

A Faithful Branch — Guidebook (v1)

Front Matter

- **Welcome & How to Use This Guide** (individuals • households • groups)
 - **What We Stand For** (back to Jesus' words; away from man-made add-ons)
 - **Questions This Guide Answers** (remaining in Jesus; obedience vs. empty religion; narrow road; God's commands vs. human traditions; true community)
 - **Core Commitments** (Rooted in the Vine • God's Appointed Way • Guarding the Way • A Living Body • Fasting, Prayer & Power • The Final Test • A Branch Restored)
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PART I — A Branch Restored (*Pillar 1*)

1. **Mission: Multiplying Faithfulness** — sent to bear lasting fruit
2. **Light at Work & in the City** — everyday witness
3. **Evangelism as Life** — table, story, service
4. **Suffering & Joy** — expect opposition; rejoice anyway
5. **Next Steps** — commission & covenant; multiplying groups

PART II — Rooted in the Vine (*Pillar 2*)

1. **Abiding in Jesus** — dwelling, listening, obeying
 2. **The Father's Pruning** — correction produces fruit
 3. **Fruit That Lasts** — love + obedience, not hype
 4. **Daily Rule of Life** — prayer, Scripture, repentance, mercy
 5. **Household on the Vine** — leading family rhythms
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PART III — Walking in God's Appointed Way (*Pillar 3*)

1. **God's Calendar Overview** — Genesis 1; Leviticus 23; why it still matters
 2. **Sabbath** — timing, purpose, practice (clarifying common objections)
 3. **The Feasts Fulfilled in Messiah** — Passover → Tabernacles; how we honor them today
 4. **From Roman Traditions to Biblical Appointments** — discernment without pride
 5. **Household & Group Rhythms** — simple yearly/weekly templates
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PART IV — Guarding the Way (*Pillar 4*)

1. **The Narrow Gate** — few find it; why
 2. **Discernment Toolkit** — test all things; hold fast to the good
 3. **Common Counterfeits** — truth mixed with error; hype over holiness
 4. **Training the Senses** — Hebrews 5:14 in practice
 5. **Endurance on the Road** — patience, repentance, perseverance
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PART V — A Living Body (*Pillar 5*)

1. **Gifts & Roles** — 1 Cor 12; Rom 12; Eph 4 in real life
 2. **Gatherings that Fit** — homes, outdoors, buildings, online
 3. **Simple Liturgies** — Word • prayer • table • service (sample outlines)
 4. **Leadership as Service** — avoiding institutional traps
 5. **Start & Sustain Groups** — forming, multiplying, peacemaking
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PART VI — Fasting, Prayer & Power (*Pillar 6*)

1. **Jesus' Pattern** — secret prayer, corporate prayer, times of fasting
 2. **Kinds of Fasts** — biblical models; wise on-ramps
 3. **Waiting & Intercession** — when nothing seems to move
 4. **Authority & Deliverance** — humble power; Mark 9:29
 5. **A 4-Week Prayer + Fast Plan** — individual & group tracks
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PART VII — The Final Test (*Pillar 7*)

1. **Truth, Proof & Fruit** — how to test teachings and movements
 2. **Fruit vs. Gifts** — what actually proves maturity
 3. **Measuring Ministries** — metrics that matter (service, humility, holiness)
 4. **Case Studies** — testing popular claims with Scripture
 5. **Personal Examination** — repentance, confession, accountability
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Appendices & Tools

- **Glossary** (biblical calendar terms, feasts, key ideas)
 - **Reading Plans** (Gospels focus; Torah selections; Psalms & Proverbs)
 - **Household Weekly Rule** (printable)
 - **Group Covenant & Peacemaking Process** (printable)
 - **Calendar Templates** (year/season/feast overviews)
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Front Matter

Welcome & How to Use This Guide

This guide is written for three levels of life:

- **Individuals** — to walk daily with Jesus, building rhythms of prayer, repentance, Scripture, and obedience.
- **Households** — to order family life around God's Word, creating shared times of prayer, table, and mercy.
- **Groups** — to gather as simple communities that encourage faith, test teachings, and stir one another toward love and good works.

Use it like a roadmap: each part gives clear teaching, practical steps, discussion prompts, and ways to measure fruit. Go slow. Apply one step at a time. Don't just read — live it.

What We Stand For

We stand for returning to the words of Jesus and the instructions of God, without the weight of human add-ons. Our aim is to:

- **Abide in Christ** — the Vine who gives life.
- **Obey the Father** — keeping His commands from the heart.
- **Resist Counterfeits** — discerning false comforts, traditions, and hype.
- **Live in Community** — as branches of one Body, serving in love.
- **Endure in Faith** — holding fast until the end, bearing fruit that lasts.

This is not a new religion, but a return to the narrow road.

Questions This Guide Answers

- How do we remain in Jesus day by day?
 - What is the difference between true obedience and empty religion?
 - What does it mean to walk the narrow road?
 - How do God's commands differ from human traditions?
 - How do we build a true community that endures and multiplies?
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Core Commitments

This guide is built around seven pillars:

1. **A Branch Restored** — Living sent, bearing fruit, and multiplying faithfulness.
2. **Rooted in the Vine** — Abiding in Jesus as our life source.
3. **God's Appointed Way** — Walking by His calendar, Sabbath, and feasts.
4. **Guarding the Way** — Testing teachings, resisting counterfeits, enduring faithfully.
5. **A Living Body** — Becoming the simple, serving, Spirit-filled community Jesus intended.
6. **Fasting, Prayer & Power** — Living in prayer, intercession, and spiritual authority.
7. **The Final Test** — Measuring all things by truth, fruit, and faithfulness.

These commitments shape the whole journey of this guide.

Pillar 1: A Branch Restored

Aim

To live as God's faithful branch — restored to His Word, rooted in Jesus, walking in His commands, and bearing fruit that lasts. To show that restoration is not about nostalgia or tradition, but about returning to the Vine and walking in truth.

Key Scripture

- **Jeremiah 6:16** — “Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.”
 - **Romans 11:23–24** — Branches broken off can be grafted in again if they do not persist in unbelief.
 - **Revelation 22:14** — “Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.”
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Introduction

From the beginning, God planted a people to walk with Him in covenant. Over time, many turned aside: Israel often strayed, the church mixed with the world, and faith was twisted by human traditions. Yet God always calls His people back. He prunes, restores, and grafts branches back into His Vine. Jesus is the true Vine, and through Him we are restored to God's original way — not by man-made religion, but by His Spirit and truth.

