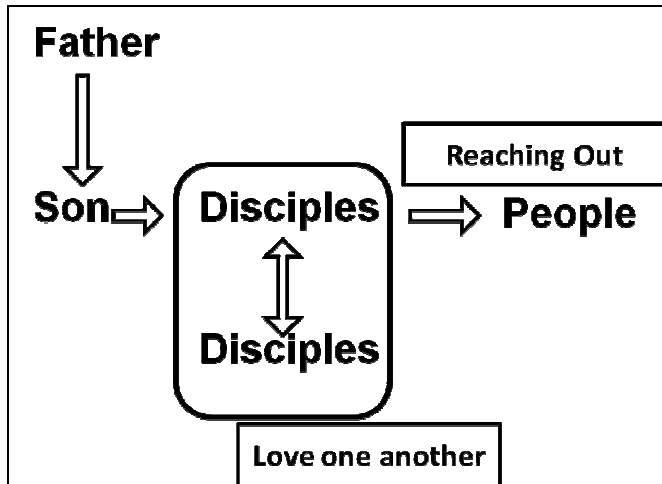


Moving From “Being Alone” to “Being Loved”
John 15:1-17

Let’s begin this year with a quick overview our mission statement. A mission statement gives direction and focuses our future. It provides guidelines for decision making and inspires unity. Our mission statement states that **we as a church exist to glorify God by making disciples**. That’s pretty amazing. We describe a disciple in three ways: *Loving God*; *Loving each other*; and *Reaching the world*. All three summarize what we find in Scripture (Great Commandment—Matthew 22:34-39; Great Commission—Matthew 29:18-20). We develop each of these areas through a process of *learning*, *connecting*, and *obeying*.





Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help in the transformation process in which the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- Read John 15:1-17. Let’s focus today on the relationship of the Father and the Son. What do you find out about the Father’s love of the Son in the following verses? John 3:35; 5:20; 10:17. Notice the tense of the verb “love.” What do you find out from the following verses: John 15:9; 17:24, 26? Notice the tense of the verb “love.”
- We find that the Son loves his disciples (John 13:34; 15:9) and that the Father loves the disciples (John 16:27). How would you define “love” from a biblical perspective?
- What difference does it make in your life to know and experience that the Father and the Son love you? How can you respond to this love? Share this with another person today.

Wednesday-Thursday

- Read John 15:1-17. Let’s focus today on the Son’s obedience to the Father as a demonstration of His love for the Father. What do you discover from the following verses: John 4:34; 5:19-20; 6:38; 8:29, 55; 10:17-18; 14:31; 15:10?
- What is the connection between “love” and obedience? See John 14:15, 21; 15:10. How would this impact your life? For further work, see Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Mark 12:29-31.
- What areas of your life need to be brought into obedience? What could you do to develop your love for God that would empower you and motivate you to obey? Work on this with another individual. Be sure to celebrate what God is doing in your life.

Friday-Saturday

- Read John 15:1-17. Let’s focus on “loving one another” today. What do you find out about this kind of love? John 15:12-13. What does this also tell you about Christ’s death on the cross?
- For further work, what do you find out about loving your enemies from the following verses: Matthew 5:43-47; Romans 5:8-10?
- Describe what “sacrificial love for one another” would actually look like in your daily life? Brainstorm ideas with a friend and come up with a plan to put this into practice.