

People of Withness

Walking in the Postures of God's presence

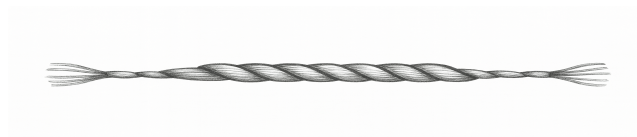
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This companion flows from *Withness: The Thread of God's Presence*.

It invites you to live what the book reveals: to dwell in the presence of the Lord Jesus, share His love in community, and walk as His people in the world.

It offers seven postures of Withness, ways of being present with God, with one another, and with those who long for His love.



Scripture quotations are from the World English Bible (WEB), adapted with inclusive language for The Witness Way.

A companion to Witness - The Thread of God's Presence.



This guide grows from Witness The Thread of God's Presence. It is not a summary. It is a gentle pathway to live what you have read, to listen, dwell, and walk with the Lord Jesus among His people.

Introduction

Witness is the story of the Person of Jesus with His people, and His people with Him. The living core is not a concept. It is the life of love revealed in Jesus. He reveals the Father. He shares the Holy Spirit. He draws us into oneness in love for His glory.

This seven-week journey unfolds a simple rhythm: Presence, Prayer, Perspective, Position, Participation, Pathway, Practice. Each week offers Attentive Scripture Listening, Discerning in the Word and Spirit, Quiet, Question and Quest, and a Witness Walk Practice.

Hold this pattern strongly in conviction and lightly in form. Walk together in grace and truth. We are the people of God following the Person - Jesus in the posture of witness.

The Kingdom Is at Hand - Mark 1:15

The Kingdom is at hand,
closer than breath,
alive within the whisper of His name.

Step into the garden again.
The soil is soft where mercy grows,
the rivers run with grace,
and the air hums with the glory of His presence.

Lay down striving,
submit to His life,
let His character form in you
like roots drawing deep from living water.

Be transformed by His life within.
Rise and walk in communion with God,
in the fellowship of His people,
in the mission and commission of His love.

This is the rhythm of the Kingdom,
formed in love,
flowing in grace,
fruitful for His glory.

The invitation still stands: Come, walk with Me.



Week 1 Presence - God with His People - Exodus 33:14; Matthew 28:20

Presence begins in the stillness of knowing God is here.

We become attentive to the Father who delights to dwell among His people, receptive to the Spirit who breathes life through His Word, and responsive to the Son who walks beside us and live within us.

To live present is to rest in His nearness and recognise Him in the faces and stories around us.

As sons and daughters, we carry His presence into every conversation, every place, and every ordinary moment, revealing that the Lord Jesus is truly with us.

Opening thought: Presence is not personal only. Presence is shared life. From Eden to the New Jerusalem, the Lord's desire is to dwell with His people. We are the people of His presence. We are temples of His Spirit together.

The Triune Life of Witness - John 17:26

“I made known to them Your name, and will make it known, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Jesus reveals the Father's heart. He shares the Holy Spirit. He lives in His people. “I in them” changes everything. His relationship with the Father is released into us by the Spirit. We are distinct and vibrant, yet united in the one love of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This unity is not uniformity. It is the beautiful oneness of the Spirit, the glory of the Kingdom, Christ in us and we in Him.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: Exodus 33:12 - 17, Matthew 28:16–20, Psalm 16:8 - 11.

Receive: what word or phrase invites you to trust His nearness?

Reflect: how is the Lord with you and with your brothers and sisters today?

Rest: sit one minute in quiet awareness.

Respond: a simple prayer of thanks.

Release: carry a short phrase into your day, for example “You are with us.”

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

How does Jesus fulfil the promise of presence through the Spirit?

What changes when we remember presence is shared, not solo?

Where is the Lord inviting our church and mission family to notice Him together?

Quiet

“You are here, Lord.”

Question:

Where did I notice Your presence today?

Quest:

One shared moment of prayer with someone.

Witness Walk Practice

Walk slowly in a familiar place. Whisper, “You are with me.” Notice people. Bless them silently.

Reflection Verse

“You make known to me the path of life. In Your presence is fullness of joy.” Psalm 16:11



Postures of Life in Withness - Mark 12:30 - 31; John 20:21

Life with God is about posture. The orientation of the heart shapes how we live.

1. Toward God - The garden of presence. Worship, trust, listening. “Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10.
2. Toward ourselves - The soul of formation. Honesty, healing, identity in Christ. “You are loved.” Romans 5:5.
3. Toward one another - The people of Withness. Forgiveness, love, grace, truth, humility, shared life. Acts 2:42–47.
4. Toward a broken world - The mission of love. mercy, justice, courage, peace. “As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” John 20:21.