A restored branch is not proud. It knows it was saved by mercy. It does not boast over others or cling to empty traditions. It abides in Jesus, obeys His commands, and walks in the calendar and ways of God. It bears fruit: love, obedience, mercy, endurance. This pillar is the vision: a people restored, faithful, and alive in Him.

How It Should Be Done

1. Abide in the Vine

- Stay connected to Jesus daily — prayer, Word, obedience. Apart from Him, all efforts fail.
- Reject dead religion that has no life in Christ.

2. Return to God's Instructions

- Walk in His calendar, Sabbaths, and feasts (Pillar 2).
- Keep His commands, not man's additions (Mark 7:8–9).
- Live by Jesus' teaching: love God, love neighbor, forgive, show mercy, make disciples.

3. Live as a Family of Branches

- The Body is not an institution but a living community (Pillar 4).
- Bear one another's burdens, forgive, and serve.
- Reject gossip, pride, and division.

4. Bear Fruit That Lasts

- Not hype or numbers, but transformed lives.
- Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
- Make disciples who remain in Jesus.

5. Walk Humbly, Without Pride

- Restoration is mercy, not superiority (Rom. 11:18).
- Do not boast against others or condemn harshly.
- Share truth with humility and love.

6. Prepare for the Kingdom

- Live now as citizens of God's Kingdom, not this world.
 - Look forward to the day when the Tree of Life is given to the faithful (Rev. 22:14).
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How You Can Start

1. Each day, pray: "Lord, keep me rooted in You."
 2. Begin to align your calendar with God's ways (Sabbath, feasts).
 3. Replace one tradition that comes from man with a command that comes from God.
 4. Ask God to grow one fruit of the Spirit in you this month.
 5. Serve someone quietly, with no recognition.
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Discussion / Reflection

- Where have I followed man's traditions instead of God's Word?
 - Do I see myself as a branch saved by mercy, or do I act with pride?
 - What fruit do I see in my life — is it lasting fruit or temporary hype?
 - How can my household live as a restored branch this year?
 - What does it mean for me to prepare for the Kingdom now?
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Conclusion Statements

- Jesus is the Vine; we are branches restored by His mercy.
- Restoration means returning to God's commands and Jesus' way.
- The restored branch is humble, obedient, and fruitful.
- We are not saved to boast, but to bear fruit that lasts.
- The faithful branch endures until the Tree of Life is given in the Kingdom.

Pillar 2: Rooted in the Vine

Aim

To remain in Christ as the true source of life, learning to dwell, listen, and obey so that our lives bear lasting fruit.

Key Scripture

John 15:5 — “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.”

Introduction

The Christian life is not built on events, emotions, or empty religion. It is rooted in one Person: Jesus, the true Vine. A branch cut off cannot survive. In the same way, a believer who tries to live apart from Christ withers, no matter how active or busy in “church work.” To be rooted in the Vine means more than believing in Him — it means dwelling in Him as our constant home, hearing His words, receiving the Father’s pruning, and producing fruit that lasts. This pillar lays the foundation for everything else. Without abiding, no feast, prayer, or act of service has life.

How It Should Be Done

- **Abiding in Jesus** — This means continual dependence. Turning to Him daily in prayer and Scripture. Trusting His voice above our own feelings. Obedience when He speaks. It is an ongoing connection, not occasional attention.
- **The Father’s Pruning** — Pruning is discipline, correction, and removal of distractions or sin. It hurts, but it is proof of His love. Those who endure pruning grow stronger and bear more fruit.
- **Fruit That Lasts** — Fruit is not hype, emotion, or numbers. True fruit is love expressed in obedience, the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23), and disciples who remain in Him.
- **Daily Rule of Life** — Establishing rhythms: prayer, Scripture, repentance, and mercy. These are not legalistic demands but the trellis that helps the branch stay connected to the Vine.

- **Household on the Vine** — Faith begins at home. Families are called to pray, read Scripture, show mercy, and keep rhythms together. A house rooted in the Vine becomes a light in a dark world.
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How You Can Start

1. Begin with one daily moment of silence before Jesus. Pray: “I am in You, You are in me.”
 2. Read a portion of John 15 each day for one week.
 3. Share one prayer or Scripture with your household daily (at meals or bedtime).
 4. Ask God to show you one area He may be pruning. Respond with repentance, not resistance.
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Discussion / Reflection

- Where in my life do I feel most disconnected from Jesus?
 - What might God be pruning in me right now?
 - How can I make abiding in Christ part of my ordinary routines?
 - What fruit in my life is temporary hype, and what is lasting?
 - How can my household be more rooted in the Vine together?
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Conclusion Statements

- Without Jesus, all effort is empty. In Him, all things bear fruit.
- Pruning is painful but always leads to greater life.
- A daily rule of life anchors us in Christ.
- When a household abides in the Vine, it becomes a testimony of God’s Kingdom.

Pillar 3: Walking in God's Appointed Way

Aim

To return to God's appointed calendar — His Sabbaths and feasts — fulfilled in Messiah yet still holy, aligning our lives with His rhythm rather than man-made traditions. To expose and reject pagan influences and replace them with the truth of God's Word.

Key Scripture

- Leviticus 23:4 — "These are the appointed festivals of YHWH, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times."
 - Genesis 1:14 — "Let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years."
 - Matthew 5:17 — "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."
 - John 4:23 — "True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him."
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Introduction

Every nation, empire, and religion has shaped time through calendars and festivals. Rome shifted the day of rest from the seventh day (Sabbath) to Sunday. Pagan festivals were rebranded as "Christian" holidays: Saturnalia became Christmas, Ishtar celebrations became Easter, and solstice rituals were baptized into church life. These changes pulled God's people away from His appointments and into man's traditions.

But God had already given His calendar — rooted in creation, revealed in Torah, fulfilled in Christ, and lived by the early believers. The weekly Sabbath and the annual feasts are not "Jewish traditions." They are YHWH's appointments. They tell the story of creation, redemption, and restoration. They are rehearsals of Messiah's work: His death, resurrection, the Spirit's outpouring, His return, judgment, and dwelling with us. This pillar calls us to reject pagan substitutes and walk truthfully in Him.

How It Should Be Done

1. The Weekly Sabbath

- **What it is:** A day set apart from creation (Genesis 2:2–3). Confirmed in the Ten Commandments. Honored by Jesus and the apostles.
- **How to keep it:** From Friday sunset to Saturday sunset, cease from ordinary work. Gather with family or believers for prayer, Scripture, meals, and rest. Perform acts of mercy. Remember both creation (Exodus 20) and redemption (Deuteronomy 5).
- **Why it matters:** It restores trust in God's provision and honors His design. Replacing Sabbath with Sunday was a Roman decree, not a command of God.

