



The People's Church Partington
Sermon Series: Discipleship Basics
Study Guide #2 – Being with Jesus

1. **Read John 14.23-26.** Why is the picture of 'home' a powerful way of describing being with Jesus?
2. **Read John 15.1-12.** Abide can mean *remain, stay, dwell, make your home*.
 - a) How do we remain in God's love and in God's Word? (especially John 15.4,9-10, 12)
 - b) Why is the picture of the vine and the branches both encouraging and challenging?

John Mark Comer in *Practicing the Way* says,

"All of us have a source we're rooted in, a kind of default setting we return to. An emotional home. It's where our mind goes when they're not busy with tasks, where our feelings go when we need solace, where our bodies go when we have free time, and where our money goes when we've paid the bills."

3. Can you identify your 'emotional home' and what you're rooted in? How is this helping/hindering you being with Jesus?

John Mark Comer gives two pieces of advice to help us abide in Jesus. The first is **find your secret place** – create space and time to be alone with Jesus. The second is **simplify your life** - 'ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.'

4. Share together as a group what you do to follow this advice.
5. Brother Lawrence talks of 'practicing the presence of God' – being aware of God; welcoming God into our space; enjoying the presence of God's love and that we love God. How do we do this when we are washing dishes, facing a stressful day, struggling with relationships or going through life changes?
6. **Read Ephesians 3.16-19** out loud as a group. Pray for each other using Paul's prayer to inspire you.