

Week 3 FULLY KNOWN; FULLY LOVED: Staying Connected John 15:1–5

Staying connected to our Shepherd is not about performance — it's about abiding.

We are fully known. We are fully loved. Now we are called to stay connected!

The Shepherd & The Sheep

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” — John 10:27

Sheep learn their shepherd's voice through consistent presence.

In the same way, we learn to recognize God's voice through intentional connection.

Connection develops through exposure.

The Vine & The Branch

“I am the vine; you are the branches... apart from me you can do nothing.” — John 15:5

Jesus doesn't say, “Try harder.”

He says, “Abide in me.”

Fruit is not forced.

It flows from connection.

Three Ways We Stay Connected

1. Scripture & Meditation — Hearing His Voice

- The Word of God is living and active (Hebrews 4:12).
- Meditation fills the mind with truth (Joshua 1:8).
- Slow down. Ruminates. Listen for His heart.

Ask:

What does this reveal about my Shepherd?

How is He calling me to respond?

2. Prayer — Responding to His Call

Prayer is not a shopping list.

It is alignment.

“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask...” — John 15:7

Real prayer says:

“God, not just give me what I want — shape what I want.”

We pray not to control God, but to be formed by Him.

3. Community & Service — Following Together

Sheep are never meant to follow alone.

“One flock, one shepherd.” — John 10:16

Church is not a place to consume, it is a people to join.

- Encourage someone.
- Carry a burden.
- Serve without recognition.
- Move toward someone standing alone.

Service reflects the Shepherd’s heart.

“The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.” — Mark 10:45

A Simple Daily Rhythm

- **Morning:** “Good morning, Shepherd. I’m listening.” (Psalm 5:3)
- **Midday:** Pause. Pray. Reconnect. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- **Evening:** Review your day with Him. (Psalm 139:23–24)

Remember This

Our security does not depend on our grip on the Shepherd — but on His grip on us.

“No one will snatch them out of my hand.” — John 10:28

Connection is maintained by His faithfulness, not our perfection.

Your Challenge This Week

Choose **one discipline:**

- Scripture meditation
- Listening prayer
- Intentional community
- Acts of service

Practice it daily for seven days, not as obligation, but as relationship.

“Choose life... loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him.” — Deuteronomy 30:19–20

Week 3 Takeaway

Stay Close to the Shepherd. Abide in the Vine.