2. The Appointed Feasts (Leviticus 23)

Feast	Hebrew Name	Fulfillment in Jesus	When It Occurs	How to Keep Today
Sabbath	Shabbat	Jesus is our rest (Heb. 4)	Weekly (Fri–Sat)	Rest, worship, mercy, gather
Passover	Pesach	Jesus the Lamb (John 1:29)	14 Nisan	Meal, retell Exodus & Last Supper
Unleavened Bread	Chag HaMatzot	Jesus without sin (1 Cor. 5:8)	15–21 Nisan	Remove leaven, reflect on holiness
Firstfruits	Bikkurim	Jesus' resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20)	Day after Sabbath in UB	Celebrate resurrection, offer firsts
Weeks / Pentecost	Shavuot	Spirit poured out (Acts 2)	50 days after Firstfruits	Read Acts 2, seek fresh outpouring
Trumpets	Yom Teruah	His return announced (1 Thess. 4:16)	1 Tishrei	Blow shofar, repent, prepare
Atonement	Yom Kippur	Final judgment & intercession (Heb. 9)	10 Tishrei	Fast, confess, forgive
Tabernacles	Sukkot	God dwelling with man (John 1:14; Rev. 21)	15–22 Tishrei	Rejoice, dwell outdoors, celebrate provision

3. Christian Events Worth Honoring (that align with Scripture)

- **Resurrection / Firstfruits** — Celebrate Jesus' resurrection on the biblical timing of Firstfruits, not the pagan-rooted Easter with rabbits and eggs.
- **Ascension** — 40 days after resurrection (Acts 1:3–11). Remember Christ's exaltation and commission.
- **Pentecost / Shavuot** — Spirit poured out (Acts 2). Pray for renewal, unity, and boldness.
- **Birth of Jesus** — Scripture gives no date. December 25 is rooted in solstice and Saturnalia. Many signs point to His birth during **Tabernacles (Sukkot)**: "The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us" (John 1:14). Others suggest spring, when lambs are born. The safest way to honor His incarnation is during Tabernacles or when retelling the Gospels — truthfully, without pagan customs like trees, Santa, or solstice rituals.

4. What We Return To

- God's Word, His commands, and Jesus' teaching.
- The biblical calendar that reveals Messiah's work.
- Worship in Spirit and truth.
- Simple, holy gatherings marked by prayer, Scripture, and mercy.

5. What We Leave Behind

- **Pagan-rooted holidays:**
 - *Christmas* (Saturnalia, solstice, Santa myths) — replace with honoring Jesus' incarnation truthfully, best at Tabernacles.
 - *Easter* (Ishtar, fertility gods, eggs, rabbits) — replace with Passover + Firstfruits.
 - *Halloween* (celebrating death, darkness, occult) — completely reject.
- **Sunday sabbath:** A Roman invention replacing God's Sabbath.
- **Man-made calendars:** Papal decrees, church seasons that replaced God's feasts.
- **Empty religion:** Celebrity pastors, hype-based worship, rituals without repentance.

How You Can Start

1. Mark the Sabbath each week: rest, worship, and remember.
2. Add one biblical feast this year (Passover, Tabernacles, etc.).
3. Replace Easter with a Passover/Resurrection celebration.
4. Study Acts 1–2 during Ascension and Pentecost to root in truth.
5. Begin teaching your household God's calendar with simple meals and Scripture readings.

Discussion / Reflection

- How has my faith calendar been shaped more by culture than by Scripture?
- What holidays or traditions in my life are rooted in pagan practices?
- How can I shift from man's traditions to God's appointments with humility?
- Which feast or rhythm speaks most of Jesus to me?
- What one change can my household make this year to walk more faithfully in God's calendar?

Conclusion Statements

- God gave His calendar at creation and it was never abolished.
- The feasts are rehearsals of Messiah's work: past, present, and future.
- Sabbath is a gift of rest, trust, and holiness.
- Pagan traditions must be exposed and replaced with God's truth.
- We worship not in man's inventions but in Spirit and truth.
- The Vine has a calendar — the Branch must walk in it.

Pillar 4: Guarding the Way

Aim

To protect God's people from deception, hype, and harm by testing all teachings, prophecies, leaders, and practices according to Scripture; to cultivate sober discernment, humble correction, and enduring faithfulness.

Key Scripture

- **1 Thessalonians 5:21–22** — “Test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”
 - **Matthew 7:15–20** — “Beware of false prophets... You will recognize them by their fruits.”
 - **Deuteronomy 13:1–4; 18:20–22** — Signs don't validate teaching that leads away from God; failed prophecy marks a false prophet.
 - **1 John 4:1–3** — Test the spirits; true confession exalts Jesus the Messiah come in the flesh.
 - **Acts 17:11** — Bereans examined the Scriptures daily to verify what they heard.
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Introduction

Deception rarely looks evil at first glance. It flatters, entertains, promises shortcuts, or claims secret knowledge. Some errors come dressed in miracles; others in academic robes; others in pop-Christian trends. Jesus warned us: wolves wear sheep's clothing. Guarding the Way means we refuse celebrity religion, manipulative hype, unrepentant error, and traditions that nullify God's commands. We don't chase signs; we follow the Shepherd. We measure everything by Scripture, the character of Christ, and the fruit produced over time. Guarding is not fear—it is love that protects the flock.

How It Should Be Done (Teaching, Rules, Corrections)

1) The Discernment Grid (Use this every time)

Criterion	Scripture Anchor	Questions to Ask	If “No”
Gospel Fidelity	Gal. 1:6–9; John 14:6	Is salvation by grace through faith leading to obedience—never another “gospel” (prosperity, nationalism, universalism, lawlessness)?	Reject the teaching.
Jesus’ Centrality	1 John 4:2–3; Col. 1:15–20	Does it exalt Jesus as Lord—incarnate, crucified, risen, returning—or center a man, brand, or method?	Reject and warn.
Authority of Scripture	2 Tim. 3:16–17; Mark 7:8–13	Does it submit to Scripture over dreams, trends, or traditions?	Reject.
Call to Repentance & Obedience	Matt. 28:20; John 14:15	Does it produce holiness, not hype—obedience to His commands, not loopholes?	Reject.
Fruit Over Time	Matt. 7:16–20; James 3:13–18	Is the fruit love, purity, peacemaking, service—seen by outsiders?	Pause; re-examine.
Financial Integrity	2 Cor. 8:20–21; 1 Tim. 6:5–10	Is money handled transparently without selling “anointing” or pay-for-prayer?	Reject.
Accountability & Humility	1 Pet. 5:1–4; Titus 1:5–9	Are leaders correctable, not controlling? Are there plural elders, not one untouchable figure?	Reject.
Order & Love in Gatherings	1 Cor. 14:26–33; 13:1–7	Is there order, interpretation, edification—love central?	Correct or stop.

