

Abide #1 – Bridging the Gap

November 9 - 16

This week as you prepare for session 1 of Abide, you will be digging for some of your own treasure. During the next 7 days, complete the homework questions below and come prepared to discuss them in your groups next week.

Look Down

- Look for each of the following describing the characteristics of each in the table below.

	Stranger to...	Admirer of...	User of...
Passage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John 4:1-26 • John 18:38, Matthew 27:17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke 19:1-4 • John 6:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 8:18-24 • Matthew 19:16-22
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samaritan Woman • Pontius Pilate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zaccheus • The Crowd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon • Rich Young Ruler
Characteristics			

- What is the cost of salvation?
 - Read [Revelation 21:6](#), [Romans 6:23](#)
- Is it biblical to count the cost of discipleship/following Jesus?
 - Where is an example in Scripture where the cost is weighed and the person chooses to walk the other way (hint he was rich)?
- What is the cost of discipleship? List what you find in the following passage - include the verse numbers in your list.
 - Read [Luke 14:25-35](#), [Matthew 13:45-46](#)
- What are the characteristics of a disciple?
 - [Matthew 16:24-26](#)
 - [Acts 20:30](#)
 - [Matthew 9:37-38](#)
 - [Matthew 28:16-20](#)
 - [Hebrews 12:1-8](#)
 - [Titus 1:16](#)
 - [Philippians 3:12](#)

Fill in the blanks based on the Scripture passages below:

- Jesus was born by the work of _____ ([Luke 1:35](#))
- Jesus was _____ to be tempted by the Spirit ([Matthew 4:1](#))

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- Jesus was _____ by the Spirit for ministry (Isaiah 61:1-2)
 - Jesus was _____ by the power of the Spirit (Romans 8:11)

- What do we learn about Jesus from the passages above? What does this mean for how we live as a true disciple of Christ?
- Is discipleship separate from salvation? What biblical basis do you find for your response?
- Is it possible to receive the free gift of salvation but have no interest in being a disciple of Christ? What is the biblical basis for this?

Look Out

- It is often said Christians do not live what they speak.
 - Why do you think that is the case?
 - Why do the lives of Christians not lead non-believers question their disbelief in God?
- How can you practically impact the life of one person this week as you pray for them to recognize that God is real?

Look In

- In what ways does your understanding of Jesus and His Gospel impact where you are in your journey?
- What do you think about the contrast between being a biblical disciple or a cultural Christian? How does a proper understanding of Jesus' all sufficient sacrifice impact this contrast?
- Take some time to reflect on your own in your journey - with HONESTY! Choose 2 from your group to share this with.
 - Where are you in your journey - stranger, admirer, user, follower (disciple)?
 - What one action will you take this week to move towards or continue in your journey as a disciple of Christ?
 - Who will keep you accountable?

Look Up

- In your same groups of 3, take some time to pray earnestly for one another.
 - For where you are at and for God to continue the good work He has begun in you.
 - If you are realizing that you have not truly surrendered your life to Christ tonight can be the start of something new and beautiful as you understand what it means to follow Christ.