

**LOVE GOD,
LOVE PEOPLE,
SERVE THE WORLD**

welcome to

††† *Abiding Word*
Church

welcome home

April 8th & 9th

**The Choice
Devotion**

There are all sorts of ways to stay connected @ AWC

Upcoming Events

BAPTISM

Make it public!

Sign up on your Connections Card!

Easter Weekend April 15/16

Mandatory Class held Saturday
April 15th @ 10am.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Thursday April 13th

6:45pm (Get here on time!)

BABY/CHILD DEDICATION

May 13/14- Sign up on Connections
Card

GRADUATES

We will recognize graduates in
June. Let us know who you have
graduating on your Connections
Card

GIVE ONLINE ANYTIME

at our website

www.abidingwordchurch.org click
on the Give button

Download Our App!

TEXT amount to **815-566-4181**

PARENTS & STUDENTS

Meet following service April 8/9
in the youth room for important
Summer Scream Youth Camp
information!

NEW LIFE GROUP

Do you love to play Carcassonne?
If you are interested sign up on
your Connections Card. More
information coming soon! This
group plans on meeting once a
month!

Thank you for joining us today!

Welcome to our worship service! You can expect today's service to run approximately an hour and 15 minutes.

Whether you're exploring Christianity, struggling with life's difficulties or looking for a church home, we are here to help.

Whether you are new to faith, just coming back to church, or a long time follower of Jesus, we would love to connect with you. It is our hope that you find your time with us engaging and helpful.

Check out ways to serve and get connected

ADOPT A COLLEGE STUDENT

Like to be a blessing to an outgoing college student next year? Sign up on your connections card or @ Guest Services

JOYCE MEYER TRIP

Sept. 21-23 2017

Sign up on your connections card. Early Bird Registration is \$85.00 due by May 1st

TEAM CLASSES

Sunday April 23rd 4-6pm. Sign up on your connections card. Dinner & childcare provided.

PARTNERS IN PLAYTIME & PRAYER

April 17th 6-7:30pm

Moms & kids 0-4 years old

@ the church in the 4/5 classroom

ORANGE KIDS

Got kids? We'd love to minister to them while you are in service. They will have heaps of fun and learn a lot too! As you enter the building take a left down the hall to our secure children's check in.

FIRST LOOK

Nursery 0-24mo.

2-3 yr.

4-5 yr

252 BASICS-1st-5th

XP3 STUDENT MINISTRY

Envision your students confronted with the awe of a God who is big, mysterious and amazing! Plus a place where they can connect, ask questions, hang out and find friends....

FUSION-Yr. 6th-8th

Meeting Sundays -Doors open @ 9:30am. Service starts @ 10am.

LINK-Yr-9th-12th

Meeting every Sunday from 12:00-2:00pm **Sermon Series-THE CREW**

Life Groups are where a big crowd becomes small and real. You'll discover community and grow spiritually. Check out the website or Guest Services for more information.

Discover what real community looks like & get connected

Thank you for joining us!

Here's how you can stay in touch.

Church service ends *but* life with God and connecting with others has just begun! Check out these ways to continue your adventure with God:

- Meet us at Guest Services! We will answer your questions, give you a free gift and help you connect to life at Abiding Word.
- Facing some challenging circumstances? Find our Prayer Partners in back of the sanctuary.
- Further your journey with Christ by stopping at our Bookstore in the lobby.
- Grow with others and God by joining a Life Group. Look for info on our website or at Guest Services!
- Connect with us on-line through our website, email newsletters, social media or download our church app!

Love God, Love People, Serve the World!

Rev. Scott D Porter-Lead Pastor

Rev. Terri L Porter-Co-Pastor

Worship with us:

Saturdays @ 6pm

Sundays @ 10am

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 5pm

815.626.1827

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Sterling, IL 61081

Rhema Bible Church

Living Life | Unlimited



WILLOW CREEK
ASSOCIATION



Discover more at

abidingwordchurch.org



"THE CHOICE: Part 3"

Jesus: Devotion

April 8 & 9, 2017

1. Jesus had a _____

Hebrews 5:7-8 "During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries & tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered"

1 Corinthians 15:22 (NIV) For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1 Peter 1:18-21 (NIV) For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen

before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

1 John 2:1-2 (NIV) My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

2. He does not force His _____ on us.

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Hebrews 1:3 (NIV) The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

3. Everything God is, _____ is.

John 10:17-18 *"The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. **No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.**"*

Matthew 26:52-54 *"Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. **Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"***

Hebrews 5:7-8 (AMP) *"In the days of His flesh [Jesus] offered up definite, special petitions [for that which He not only wanted but needed] and **supplications with strong crying and tears to Him Who was [always] able to save Him***

[out] from death, and He was heard because of His reverence toward God **[His godly fear, His piety, in that He shrank from the horrors of separation from the bright presence of the Father]**. Although He was a Son, He learned [active, special] obedience through what He suffered"

Mark 14:33-36 "He took Peter, James and John along with him, and **he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,"** he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch." Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and **prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him.** Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. **Yet not what I will, but what you will."**

John 19:28:30 "Later, **knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled,** Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, **Jesus said, "It is finished."** With that, **he bowed his head and gave up his spirit"**

Luke 23:44-46 "It was now about the sixth hour, and **darkness came over the whole land** until the ninth hour, for **the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.** Jesus called out with a loud voice, "**Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.**" When he had said this, he breathed his last"

Matthew 27:45-46 (NIV) From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*"-- which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