Rule: Any teaching that fails Scriptural tests—no matter the miracles—must be refused (Deut. 13:1–4).

2) Testing Prophecy & “Words”

- **Standard:** 1 Cor. 14:29—“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.”
- **Accuracy:** Predictive words must come to pass (Deut. 18:22). If not, the prophet must confess plainly, repent publicly, and stop speaking presumptuously.
- **Doctrine:** Even if a sign occurs, if the word reroutes people from God’s commands or exalts a man, reject it (Deut. 13:1–4).
- **Process:** Record, timestamp, and submit words to elders; avoid vague, unfalsifiable statements; forbid date-setting unless the Lord truly commands and leaders consent.
- **Prohibitions:** No merchandising of prophecy, no “honor fees,” no paywalls for prayer or deliverance (2 Pet. 2:1–3).

3) Miracles, Healing, and Deliverance—Without Hype

- **Jesus’ Pattern:** Compassion, authority, and discretion (Mark 1:41, 44). No showmanship.
- **Order:** Pray with elders; obtain consent; avoid theatrics; prioritize dignity (1 Cor. 14:40).
- **Follow-up:** Direct people to Scripture, repentance, and community; verify claims honestly; celebrate God—not the minister.
- **Boundaries:** Never monetize healing; never promise guaranteed outcomes; never blame the sick for “insufficient faith.”

4) Common Counterfeits to Reject

- **Prosperity & Platform Gospel:** Equates blessing with wealth/influence; makes church a brand (1 Tim. 6:5–10).
- **Antinomian “Grace”:** Claims obedience doesn’t matter; ignores Jesus’ commands (Matt. 7:21–23; John 14:15).
- **Hyper-Legalism:** Elevates man-made rules; crushes mercy; replaces God’s commands with traditions (Mark 7:8–13; Matt. 23).
- **Spiritual Abuse & Control:** Isolation, secrecy, “touch not the Lord’s anointed” used to silence questions; loyalty to leader over Christ (Ezek. 34; 1 Pet. 5:3).

- **Syncretism / New Age Blending:** Astrology, crystals, manifesting, energy healing, occult “activation,” Christianized magic words (Deut. 18:10–12; Acts 19:19).
- **Hype-Driven “Revival”:** Constant sensational claims without repentance, holiness, or measurable fruit over time (Matt. 12:39; James 3:17).

5) Leaders & Structures that Guard, Not Exploit

- **Plural Eldership:** Qualified by Titus 1/1 Tim. 3; shared authority; public financial transparency.
- **Open Bibles, Open Books:** Teaching and budgets visible; questions welcomed (Acts 17:11; 2 Cor. 8:21).
- **Church Discipline:** Restorative, not humiliating; protects the flock; removes unrepentant wolves (Matt. 18:15–17; 1 Cor. 5).
- **Peacemaking:** Slow to speak, quick to listen; correct privately first; public errors addressed publicly.

6) Practical Safeguards (Community Rules)

1. **The 30-Day Pause:** We do not platform new “words” or movements for 30 days; we test doctrine, fruit, and finances.
 2. **Two or Three Witnesses:** No major claims or accusations without corroboration (Deut. 19:15).
 3. **Public Corrections:** If we publish an error, we publish the correction just as visibly.
 4. **No Paywalls for Prayer:** All ministry is free; giving is voluntary and transparent.
 5. **Children Protected:** Two-adult rule; background checks; immediate reporting of abuse; zero tolerance.
 6. **Healthy Rhythms:** Weekly Sabbath, feasts in season, prayer/fast cycles (ties to Pillars 2 & 5) that form sober minds.
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How You Can Start

1. **Adopt the Discernment Grid** for all teaching and media you consume this month.
 2. **Form a Berean Circle** (3–5 trusted believers) to test claims, words, and teachings together.
 3. **Audit Your Inputs:** For 30 days, replace hype channels with Scripture reading (Gospels + 1 John) and prayer.
 4. **Financial Clarity:** Ask your group/leader for a clear budget; if unavailable, pause giving until transparency is established.
 5. **Prophecy Practice:** If your group allows prophecy, implement recording, weighing, and follow-up; no dates without elder consensus.
 6. **Repent Where Needed:** If you've shared errors, correct them publicly and humbly.
 7. **Re-center on Jesus:** Weekly communion focused on His cross, resurrection, and return.
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Discussion / Reflection

- Where have I confused charisma or crowds with God's approval?
 - Which of the common counterfeits have I tolerated (prosperity, hyper-legalism, syncretism, hype)?
 - How does my community handle correction, money, and accountability?
 - Have I believed or shared untested prophecies? How will I make it right?
 - What fruit do others actually see in me—over months and years?
 - What safeguards from this pillar will I implement this week?
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Conclusion Statements

- **Truth is tested.** We weigh doctrine, words, and leaders by Scripture and fruit.
- **Miracles don't excuse errors.** If a sign leads away from obedience to God, reject it.
- **Love protects.** Guarding the Way shields the flock from wolves and hype.
- **Humility repents.** When we err, we correct it publicly and move forward.
- **Jesus remains the center.** We follow His voice, obey His commands, and measure success by lasting fruit—not noise.

Pillar 5: A Living Body

Aim

To live as the Body of Christ — not as an institution or performance, but as a family under one Head, Jesus. To restore real community: greeting one another, sharing life, carrying burdens, serving with love, and refusing gossip, pride, or cold religion.

Key Scripture

- **1 Corinthians 12:27** — “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”
 - **Ephesians 4:15–16** — “...speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body... builds itself up in love.”
 - **Acts 2:42–47** — They devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayers; they shared possessions and cared for one another.
 - **John 13:34–35** — “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
 - **Matthew 23:8** — “You are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers.”
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Introduction

When most people hear the word “church,” they think of a building, a stage, and a weekly service. But in the Bible, the church is never described as a building or an event. It is a Body — living, breathing, joined together by Christ. Today, many churches feel more like institutions than families. People sit in rows, listen, and leave. Sometimes we don’t even greet each other. We talk about people instead of talking to them. We form cliques, gossip, and look down on those who don’t fit our expectations. We get stuck in our opinions instead of humbly listening. This is not the life Jesus called us to.