When these postures align toward God, self, the community, and the world, we live from the place and position of Withness. Christ in us. His love through us. His glory around us.



Week 2 Prayer - Union and Communion - John 15:4; Romans 8:26

Prayer is our shared life with God. His heart moving within ours.

It is the conversation of love between the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, now flowing through our lives.

We pray because He is with us, not to make Him come closer.

In prayer, we are shaped by His presence; we are transformed by His love.

We listen, rest, and respond, letting His desires become our own.

Prayer draws us into community, our voices joining others, our hearts aligning in His will.

Through prayer, heaven touches earth, and we begin to walk as living answers to the Lord Jesus' prayer that we would be one, even as He and the Father are one.

Posture and position: Our posture of prayer deepens our position of unity. Prayer is relationship, not performance. The Spirit helps us. The Son abides in us. The Father hears us.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: John 15:1- 9, Romans 8:26 - 27, Psalm 105:4.

Receive: what image or word invites you to remain.

Reflect: where do you sense the Spirit praying within you.

Rest: be quiet in love.

Respond: "Abide in me as I abide in You."

Release: let breath become prayer through the day.

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

How does abiding lead to fruit?

How do we pray as one body?

Where is the Lord inviting us to pray together this week?

Quiet

“I remain in Your love.”

Question:

Where do You want me to listen?

Quest:

One shared moment of prayer with someone.

Witness Walk Practice

Choose a rushed place. Turn it into a place of prayer. Whisper, “You are here, Lord Jesus.”

Reflection Verse

“In returning and rest you will be saved, in quietness and in confidence will be your strength.” Isaiah 30:15



Week 3 Perspective - Seeing as God Sees - Hebrews 12:2; Psalm 105:4

Perspective changes everything.

It is not what we see, but how we see through the eyes of love and the lens of grace.

The Spirit opens our vision so we may notice what God is doing and recognise who is with us.

When we see through the eyes of the Lord Jesus, fear fades and faith rises.

We begin to discern the beauty in people, the glory in ordinary places, and the story of redemption unfolding around us.

To live in His perspective is to live in hope, trusting that even in shadowed places, light is coming.

Perspective invites us to join the Lord in seeing the world as He does: broken yet beloved, wounded yet redeemable.

Posture and position: Our posture of seeking reveals our position in His vision. Jesus lifts our eyes. We see with compassion and hope.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: Matthew 9:35 - 38, John 9:1-7, Ephesians 1:17 -18.

Receive: where is His compassion stirring?

Reflect: what changes when you see through His eyes?

Rest: let His gaze rest on you.

Respond: “Open my eyes, Lord.”

Release: look for signs of grace.

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

What does Jesus notice?

How does the Spirit renew our minds?

Where might we be overlooking beauty or need?

Quiet

“Lift my eyes.”

Question:

Who do I need to see with compassion?

Quest:

Pray a quiet blessing for one person.

Witness Walk Practice

Watch people for a few minutes. Pray, “Lord Jesus, bless them. Let Your light touch them.”

Reflection Verse

“We walk by faith, not by sight.” 2 Corinthians 5:7



Week 4 Position - Surrendered as Sons and Daughters - Romans 8:15–17; Philippians 2:5–8

Position begins with surrender, not striving.

The Lord Jesus knelt to serve, and in His humility, He revealed true greatness.

We take our place not through achievement, but through adoption — sons and daughters seated in love, secure in His grace.

This position is not above others but among them, with hearts that listen and hands that serve.

To live in position is to embrace our shared identity children of God, citizens of heaven, saints who are sent.

Here, surrender becomes strength; humility becomes honour; obedience becomes joy.

We bow to the King who stoops to wash our feet, and we rise to walk as His own.

Posture and position: Our posture of humility anchors our position in love. We are beloved sons and daughters. We lead as servants, shepherds, stewards, and soldiers in the Spirit.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: Romans 8:12 - 17, John 13:1 - 17, Galatians 2:20.

Receive: let sonship or daughterhood sink in.

Reflect: what does surrender look like today?

Rest: open hands in quiet.

Respond: “Form Your heart in me.”

Release: choose the lowest, loving way.

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

How does Jesus redefine greatness?

Where is the Spirit inviting surrender.

How does identity in Christ free us to serve?

Quiet

“I belong to You.”

Question:

What agenda must I lay down.

Quest:

One act of humble service.

Witness Walk Practice

Do a small, hidden act of care. Tell no one. Give thanks to God.

Reflection Verse

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5



Week 5 Participation - Sharing His Life and Mission | John 20:21; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 3:9

Participation is living in the flow of the Father's heart.

We do not create the mission; we join it.

The Lord Jesus is already at work, restoring, reconciling, renewing all things.

Our role is to notice, to listen, and to say yes.

