

Remaining in Jesus

As you gather together to hear and apply God's Word, start by sharing how you were influenced by the previous study since your group last met. Use the following questions for review.

D Debrief & Interpret

- How did you apply the previous Scripture study?
- What did you learn about God as you applied the Word? What did you learn about yourself?

H Hear the Word

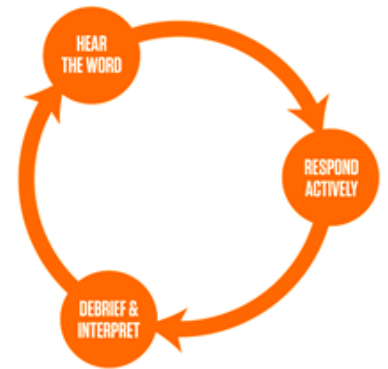
If we want our faith to influence our nursing practice, then we need to stay in constant relationship with Jesus. What does it mean for us to stay connected to Jesus? In this passage, Jesus explains how to do just that.

[Read John 15:5-17:](#)

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other."

Discuss:

- Explain the metaphor in v.5 about the vine and the branches. What does it mean to "remain" in Jesus?
- According to the passage, what are we supposed to do to remain in Jesus?
- The passage says that remaining in Jesus will help us "bear much fruit" (v.8) – living and acting in ways that demonstrate love to God and others. How do you think that remaining in Jesus connects to bearing fruit in nursing practice? How have you seen this to be true in your life or in the lives of nurses that you know?



R Respond Actively

As you end your study, choose one or both of the options below to apply the Scripture to your life this week.

- *Internal:* John 15 calls us to remain in Jesus and stay connected to him. Take a moment to reflect on the state of your spiritual life. On a scale of 1 to 10, how connected are you to Jesus? What is one spiritual practice that you can incorporate into your life this week to choose to remain in Jesus?
- *External:* The quality of “fruit” of our lives – including our nursing practice – is affected by our connection to Jesus and his love. Think back to your past week in classes, clinicals, and work – consider your attitudes, thoughts, and actions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate the quality of the fruit you have produced in the past week? How would you like that to change in this coming week, and what is one specific thing you can do in response to that desire?