Jesus warned against titles and systems that elevate one above another (Matt. 23:8–12). He said the greatest among us must be a servant. A Living Body is not about control or performance but about love, humility, and truth. Buildings are not the problem — we can gather in homes, outdoors, or in church halls. But if our gatherings are cold, shallow, or prideful, then we are missing the point. This pillar calls us back to being a Body where every member matters, every voice is heard, and every action shows the love of Christ.

How It Should Be Done

1. True Community, Not Performance

- A Living Body is a family, not an audience. Every member brings something: a song, a word, a prayer, a testimony, an act of service (1 Cor. 14:26).
- We must move beyond just “attending” to truly knowing one another: sharing meals, praying for each other, confessing sins, rejoicing and weeping together (Rom. 12:15).
- Stop walking past each other. Greet one another with warmth (Rom. 16:16). Ask real questions. Show hospitality without grumbling (1 Pet. 4:9).

2. Love Over Gossip and Pride

- **Gossip destroys community.** Talking about someone’s struggles instead of helping them is sin. Jesus calls us to go directly to a brother or sister, not around them (Matt. 18:15).
- **Pride divides.** Looking down on others because of status, knowledge, or past mistakes is against the Spirit of Christ. “Do nothing from selfish ambition... count others more significant than yourselves” (Phil. 2:3).
- **Opinions are not the gospel.** Too often we divide over secondary matters instead of holding fast to Christ and His commands. A living Body learns to listen, be humble, and stay united in love.

3. Servant Leadership, Not Titles

- Jesus said not to seek titles like Rabbi or Father (Matt. 23:8–12). In His Body, leaders are shepherds who serve, not rulers who control (1 Pet. 5:2–3).
- Leadership should be shared, humble, and transparent. No one person should dominate or make themselves the center.
- The focus is not on titles or positions but on function: serving, teaching, encouraging, guiding.

4. Gatherings that Feel Like Family

- Gatherings should be marked by fellowship, meals, prayer, Scripture, and mercy. This can happen in a house, outdoors, or even in a church building — the place matters less than the love present.
- Communion should be a family meal that remembers Christ, not a rushed ritual.
- Worship should be simple and Christ-centered, not a show.
- Children and elders should be included, not sidelined.

5. Mercy and Justice in Daily Life

- A Living Body doesn't only meet on a set day but lives faith daily. Share resources, meet needs, defend the weak, and care for the poor (James 1:27).
- Instead of building bigger stages, invest in serving one another and the world around you.

How You Can Start

1. Start greeting every believer with sincerity. Ask names, remember them, and follow up.
 2. Replace gossip with prayer. If you hear something about someone, go to them directly with love.
 3. Invite a family or neighbor for a meal this week. Share Scripture at the table.
 4. Ask God to show you one way to serve quietly, without recognition.
 5. In your gathering, encourage participation — let others read, pray, or share testimony.
-

Discussion / Reflection

- Do I treat church as a performance to watch or as a family to belong to?
 - Who do I overlook or avoid in my community?
 - Do I contribute to gossip, or do I build others up?
 - What opinions or preferences do I hold too tightly, causing division?
 - How can I show love in the “small things” — greetings, meals, listening, forgiveness?
-

Conclusion Statements

- The Body is alive when Jesus is the Head and love is the bond.
- Gossip, pride, and cold religion kill community.
- Buildings are not the issue — love and truth are.
- A Living Body is known by mercy, humility, and shared life.
- We don't attend the church — we are the church, together in Him.

Pillar 6: Fasting, Prayer & Power

Aim

To return to a life of fasting, prayer, and Spirit-filled power as Jesus and the early believers lived. Not as rituals for show, but as a way of humbling ourselves, depending fully on God, and walking in His authority.

Key Scripture

- **Matthew 6:16–18** — “When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites... but your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”
 - **Matthew 17:21** — “This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”
 - **Acts 1:14** — “They all joined together constantly in prayer.”
 - **Acts 13:2–3** — They fasted and prayed, and the Holy Spirit sent out Barnabas and Saul.
 - **James 5:16** — “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”
-

Introduction

Prayer and fasting were normal parts of life for Jesus and His disciples. Today they are often rare, misunderstood, or treated as something only for the very religious. Yet without them, the church becomes powerless, distracted, and shallow. Prayer is our lifeline to the Father. Fasting is how we deny ourselves so that our hearts can stay sharp before God. Together, they prepare us for spiritual battle and keep us awake in a world that dulls our senses with comfort and distraction.

We scroll endlessly, eat constantly, and talk much but pray little. No wonder our lives feel dry. The call of this pillar is to step away from noise and appetite, to seek God in humility, and to let His Spirit fill us with true power — not hype or show, but power that breaks chains, heals, and makes us bold in witness.

How It Should Be Done

1. Prayer — Staying Close to the Father

- **Personal Prayer:** Set aside time daily to speak with God honestly — worship, thanksgiving, confession, intercession, and listening. Jesus often withdrew to pray (Mark 1:35).
- **Household Prayer:** Pray together as families — morning, mealtime, or evening. Short prayers matter when done faithfully.
- **Community Prayer:** Believers should gather regularly to seek God, confess sins, and intercede for the world.
- **Avoid:** Praying as performance or repeating empty words (Matt. 6:7).

2. Fasting — Denying the Flesh, Seeking God

- **Why fast?** To humble ourselves, sharpen our hearts, break addictions, and intercede for others (Isaiah 58).
- **Biblical models:** Weekly fasts, fasts in times of crisis, extended fasts when led by the Spirit.
- **How:** Skip meals for a time, replacing them with prayer and Scripture. Always fast with purpose.
- **Avoid:** Fasting to impress others, or fasting while still clinging to sin.

3. Power — Walking in the Spirit

- True power comes from the Holy Spirit, not from men. It shows lives changed, sins broken, prayers answered, and courage to speak truth (Acts 1:8).
- Prayer + fasting opens doors for breakthroughs that nothing else can (Matt. 17:21).
- Holiness is the foundation of spiritual power — sin quenches the Spirit.
- **Avoid:** Turning power into performance, fake miracles, or ministries for money.

