**Time Alone with God**

What are some ways a disciple can grow in Christ daily?

**“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.”** Mark 1:35

**“One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.”** Luke 6:12

**45 “Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.”** Mark 6:45-46

What are some reasons Jesus consistently set aside time like this?

Jesus spent alone time with God often (Luke 5:16). What are some strategies that you use to protect your quiet time? How can/do you prioritize your schedule so that you spend time with God every day?

**Read John 15: 1-11**

What stood out to you about the passage? Why?

Jesus uses a gardening analogy in this passage. Describe/Define the terms below and how they work together.

**Vine**:

**Branch**:

**Gardener**:

**Fruit**:

The word Remain or Abide is used several times in the passage. It is an important phrase to understand so we know the lesson Jesus is teaching within the parable. What does it mean to remain or abide according to the passage? How do we remain/abide in the vine?

Pruning is a necessary process in order to produce more fruit. What are some ways that Jesus prunes our lives? Is this a pleasant experience?

What does Jesus mean when he says, “apart from me you can do nothing”?

A relationship with God is a two-way street. We hear from God through the Scripture; we speak to God through prayer. We can commune with God on a spur-of-the-moment basis, but a quiet time is a daily period we set aside for the purpose of Abiding in Christ. It should consist of at least 3 things…

* Reading the Bible with the intent not just to study but to meet with Christ through the written Word.
* Meditating on what we have read so the truth can change us.
* Praying to God. Praising, thanking and adoring him as well as confessing our sins, asking to supply our needs and others.

We also need 3 things to help us stay consistent in this discipline. **TPP.**

**Time:** Set aside a consistent time in the day that you are alert and can fit within your schedule. You may need to wake up earlier or sacrifice something to build this into your schedule. When will this be for you?

**Place:** Find a location where you are not easily distracted. Consider putting your phone in another location to help you concentrate. Where is this for you?

**Plan:** It is very helpful to have a Bible reading plan that you are following. Aim to read chapters of the Bible at a time and journal on what God is teaching you. There are many plans online that you can print off and follow. What does your reading plan consist of?