



the gospel of JOHN

a 4 part series exploring the life of Jesus through John's gospel

SERIES SUMMARY

The Gospel of John is not written as a neutral biography. It is written as a carefully shaped testimony. John does not merely want you informed about Jesus. He wants you to be confronted by Jesus, drawn toward Jesus, and invited to decide what you will do with Him. John selects signs, conversations, and turning-point moments to form a single, pressing invitation. Believe, and in believing, find life.

John's Gospel is written for thinkers, seekers, skeptics, and believers alike. It assumes questions. It welcomes examination. It does not rush to conclusions. Over the coming weeks, we will slow down and let the text speak for itself, allowing Scripture, not assumptions, to shape what we believe about Jesus, about ourselves, and about the kind of life God offers.

John also writes as someone who understands the big questions we all have. This Gospel does not ignore questions, grief, disappointment, confusion, or complexity. It dares to speak to the places where people actually live. The places where we wonder if God is real, if love is possible, if truth is knowable, and if suffering has the final word. John insists that the answer is not a philosophy, a principle, or a program. The answer is a person.

Most importantly, John begins where we do not expect. He begins before Bethlehem. He begins before time. He begins in the beginning. In doing so, John tells us what this entire series will be about. We will not merely study the teachings of Jesus. We will encounter the identity of Jesus. We will not merely learn religious concepts. We will be invited into a reality where Jesus is the foundation of existence, the source of life, and the light that makes sense of the world.

John 1:1-4 is the doorway into the whole Gospel. It echoes Genesis 1, where God speaks light into darkness. John tells us that the One who speaks in Genesis is not distant from us. He has stepped toward us. The Logos, the Word, is not only the voice of creation. He is the face of God revealed. This series will help you look honestly at Jesus, without pressure, without pretending, and without rushing to conclusions. Regardless of how long you've been following Jesus, this is an invitation to look again.



the
gospel
of

JOHN

part one:
*who is
Jesus?*

WEEK EIGHT READING PLAN

Hard Reset

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

JOHN 3:3

JOHN 3:3

**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**

JOHN 3:3

Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.

JOHN 3:3

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.



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JOHN

who is Jesus?

WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 28 2026

Hard Reset

John 3 records one of the most important conversations in all of Scripture. Nicodemus comes to Jesus with sincerity, knowledge, and religious credibility, yet Jesus tells him that none of those things are enough. He does not need more information, a better routine, or a slightly improved version of himself. He needs new birth. The message is both disruptive and freeing: the life God offers cannot be achieved through effort, earned through morality, or inherited through tradition. It must be received from above.

This week's readings explore what it means to be born again, to receive the life of the Spirit, and to step out of darkness into the light. We will trace the promises of new heart, new spirit, and new life throughout Scripture, and we will reflect on the difference between religion and renewal, admiration and surrender, information and transformation. The invitation of John 3 is not to try harder but to be made new.

As you walk through these passages, remember that the work of God in a person's life often begins invisibly, like the wind. You may not always see how He is moving at first, but over time the evidence becomes undeniable. New desires emerge. New affections take root. New fruit begins to grow. This is the gift of grace: not a spiritual upgrade, but a hard reset.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

You Must Be Born Again

READ

John 3:1-8, Ezekiel 36:25-27, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Titus 3:4-7,
2 Corinthians 5:17

REFLECT

Nicodemus comes to Jesus as a serious and sincere man. He is not careless about God. He is not indifferent to truth. He is a religious leader, a teacher, and a man with spiritual credibility. Yet Jesus does not congratulate him for how far he has come. He tells him that he must be born again. That statement would have been shocking. Nicodemus likely assumed that his heritage, knowledge, and moral devotion placed him securely within the people of God. Jesus makes clear that even the most religious person still needs what only God can give: new life from above.

The prophets had already pointed to this reality. God promised through Ezekiel that He would cleanse His people, give them a new heart, and place His Spirit within them. Jeremiah spoke of a new covenant written not on stone but on the heart. Jesus is not inventing a new category; He is declaring that the long-promised renewal has arrived in Him. The Christian life does not begin with self-improvement. It begins with God doing what human effort can never accomplish. We do not need a polished version of our old selves. We need new birth.