4. Safeguards

- Test every claim of power against Scripture and fruit (1 John 4:1; Matt. 7:16).
 - Keep fasting and prayer Christ-centered, not mystical or prideful.
 - Pair fasting with mercy — care for the poor, forgive debts, loose oppression (Isaiah 58).
-

How You Can Start

1. Begin each morning with prayer before screens or work.
 2. Choose one day this month to fast from food (sunrise to sunset). Use meal times for prayer.
 3. Pray as a household daily — even short prayers matter.
 4. Trade one entertainment habit for prayer this week.
 5. Pick one area of life or community where you need breakthrough. Fast and pray until God answers.
-

Discussion / Reflection

- What distracts me most from prayer?
 - Do I treat fasting as strange, or as normal obedience?
 - When have I seen God answer prayer with power?
 - How can I lead my household in prayer and fasting?
 - Am I seeking power for God's glory, or for myself?
-

Conclusion Statements

- Prayer is our lifeline to the Father.
- Fasting humbles us and sharpens our spirit.
- Power belongs to God alone and flows through obedience, not performance.
- A praying, fasting, Spirit-filled community is awake and strong.
- Without prayer and fasting we drift; with them, we walk in authority and truth.

Pillar 7: Testing & Enduring

Aim

To teach how to test every teaching, practice, and spirit by God's Word, and how to endure both daily trials and the ultimate end-time test. To anchor believers in truth, fruit, and faithfulness so they do not fall for deception or lawlessness, but stand firm in Jesus until the end.

Key Scripture

- **1 Thessalonians 5:21** — “Test everything; hold fast what is good.”
 - **Matthew 7:16** — “You will recognize them by their fruits.”
 - **Matthew 24:12–13** — “Because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”
 - **1 John 4:1** — “Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God.”
 - **Revelation 14:12** — “Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.”
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Part 1 — Why & How We Know (Truth & Error)

Intro: Every generation must ask: how do we know we are teaching truth and rejecting error? False claims are everywhere, and without clear foundations, people are easily swayed by tradition, emotion, or power. In this part, we explain why the guidebook's teachings rest on solid ground and how we know false practices to be false.

1. **Because Jesus is the standard.** Everything we teach is measured against His words (Matt. 28:20; John 14:15). If He commanded it, we keep it. If He fulfilled it, we honor it. If He warned against it, we avoid it.
2. **Because Scripture interprets Scripture.** We don't rely on tradition or popularity, but on the full witness of the Bible (2 Tim. 3:16–17). Old Testament shadows are confirmed in New Testament fulfillment.
3. **Because fruit proves the root.** Gifts can be faked or misused, but fruit cannot be counterfeited long-term (Matt. 7:16–20). Truth produces holiness, humility, and love; falsehood produces pride, greed, and division.
4. **Because history reveals corruption.** We can trace how Roman decrees replaced Sabbath with Sunday, how pagan festivals were renamed Christmas and Easter, how celebrity pastors use faith for fame and money. The roots reveal the tree.

Examples:

- **Christmas vs. Tabernacles:** December 25 was a Roman solstice festival; Jesus' incarnation aligns with Tabernacles (John 1:14).
- **Easter vs. Passover/Firstfruits:** Eggs and rabbits come from fertility cults; Scripture ties Jesus' resurrection to Passover and Firstfruits (1 Cor. 15).
- **Prosperity Gospel vs. Jesus:** Promises of riches clash with Jesus' call to self-denial and service (Matt. 6:19–24).
- **Celebrity Leadership vs. Servant Shepherds:** Show-based worship contradicts Jesus' command that leaders be the least and serve (Mark 10:42–45).

Thus, what we say is not new. It is simply returning to the old paths (Jer. 6:16) and exposing what never belonged.

Part 2 — Ongoing Testing (Truth, Proof & Fruit)

Intro: Testing is not just for the end times — it is for every day. We are surrounded by teachings, ministries, and movements. Some sound biblical but are hollow; others are flashy but lack fruit. God calls us to measure all things by truth, proof, and fruit.

1. Truth, Proof & Fruit — How to Test Teachings

- **Truth:** Does it align with Scripture, especially Jesus' words?
- **Proof:** Is there evidence of obedience, not just claims?
- **Fruit:** Does it produce love, holiness, and endurance?

2. Fruit vs. Gifts

- Gifts impress, but fruit proves.
- Someone may prophesy or heal, yet lack love or holiness (Matt. 7:22–23).
- True maturity = Spirit's fruit (Gal. 5:22–23), not flashy gifts.

3. Measuring Ministries

- **Do they serve or self-promote?** (John 13:14)
- **Do they walk in humility?** (Phil. 2:3)
- **Is holiness visible?** (Heb. 12:14)
- **Are finances transparent?** (2 Cor. 8:21)
- **Do they point to Jesus, not themselves?** (John 3:30)

4. Case Studies (Examples)

- **Large movements with hype:** Do they produce lasting disciples, or just emotional highs?
- **Popular teachers:** Do they preach repentance and obedience, or just comfort and blessing?
- **Miracle claims:** Do they lead to worship of Jesus, or to fame and money?

5. Personal Examination

- Test not only others, but yourself (2 Cor. 13:5).
 - Regular confession and repentance.
 - Ask trusted brothers/sisters for accountability.
 - Fruit check: Am I growing in love, holiness, endurance?
-

Part 3 — Enduring the Final Test

Intro: Beyond daily testing, the Bible warns of a unique and final test at the end of the age. Deception, persecution, and lawlessness will reach their peak. Many will fall away. Only those who endure in faith and love will be saved. This part explains the nature of that end-time trial and how to remain faithful.

1. Expect Deception

False prophets will show signs and wonders (Matt. 24:24). Don't be impressed by power without truth. Test all things.

2. Endure Persecution

Jesus promised hatred for His disciples (John 15:18–20). Faithfulness may cost jobs, freedom, even life. Endurance is victory (Rev. 12:11).

3. Resist Lawlessness

Many will twist grace to allow sin. Keep both faith in Jesus and obedience to God's commands (Rev. 14:12).

4. Guard Love

Sin and betrayal will cause love to grow cold (Matt. 24:10–12). Forgive quickly. Serve faithfully. Love must remain alive.

5. Stay Awake

Watch and pray (Matt. 26:41). Keep your lamp filled with oil (Matt. 25). Refuse distraction and compromise.

6. Fix on Jesus

He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6). Any voice that leads away from Him is false, no matter how popular.

How You Can Start

1. Read Matthew 7, 24; 1 Thess. 5; 1 John 4 this week. Mark every command to “test.”
 2. Ask: What fruit is visible in my life? In my community? In the teachers I listen to?
 3. Identify one tradition or teaching you’ve accepted without testing. Examine it by Scripture.
 4. Begin confessing weekly with a trusted friend or group.
 5. Pray for endurance daily: “Lord, keep me faithful to the end.”
-

Discussion / Reflection

- Do I test what I hear, or just consume it?
 - Am I impressed more by gifts or by fruit?
 - What ministries/teachers do I follow, and do they show humility, holiness, service?
 - Have I confused hype with Spirit?
 - Where has my love grown cold? How will I guard it?
-

Conclusion Statements

- Truth, proof, and fruit must guide every decision.
- Gifts impress, but fruit proves maturity.
- Ministries must be measured by humility, service, and holiness.
- The final test is certain: deception, lawlessness, persecution, cold love.
- The faithful endure by abiding in Jesus, keeping His commands, and loving until the end.

