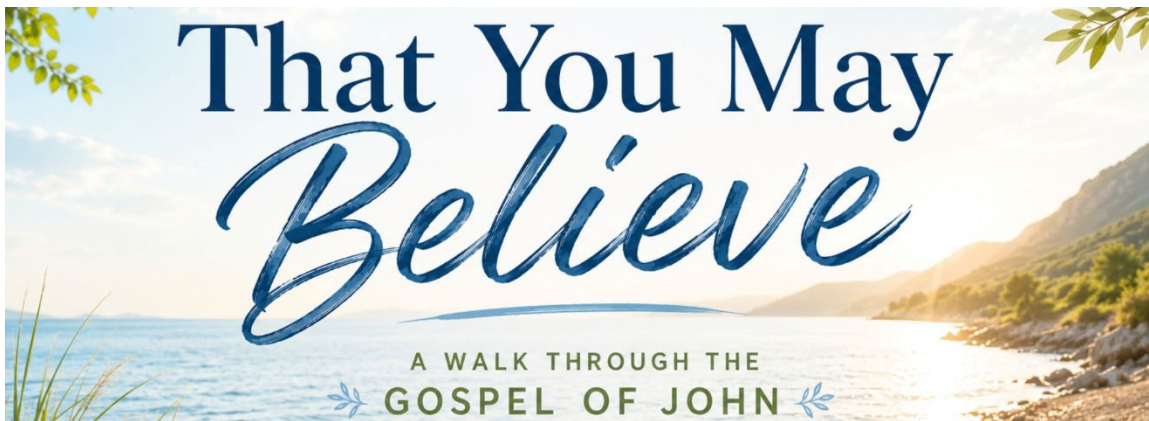




That You May Believe: A Walk Through the Gospel of John - Wk 4

"The Crisis We're In"

(John 3:1-21)

Sunday, June 21, 2026

5-Day Devotional: Walking in the Light

Day 1: The Invitation to Transformation

Reading: John 3:1-9

Devotional:

Nicodemus came to Jesus at night, seeking answers in the darkness. Perhaps you've approached God the same way—privately, cautiously, unsure of what transformation might cost. Jesus' words to this respected religious leader were startling: "You must be born again." Salvation isn't about adding religious practices to your life; it's about complete transformation. Just as a baby experiences total change at birth—breathing, feeling, seeing independently for the first time—spiritual birth revolutionizes everything. The Spirit moves like wind: unexplainable but undeniable. You cannot manufacture this change through effort or knowledge. Surrender to the Spirit's transforming work. Stop trying to understand everything and simply trust. God isn't asking you to improve yourself; He's offering to make you completely new.

Reflection: What areas of your life are you still trying to control instead of surrendering to God's transforming power?

Day 2: Loved Beyond Measure

Reading: John 3:16-17; 1 John 4:9-10

Devotional:

"For God so loved the world..." These five words dismantle every religious system built on human effort. God's love isn't earned through perfect obedience or religious credentials. It's freely given to the entire world—not just the "in crowd," not just those who seem to have it all together. You are deeply, unconditionally loved by your Heavenly Father. His love drove Him to give His most precious treasure—

His only Son—so you could have eternal life. Jesus didn't come to condemn you for your failures or judge your inadequacies. He came to rescue you, to bridge the gap sin created, to bring you home. This isn't about what you can do for God; it's about what He has already done for you. Receive this gift with open hands and a grateful heart.

Reflection: Do you truly believe God loves you unconditionally, or are you still trying to earn His approval?

Day 3: Choosing Light Over Darkness

Reading: John 3:18-21; Ephesians 5:8-14

Devotional:

We stumble through life in darkness, hitting obstacles we cannot see, refusing to flip the light switch. Why? Because darkness feels safer. It hides our shame, conceals our sin, allows us to avoid confronting truth. But Jesus declares, "I am the light of the world." Living in His light means exposing our brokenness to His healing power. It means walking in truth rather than hiding in shadows. Darkness is a choice—closing our minds and hardening our hearts against God. But light is also a choice. When you step into God's light, you're not stepping into judgment but into freedom. Your sins are exposed not to shame you but to heal you. Those who come to the light discover that God's truth liberates rather than condemns. Stop wandering in darkness. Choose the light today.

Reflection: What sins or struggles are you keeping hidden in darkness instead of bringing into God's healing light?

Day 4: The Snake in the Camp

Reading: Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-15

Devotional:

The Israelites faced deadly serpents in their camp—consequences of their rebellion and impatience. The solution wasn't religious ritual or perfect behavior. God instructed Moses to lift up a bronze serpent, and anyone who looked upon it would live. What a strange salvation! Jesus references this story to reveal a profound truth: sin is the snake in our camp, infecting everyone without discrimination. There is no "in crowd" immune to sin's poison. We're all dying. But God has provided the solution. Just as the Israelites looked to the bronze serpent and lived, we look to Jesus lifted up on the cross and receive eternal life. Salvation requires only one thing: looking to Jesus in faith. Not earning, not achieving, not perfecting—simply believing. The cure is available. Will you look to Him?

Reflection: Are you trusting in your own goodness or religious performance, or are you looking solely to Jesus for salvation?

Day 5: Living as Light Bearers

Reading: Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:14-16

Devotional:

Having been rescued from darkness, you now carry the light. Jesus calls His followers to be "fishers of men"—not to condemn the world but to lead others to the Source of life. Your transformation isn't meant to be hidden. When you walk boldly in the light, stumbling in darkness around you notice. They see hope where they expected judgment, peace where they anticipated anxiety, love where they assumed condemnation. You don't own salvation—you cannot give it—but you can point others toward it. Stop having conversations with Jesus only in private. Be out front. Be bold. Let your light shine so others see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Someone today needs to follow you to Jesus. Will you lead them?

Reflection: Who in your life needs to see Jesus through your bold, authentic faith this week? How will you intentionally point them toward the Light?

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us so completely that You sent Jesus to rescue us from darkness. Transform us by Your Spirit. Help us walk confidently in Your light and lead others to the salvation found only in Christ. Give us boldness to share Your love with a world desperately wandering in darkness. In Jesus' name, Amen.