

Practicing the Way of Jesus

Week 11

DEVELOPING A RULE FOR LIFE

The *purpose* of Discipleship is TRANSFORMATION

The *goal* of discipleship is to Be WITH Jesus, to Become LIKE Jesus, and to DO what Jesus DID

The *means* of discipleship

- Replace story with TEACHING
- Replace habits with PRACTICES
- Replace relationships with COMMUNITY
- Replace environment with HOLY SPIRIT

The *foundation* of discipleship is the CROSS

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. **Abide** in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever **abides** in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not **abide** in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you **abide** in me, and my words **abide** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. John 15:1-8*

The only way to experience spiritual transformation and to grow in Christlikeness is to _____ in Jesus

The best way to practice the way of Jesus is to develop your own _____

A rule of Life creates the _____ to be able to _____ in Jesus.

"A Rule of Life is a, set of practices to guard our habits and guide our lives."

"A Rule of Life is a holistic description of the spirit and powered rhythms and relationships that create, redeem, sustain, and transform." Stephen Macchia

"A rule of life is a schedule, and a set of practices, and relational rhythms, that creates space for us to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do what he would do if he were us." JMC

A Rule of Life is not a _____, it is self-generated from our own desires, it's all relationship based, and it is designed to direct you toward a positive vision of the good life.

3 BENEFITS TO A RULE OF LIFE

1. It should help us turn _____ into _____
2. It should help you live in alignment with your _____, those given to us by the Spirit and not our natural humanistic desires.
3. It should help us experience _____.