Appendices & Tools

Everything here is practical, printable, and ready to use. Adapt to your household or group; keep it Christ-centered, simple, and true.

1) Glossary (Key Terms & Ideas)

Abiding — Remaining in living union with Jesus through prayer, obedience, and love (John 15).

Atonement (Yom Kippur) — Day of affliction/repentance; points to final judgment and Messiah's intercession.

Branch Restored — A believer/community returning from man-made traditions to God's ways in Messiah.

Feasts / Appointed Times (Moedim) — God's set times (Lev 23) rehearsing redemption history.

Firstfruits (Bikkurim) — Offering of first harvest; fulfilled in Jesus' resurrection.

Guarding the Way — Testing teachings/prophecies by Scripture and fruit; protecting the flock from deception.

Household Rule of Life — Agreed daily/weekly rhythms that keep a home rooted in Christ.

Lawlessness — Treating God's commands as optional; grace twisted into license.

Passover (Pesach) — Memory of Exodus; fulfilled at the cross; leads into Unleavened Bread.

Pentecost (Shavuot/Weeks) — Fifty days after Firstfruits; Torah given; Spirit poured out in Acts 2.

Pruning — God's corrective love removing sin/distraction to increase fruitfulness.

Sabbath (Shabbat) — Weekly seventh-day rest (Fri sunset–Sat sunset) sanctified at creation.

Tabernacles (Sukkot) — Joyful week of dwelling in temporary shelters; "God with us."

Trumpets (Yom Teruah) — Day of shouting/blowing; wake-up to repentance and the King's coming.

Unleavened Bread — Seven days without leaven; picture of sin removed; walk in sincerity/truth.

Ascension — Forty days after resurrection; Jesus exalted, commissions disciples (Acts 1).

Final Test — End-time deception, persecution, and lawlessness requiring endurance in Jesus (Matt 24).

Two-Adult Rule — Safety guideline: never place one adult alone with a minor; protects children and adults.

Open Books — Financial transparency: budgets, reports, two-signature spending, conflict-of-interest policy.

2) Reading Plans (Layered Tracks)

A. 30-Day Gospel Focus (John + Synoptic Keys)

Week 1: John 1–7

Week 2: John 8–14

Week 3: John 15–21

Week 4: Matthew 5–7; Mark 8–10; Luke 15–18

Memory (daily): John 15:5; Matt 11:28–30; 1 John 2:6

B. Torah Foundations (6 Weeks)

1. Genesis 1–3 — Creation, Fall
2. Exodus 12 — Passover
3. Exodus 19–20 — Covenant & Ten Words
4. Leviticus 23 — God's Calendar
5. Numbers 14 — Faith vs. unbelief
6. Deuteronomy 6 — Shema (love & obedience)

Memory: Deut 6:4–9; Ex 20:1–17 (summary)

C. Psalms & Proverbs (8 Weeks, 5 days/week)

Psalms: 1, 23, 27, 32, 51, 91, 103, 119 (select stanzas)

Proverbs: 1–4, 8, 11, 16, 24, 25, 31

Memory: Psalm 1; Prov 3:5–6

D. 90-Day Whole-Bible Flow (survey)

Month 1: Genesis; Exodus; selected Psalms

Month 2: Luke; John; Acts 1–12

Month 3: Romans; 1–2 Corinthians; James; 1 Peter; Revelation (key chapters)

Memory: Rom 12; Eph 2:8–10; Rev 14:12

E. Feast-Aligned Reading (one year)

- **Sabbath (weekly):** Psalm of the day; Gospel reading; family intercession list.
- **Passover/Unleavened Bread:** Exodus 12–15; Luke 22–24; 1 Cor 5.
- **Firstfruits:** 1 Cor 15; Psalm 16.
- **Shavuot:** Exodus 19–20; Acts 1–2.
- **Trumpets:** Joel 2; 1 Thess 4–5.
- **Atonement:** Isaiah 53; Hebrews 9–10; Psalm 51.
- **Tabernacles:** Zech 14; John 7–8; Rev 21–22.

F. Kids/Family Track

- **Ages 4–7:** Creation (Gen 1), Noah (Gen 6–9), Moses & Passover (Ex 12), Jesus feeds 5,000 (John 6), Good Samaritan (Luke 10).
 - **Ages 8–12:** Add Ten Commandments summary, Beatitudes (Matt 5), Acts 2.
 - **Toolkit:** Memory cards, coloring sheets (feasts/symbols), question cards (“What did you learn about God?”).
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3) Household Weekly Rule (Printable)

Keep it simple, repeatable, and joyful. Adjust times to your household.

Daily (suggested rhythm):

- **Morning (5–10 min):**
 - Light a candle (symbol of Christ).
 - Pray: “Jesus, You are our Vine; keep us in You today.”
 - Read 6–10 verses (Gospel/Psalm).
- **Mealtime (1–2 min):**
 - Blessing: “Father, thank You for this food. Make us a blessing to others. Amen.”
- **Evening (5–10 min):**
 - Gratitude round (each shares 1 thing).
 - Confession/forgiveness if needed.
 - Short Scripture & the Lord’s Prayer.

Weekly:

- **Sabbath Start (Fri at sunset):**
 - Light two candles; say: “Blessed are You, LORD our God, who gives us rest in Jesus.”
 - Read Genesis 2:1–3; Matthew 11:28–30.
 - Share bread & soup/meal; sing a simple song; pray for the week past and ahead.
- **Mercy Act (any day):**
 - Choose one: visit someone lonely; prepare a meal; give anonymously; write an encouragement.
- **Family Check-in (Sun):**
 - 10–15 min: Where did we see God? What needs pruning? Whom can we serve this week?

Table Liturgy (optional, 3–5 min):

- Reader: Psalm 23 (or short psalm).
 - All: the Lord's Prayer.
 - Blessing over children: Numbers 6:24–26.
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4) Group Covenant & Peacemaking (Print-Ready)

Covenant of a Living Body

We confess Jesus as Lord and seek to obey all He commands. We will:

1. Gather for **Word, prayer, table, and mercy**.
2. Walk in **Sabbath and the feasts** as fulfilled in Messiah.
3. Practice **generosity and open books** (transparent finances).
4. Refuse **gossip, pride, partiality, and hype**.
5. Receive/offer **correction** with humility (Matt 18).
6. Protect **children/the vulnerable** (two-adult rule; background checks where feasible).
7. Keep **homes open** for hospitality and discipleship.
8. Measure success by **fruit**, not numbers or noise.

