



ABIDE IN OUR FATHER



Skill

Abide in our Father is daily fellowship and communion with God. A disciple with this skill prioritizes time with God over everything and everyone else.

Design

Abide in our Father (throne/crown/cloud) > The throne and crown illustrates the Father as having all authority in heaven and earth. He is God Almighty, He is sovereign over all nations and kingdoms, and He alone knows the hour of this Age's end (Matthew 24:36). The cloud illustrates God the Father as invisible - He is unseen, and only Jesus Christ has seen the Father (John 6:46). Jesus taught His disciples to pray to "Our Father in heaven..." (Matthew 6:9-14).

Story

Abraham Sacrifices His Son (Genesis 22:1-19)

This story demonstrates Abiding in our Father as a kingdom skill because Abraham has a strong, devoted relationship to Yahweh. Abraham left his home to obey the Father in Genesis 12. Abraham agreed to kill his son out of obedience to his Father in Genesis 22. We see Abraham's life and purpose were inseparable from his walk with God. Abraham's radical faith was the seal on God's covenant to bless him and multiply his descendants. Abraham's words, "Here I am," remind us of the prophet Isaiah who would respond to Yahweh's call to become an ambassador of hope to the nations.

Scriptures

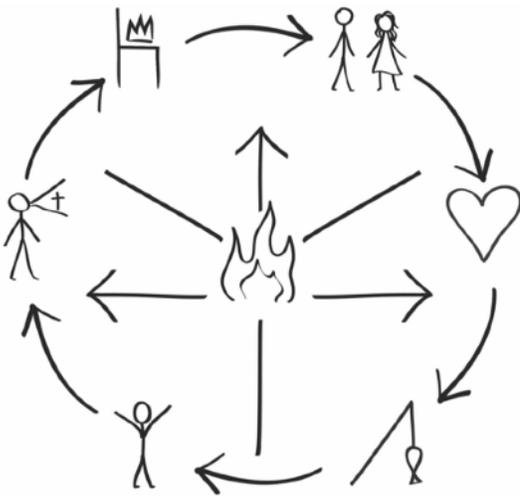
John 15:5 > I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who abides in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me.

Mark 1:35 > Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, went out, and made His way to a deserted place. And He was praying there.

Lesson Summary

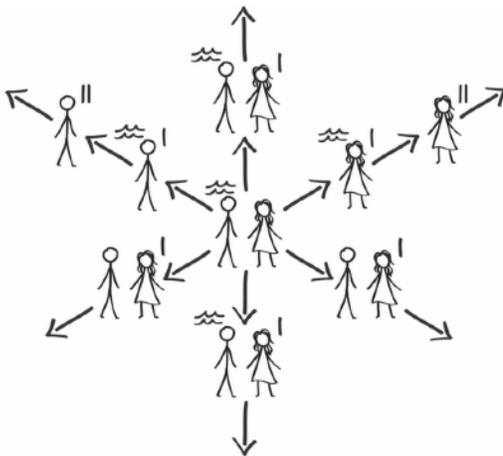
Abiding in our Father is the most important kingdom key to a fruitful ministry. Our Father is the treasure hidden in a field; He is worth leaving everyone we love and everything we have to become His child (Matthew 13:44). Jesus prayed that every disciple throughout all time would be in total unity with each other and with the Son and Father as a sign to the nations of the gospel truth (John 17:21). Therefore, we need a generation of faithful disciples who abide in the Father, for it is in His heart that we discover the God, "who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).

Gathering Guide



- Holy Spirit (fire): Let the Spirit guide your meeting.
- **Step One** (back arrow): Last week questions.
- Abide (worshipper): How did you abide last week?
- Harvest (witness): Whom did you share with?
- **Step Two** (up arrow): Discover this week's skill in Scripture as you discuss the Bible story.
- God (throne/crown): What do we learn about God?
- People (man/woman): What do we learn about people?
- Practice: Practice telling this week's story in groups.
- **Step Three** (forward arrow): Next week questions.
- Abide (heart): How will you abide?
- Harvest (fishing): Whom will you share with?

Generations Map



- People of Peace (people/arrows): Draw your disciples and their disciples. Share recent stories of how you and your team are engaging lost people.
- Baptism (waves): Update your map with those who have been baptized. What is the next step for each disciple who still needs to be baptized or become a baptizer by experience?
- Generations (number lines): Update your map with generations. How can we pray for this movement?