



NEIGHBORHOOD Church



THE PRACTICE OF PLACE

WEEK 2: A DEEPLY ROOTED CHURCH

HOW THIS PRACTICE GUIDE IS DESIGNED:

Each week will focus on the Scripture passage from this previous week's teaching, walking you through four steps: P.R.A.Y.: Pause, Read & Reflect, Ask, and Yield.

PAUSE:

We begin with a time of silence, pausing to be still, remembering God's presence, and praying with God's word from a psalm or scripture.

READ & REFLECT:

We will consider the way of Jesus and the truth of Jesus, reflecting on where he is inviting us to go with him.

ASK:

We will pray through a question that this practice invites us to enter, wrestling through our resistance and yielding to the freedom and life Jesus intends for us.

YIELD:

We will end each week with several yielding practices, ways that we can position ourselves to allow Jesus to lead us in our practice of his way and truth each week.

This guide works best in community, with a group of people around you to learn from, challenge, and hold you accountable.

PAUSE

Take sixty seconds and pause, slowing your breathing and silently remembering God's presence with you today.

Allow this prayer from the psalms to inspire a prayer in you as we begin:

"For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken." Psalm 62:1-2

READ & REFLECT

Read these this passage twice out loud together: John 15:4-11

What image or idea comes to mind for you when you hear the word “abide”?

“What you give your attention to is the person you become.”

John Mark Comer, The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry

Where has your attention been lately?

What most often draws your attention away from the love of Jesus?

Jesus identifies the evidence of a life of abiding as “complete joy” (v.11).

On a scale of 1-10, how much would you say that is true of you now?

ASK

Take a few moments and silently ask these questions in prayer with God, paying attention to what he brings to your mind and heart:

- What am I trying to do apart from you?
- What do I need to say no to in this season so I can say yes to your love?

YIELD

A rule of life is like a set of training wheels - a plan to keep us abiding in the love of Jesus in our everyday lives. The goal isn't to ride the training wheels or to do the plan, but to grow in our internal rest and trust in Jesus' love. This week's yielding practice is to begin or deepen a rule of life for your life with Jesus in this next season.

- **First Step:** Write a simple rule of life. Identify 2-3 practices to grow in being with Jesus and resting in his love.

	Daily	Weekly	Suggested Starting Point:
Prayer: <i>Turning my attention to God</i>			<i>Morning or evening prayer Weekly silence & solitude</i>
Practice: <i>Adopting the habits of Jesus</i>			<i>Daily meditation on Scripture Weekly worship</i>
Pace: <i>Slowing down to rest and enjoy life and God</i>			<i>Daily time unplugged from screens & inputs Weekly Sabbath</i>

- **Reach Step:** Work through the rule of life workbook available at wingfootchurch.com/6P to craft a rule of life encompassing all six practices of whole-hearted discipleship. Share this with a friend, house church member, or spouse to help you stay on the journey of abiding with Jesus.