Peacemaking Process

1. **Go privately** to reconcile (Matt 18:15).
2. If unresolved, **bring 1–2 witnesses**.
3. If still unresolved, **invite group/elders** to help.
4. If hardened/unrepentant in public sin, **remove from fellowship** (1 Cor 5) until repentance is clear.
5. **Always aim for restoration**, not shame.

Confidentiality & Honor

- Share only what is yours to share.
- No secrets that hide abuse or crime; report immediately (Rom 13).
- Public errors receive public corrections (same visibility as the error).

Financial Simplicity

- Two-signature spending; published budget; quarterly simple report.
- Priority: benevolence/needs, mission/discipleship, simple operations.
- No paywalls for prayer/ministry; giving is voluntary.

Safety (Children & Vulnerable Adults)

- Two-adult rules; windows and/or open doors in kids' spaces; never transport a minor alone.
- Code of conduct; incident reporting form; remove alleged abusers from ministry pending investigation.
- Annual review/training where possible.

Print this page. Read and agree together annually.

5) Calendar Templates & Date Helps

A. Year at a Glance

- **Weekly:** Sabbath (Fri sunset–Sat sunset).
- **Spring:** Passover (14 Nisan) → Unleavened Bread (15–21 Nisan) → Firstfruits (day after Sabbath during UB) → Shavuot (50 days after Firstfruits).
- **Fall:** Trumpets (1 Tishrei) → Atonement (10 Tishrei) → Tabernacles (15–22 Tishrei).
- **Also remember:** Ascension (40 days after Resurrection/Firstfruits); celebrate Jesus' incarnation truthfully at **Tabernacles** rather than December 25.

B. Beginners' Path (First Year)

1. Start with **Sabbath** each week.
2. Add **Passover/Resurrection** (simple meal + readings).
3. Add **Tabernacles** (one night outdoors/in a tent, rejoicing).
4. In year 2, add Shavuot, Trumpets, and Atonement.

C. How to Locate Dates (Overview)

- The biblical months begin with the new moon; communities differ on calculation/sighting.
- Choose one trustworthy method humbly (do not divide over minor differences).
- Anchor feasts to Scripture, not folklore; keep Christ central.

D. Feast Quick-Guides (Step-by-Step)

Passover (Evening of 14 Nisan)

- **Prepare:** Unleavened bread, bitter herbs, simple meal; remove leaven from home for the week that follows.
- **Read:** Exodus 12; Luke 22; John 13.
- **Do:** Retell Exodus; connect to Jesus the Lamb; share bread/cup in remembrance of Him.
- **Kids:** Four questions ("Why is this night different?" etc.).

Unleavened Bread (15–21 Nisan)

- **Practice:** No leaven; daily reading of Exodus 13; 1 Cor 5.
- **Focus:** Clean out old leaven (sin); walk in sincerity and truth.

Firstfruits (day after Sabbath during UB)

- **Read:** 1 Cor 15; Psalm 16.
- **Do:** Give "firsts" (time, money, service); celebrate the resurrection.

Shavuot (50 days after Firstfruits)

- **Read:** Exodus 19–20; Acts 2.
- **Do:** Prayer night for wisdom/unity; recommit to Jesus' commandments; hospitality meal.

Trumpets (1 Tishrei)

- **Do:** Blow shofar (or shout); call to repentance; pray Psalm 27; plan reconciliations before Atonement.

Atonement (10 Tishrei)

- **Practice:** Fast (as able); confess; restore relationships; give mercy.
- **Read:** Isaiah 58; Hebrews 9–10; Psalm 51.

Tabernacles (15–22 Tishrei)

- **Do:** Build a simple shelter or camp outdoors; share meals; rejoice; invite guests.
- **Read:** John 7–8; Zech 14; Rev 21–22.
- **Checklist:** Tent/shelter, lanterns, psalm printouts, simple instruments, children's crafts.

Ascension (40 days after Firstfruits)

- **Read:** Acts 1; Psalm 110.
 - **Do:** Prayer for bold witness; map "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, ends of earth" in your context.
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6) Checklists, Forms & Templates (Print-Ready)

A. Community Health Audit (Monthly)

- Do we greet newcomers by name?
- Are meals/shared life normal, not rare?
- Is gossip corrected quickly?
- Is money transparent (last quarter report)?
- Are children safe (two-adult rule followed)?
- Are corrections handled biblically and gently?
- Are we practicing Sabbath/feasts simply and joyfully?
- What fruit (repentance, reconciliations, mercy) did we see this month?

B. Discernment One-Pager (wall sheet)

- Gospel fidelity? Jesus central? Scripture over trends? Fruit over time? Financial integrity? Accountability? Order and love?
- If “no” at any point: **pause** and **test** with others.

C. Incident & Safeguarding Form

- Date/time/location
- Persons involved
- Description
- Action taken
- Reported to authorities? (Y/N)
- Signatures
- Follow-up date

D. Prophecy/Word Weighing Log

- Date
 - Speaker
 - Summary
 - Tested by (names)
 - Outcome (confirmed/pending/rejected)
 - Follow-up (repent/correct/share testimony)
-

7) FAQ (Quick Answers)

Q: Is this legalism?

A: No. We keep God's times/ways because we love Him, not to earn salvation. Jesus fulfilled the feasts; we honor them in Spirit and truth.

Q: Which calendar calculation is "right"?

A: Methods differ. Choose one humbly; don't divide the Body over minor timing differences.

Q: Can we still meet in church buildings?

A: Yes. The problem isn't the building but cold, shallow culture. Make every space feel like family: greetings, meals, mercy, participation.

Q: How do we handle disagreement?

A: With humility. Keep Jesus' commands central, allow liberty in disputable matters, and follow the peacemaking process.

Q: What about Christmas/Easter?

A: Replace pagan-rooted customs with biblical feasts. Honor Jesus' incarnation truthfully (best at Tabernacles). Celebrate resurrection at Passover/Firstfruits.

Q: How do we measure fruit?

A: Repentance, reconciled relationships, mercy, obedience, endurance, disciples made—not hype or numbers.

8) How to Print & Use

- Keep a binder or shared drive with: Household Rule, Covenant, Calendar, Health Audit, Budget Ledger, Safeguarding Form, Prophecy Log.
- Review quarterly with your group.
- Update dates annually; keep everything simple and visible.