QUESTIONS

- In what ways are you tempted to rely on your background, knowledge, or effort instead of the grace of God?
- What does it mean for you personally that new life must be received, not achieved?

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

Curiosity at Night

READ

John 3:1-2, Psalm 27:7-9, Jeremiah 29:11-13, Acts 17:26-28, Hebrews 11:6

REFLECT

Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night. John likely wants us to notice both the literal setting and the spiritual symbolism. Night in John's Gospel often represents uncertainty, fear, or incomplete understanding. Yet Nicodemus still comes. He is curious enough to seek Jesus, humble enough to ask questions, and honest enough to admit that something about Jesus demands attention. That matters. The path toward deeper faith often begins not with certainty but with curiosity. God can use sincere questions to bring us into a clearer understanding of who He is.

There is grace in the fact that Jesus receives Nicodemus in the night. He does not shame him for his uncertainty. He meets him in it. This is good news for anyone who has questions, hesitations, or incomplete understanding. Seeking Jesus honestly is not a sign of weak faith; it may be the beginning of stronger faith. God often draws people through curiosity before He leads them into conviction. The important thing is not that we come with all the answers, but that we come to the right Person.

QUESTIONS

- What questions or uncertainties are shaping your spiritual life right now?
- How might your curiosity become an invitation to draw closer to Jesus instead of holding back from Him?

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

Flesh and Spirit

READ

John 3:5–8, Romans 8:1–11, Galatians 5:16–25, 1 Corinthians 2:12–14
Ezekiel 37:1–14

REFLECT

Jesus tells Nicodemus that flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. In other words, human effort can only produce human outcomes. The natural life can reproduce itself, but it cannot create spiritual life. That is the work of the Spirit alone. This is where the conversation becomes deeply humbling. We naturally want a method, a strategy, or a system. We want to know what to do to produce the result we want. But Jesus refuses to let Nicodemus place the new birth under human control. The new life of God is not manufactured. It is given.

Then Jesus compares the Spirit to the wind. We cannot control it, predict it, or force it to move. We can only recognize its effects. The same is true of the Spirit's work in a human life. We may not always be able to explain exactly how God is moving, but over time we can see the evidence. Love grows where selfishness once ruled. Peace steadies what used to be anxious. Faithfulness emerges where compromise once lived. The Spirit is invisible, but His work is undeniable. The wind cannot be seen, but the trees reveal where it has been.

QUESTIONS

- Where are you trying to control what only God can create?
- What evidence of the Spirit's work can you see in your life, even if it has been gradual?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

Look to Jesus

READ

John 3:9–15, Numbers 21:4–9, Isaiah 45:22, Hebrews 12:1–3, Colossians 2:13–15

REFLECT

When Nicodemus asks how these things can be, Jesus takes him back to an Old Testament story he would have known well. In Numbers 21, the people of Israel are dying under judgment, and God instructs Moses to lift up a bronze serpent so that those who look upon it in faith will live. The point is not that the object itself had power. The point is that God provided a way of rescue, and the people had to trust it. Jesus says that in the same way, the Son of Man must be lifted up so that all who believe in Him may have eternal life.

This is a profound shift. Salvation is not a ladder we climb but a Savior we look to. The life of God does not come through human performance but through faith in the One lifted up for us. Jesus is already preparing Nicodemus, and us, for the cross. The same Christ who speaks about new birth is the Christ who will be lifted up so that sinners may live. When we look to Him in trust, we are not simply helped; we are rescued. We are not merely advised; we are given life.

QUESTIONS

- What are you tempted to rely on instead of looking to Christ?
- How does the image of looking to Christ reshape your understanding of faith?

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

God So Loved

READ

John 3:16–17, Romans 5:6–11, 1 John 4:7–10, Ephesians 2:1–10, Isaiah 53:4–6

REFLECT

John 3:16 is so familiar that it can be easy to miss its force. But in this verse, Jesus gives one of the clearest summaries of the gospel in all of Scripture. The initiative begins with God. The motive is love. The gift is His Son. The result is life. This is not a verse about vague spirituality or sentimental encouragement. It is the announcement that God acted decisively for a world that could not save itself. He did not send better advice or a fresh batch of rules. He sent His Son to rescue and redeem.

