DWELLING IN THE WORD August-December 2026

How we Dwell in the Word

- Listen to the passage read
- Consider where it 'captures' you, speaks to you and/or what question(s) it raises for you
- Pair up with your partner and share with eachother.
- Listen as your partner tells you what they heard in the passage. Then report what you heard.
- Listen well, because your job will be to report to a larger group of 4-6 what **your partner has said**, not what you yourself said. Some people take notes to help them focus and remember.

God who speaks, hear our prayer.
As we dwell in your life-giving word,
May we find deep-rooted delight.
As we learn to live inside your Kingdom story,
May our stories find their meaning.
As we look through the lens of your love,
May our perspectives be enlarged.
As we let go and listen with ears to hear,
May we be open to hearing God's voice through others.
As we catch wind of your gentle whisper,
May we find your comfort and challenge.
Speak God, we are listening. Amen.



John 15.1-17

1 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears
no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already
been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the
branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in
me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,
because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a
branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in
me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My
Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. 9 As the Father has
loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in
my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these
things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
12 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater
love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I
command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what
the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything
that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you
to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my
name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Loving God,
Though our destination is not yet clear, may we trust in Your graceful promises;
Though we are uncertain of ourselves, may we be rooted in Your loving regard;
Though our attention is inclined to wander, may we hear the things You are saying;
Though we often neglect Your influence, may we be convicted of Your power to change,
In Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.