The Spirit invites us into the family business of love, praying, blessing, forgiving, healing, serving.

Together, we share in His life, His power, and His purpose.

Every conversation, every meal, every step can become part of the Kingdom's story.

Participation is not an event; it is daily life lived in step with the Lord who still says, "As the Father sent Me, so I send you."

Posture and position: Our posture of openness becomes our position of partnership. We join what the Lord is already doing. His peace sends us. His Spirit empowers us.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: John 20:19 - 23, Matthew 28:18 - 20, Luke 10:1 - 9.

Receive: "Peace be with you."

Reflect: where is He already at work?

Rest: let His peace fill fear.

Respond: "Here I am."

Release: bless the first person you meet.

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

What does it mean to be sent as Jesus was sent?

How do we carry peace.

Where is the Spirit sending our community.

Quiet

“Your peace in me.”

Question:

Where are You working today?

Quest:

Join Him in one simple act.

Witness Walk Practice

BLESS rhythm. Be in prayer. Listen. Enjoy a meal. See where God is at work. Show and speak Jesus.

Reflection Verse

“The Lord worked with them, confirming the word by the signs that followed.” Mark 16:20



Week 6 Pathway - Walking in His Way - Micah 6:8; 1 John 2:6; Psalm 119:105

The Lord Jesus walks before us, beside us, and within us.

His footsteps mark the path of peace.

To walk His way is to choose mercy over judgement, grace over pride, and love over fear.

The Spirit leads us along paths of righteousness, shaping our pace to match His.

The journey is not hurried; it is holy.

Each step becomes worship, each moment a chance to follow more closely.

As we walk, we begin to recognise that the road itself becomes the classroom of grace where the Lord teaches us His ways, and our hearts learn to move at the rhythm of His love.

Posture and position: Our posture of obedience keeps us positioned in grace. We follow His steps day by day.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: Luke 24:13 - 35, Micah 6:8, Psalm 23.

Receive: notice His presence on the road.

Reflect: where is He opening the Scriptures and your heart?

Rest: walk in imagination with Jesus.

Respond: "Teach me Your ways."

Release: whisper often, "Walk with me, Lord."

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

What slows you to His pace?

What keeps you aligned?

Who is He calling you to walk beside?

Quiet

“Guide my steps.”

Question:

Where am I rushing.

Quest:

One deliberate, unhurried act of love.

Witness Walk Practice

Take a slow, silent walk. No music. Notice. Give thanks.

Reflection Verse

“He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.” Psalm 23:3



Week 7 Practice - Living His Love - Matthew 7:24; Philippians 4:9; Colossians 3:17

Practice is how presence becomes visible.

It is the rhythm of grace woven into our ordinary days.

The Lord Jesus did not separate prayer from life; He lived prayer in motion.

To practise His way is to carry His love into every conversation, meal, and moment.

We live His love by listening, blessing, forgiving, and serving again and again.

These small practices form the fabric of a Witness life: not performance, but participation; not perfection, but presence.

The Spirit transforms repetition into revelation, turning habits into holiness.

This is how the Kingdom comes quietly, beautifully, through people who live His love.

Posture and position: Our posture of grace becomes our position of fruitfulness. Practice is not performance. It is participation in the life of Jesus.

Attentive Scripture Listening

Read: John 13:12- 17, Philippians 4:8 - 9, Colossians 3:12 - 17.

Receive: how does Jesus turn teaching into example?

Reflect: what habit is He forming in you?

Rest: let His peace rule.

Respond: “Live Your life through me.”

Release: carry one word into your day.

Discerning in the Word and Spirit

What is the difference between performance and practice?

Where is the Spirit turning hearing into living?

Which posture is highlighted for growth now?

Quiet

“Your life in me.”

Question:

What rhythm needs grace?

Quest:

One repeated act of love this week.

Witness Walk Practice

Choose one small practice. Listening, blessing, peacemaking. Keep it gentle. Keep it daily.

Reflection Verse

“Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.” Colossians 3:17



Closing Blessing

May the presence of the Lord Jesus be your peace in every place, your companion in every path, your strength in every step.

May His Spirit fill your heart with courage.

May His Word dwell richly within you.

May His love overflow to those around you.

Walk in the rhythm of Witness, rooted in grace, alive in truth, shining with His glory.

Amen.



Facilitator's Guide

Welcome and prayer: invite awareness of the Lord's presence.

Scripture: read the week's passages using Read, Receive, Reflect, Rest, Respond, Release.

Discerning: ask two questions. keep responses short and honest.

Quiet, Question, Quest: read slowly. allow silence.

Practice: agree on one gentle act for the week.

Blessing: close with the Reflection Verse.

Tips. Hold space, do not hurry. Focus on presence, not performance. Keep it relational. Follow the Spirit's rhythm.

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