



SARNIA EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH

"To partner with God in developing genuine, fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ."

ABIDE

A tool designed to help

_____ (Name)

develop as a genuine, fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

The term **ABIDE** is summed up in Jesus' words:

"Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me. I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation is intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated you can't produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is – when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples. I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done – kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love."

The Gospel of John 15:4-10

This devotional is a ministry of the
Sarnia Evangelical Missionary Church
Designed to encourage and enable the participant to
Serve, Pray, Respond In Grace:
SPRinG

Our prayer is that:

- your humble capacity to serve will deepen as you consider the life of Jesus.
- you will grow in your capacity to listen to God's Word and talk with Him about it
 - you will be prepared to demonstrate the love of Jesus to others



Welcome,

This tool is designed to be used with the understanding that each one of us is a unique creation of God, and that our purpose and fulfillment in life is realized through a growing desire to be known as a follower of Jesus Christ. The purpose of this booklet is to maximize your effectiveness in studying God's Word for the purpose of living His truth with grace, in your everyday life. To make the best use of this booklet, aim for a consistent time and place to read and journal your thoughts. Using this tool consistently will cause you to develop in four key areas:

1. **Dependence on God's Truth.** There is a Bible Reading portion. You can either use the suggested chapters given at the top of each page or use this journal to complement your own study of the Bible. The suggested readings are designed to help you engage with God's truth:
 - **The first track will take you through the whole Bible in one year.**
 - **The second track is designed to take you through the New Testament in one year.**
 - **The third track is our focus for this year: Jesus. You will read through the 4 Gospels three times as you go through the year, ending with a special focus on the significance of His birth.**

Enjoy the unfolding of His promises!

2. **Commitment to regular prayer.** The statements in the sample below are given to lead you into greater interaction with God based upon what you are reading. Remember not just to speak (or write), but take time to listen for God. Find the joy of knowing Him and being known by Him!

3. **Desire to grow in obedience to God.** Your goal in using this tool should be to follow the Lord in obedience to the Word that you read, not simply to be satisfied with reading. Discover the joy that God promises as you allow Him to transform your thinking and your activity!

4. **Deepen your love for people.** We encourage you to talk to God on behalf of our church family, the needs of our community, your family and friends, and our ministry partners. There is power and privilege in being used of God to help others according to God's purposes, let's live it together! Let's encourage one another in this and learn from one another along the way!

Feel free to share what you're learning with us, by contacting the church office at office@sarniaemc.org or 336-9405.

May you discover His joy in the journey,

Deve Persad
Lead Pastor



A Sample to help you interact with God's Word

Key Bible Passage(s): _____

What I am learning about God is that...

What I am learning about me is that...

In my life, God's wants me to change/confess/do/be...

I am thankful to the Lord for...

Someone that I need to share with, connect with or extend grace toward is . . .

A community, national or global need that God wants me to pray about is . . .