Verse 17 reminds us that Jesus was not sent to condemn the world but to save it. That does not mean sin is ignored or judgment is imaginary. It means the heart of God is redemptive. Christ comes not to crush the wounded but to bring them home. This is the wonder of grace: God loved us before we sought Him, moved toward us before we deserved it, and gave to us before we could repay Him. Every movement of salvation begins in the love of God, not in the worthiness of humanity.

QUESTIONS

- Where do you most need to remember that God's initiative toward you is rooted in love?
- How does John 3:16 challenge the ways you may have reduced the gospel to something smaller than it really is?

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

Why We Hide

READ

John 3:18–21, Genesis 3:7–10, Psalm 32:1–5, 1 John 1:5–9, Ephesians 5:8–14

REFLECT

Jesus moves from the love of God to the response of the human heart. He says that light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. This is not only about open rebellion; it is also about concealment. Ever since Eden, sinners have been hiding. We hide our shame, our fears, our motives, and our wounds. Darkness feels safer because it allows us to manage appearances. Light threatens exposure, and exposure can feel terrifying.

Yet the light of Christ is not given to destroy us but to free us. Those who come into the light discover that grace is stronger than the shame they feared. Confession becomes the doorway to cleansing. Honesty becomes the path to healing. The life of faith is not about maintaining the appearance of righteousness; it is about bringing our real lives into the light of Christ so His mercy can meet us there. Darkness promises protection but delivers isolation. Jesus calls us into the light because that is where real freedom begins.

QUESTIONS

- Where are you tempted to hide instead of walking honestly before God?
- What would it look like for you to step more fully into the light this week?

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

A Life That Runs Differently

READ

Galatians 5:16–25, Romans 8:12–17, Philippians 1:6, John 15:1–8, 1 John 3:1–3

REFLECT

When the Spirit gives new life, the outward signs may not all appear at once, but over time the evidence becomes visible. Scripture speaks of this in terms of fruit. You may not be able to see the Spirit directly, just as you cannot see the wind, but you can see what the Spirit produces. Love begins to replace selfishness. Joy steadies the heart. Peace interrupts anxiety. Patience grows where irritation once ruled. The fruit of the Spirit does not mean perfection, but it does mean evidence. Same life on the outside, new life on the inside.

This gives us both encouragement and direction. Encouragement, because God is patient and faithful in His work. He is not asking for instant maturity but real surrender. Direction, because the new birth always leads somewhere. The Spirit does not simply comfort us; He forms us into the likeness of Christ. And this is how we know we belong to Him; not because we have become flawless, but because we are no longer content to remain unchanged. The One who began a good work will carry it on to completion.

QUESTIONS

- Where do you see even small evidences of the Spirit's work in your life right now?
- What would it look like to cooperate more fully with the Spirit's work in you this coming week?



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Most importantly, John begins where we do not expect. He begins before Bethlehem. He begins before time. He begins in the beginning. In doing so, John tells us what this entire series will be about. We will not merely study the teachings of Jesus. We will encounter the identity of Jesus. We will not merely learn religious concepts. We will be invited into a reality where Jesus is the foundation of existence, the source of life, and the light that makes sense of the world.

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JOHN

part one:
*who is
Jesus?*

WEEK ONE READING PLAN

WHY JESUS?

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026
THROUGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

JOHN 1:1-4



the
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JOHN

who is Jesus?

WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 THROUGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

WHY JESUS?

This week focuses on John 1:1-4, where John introduces Jesus as the eternal Word. These verses reveal Jesus as existing before creation, acting in creation, and giving life that becomes light for humanity. John is teaching that reality is not an accident. It is not chaos. It is not merely atoms and impulses and appetite. Reality has order because it has an origin, and its origin is personal.

John begins with the Word because he wants us to understand that the universe is not only made. It is spoken.

That means creation carries meaning. A spoken world is a world with intention. A spoken world is a world that can be known. A spoken world is a world where human longing for truth, goodness, and beauty is not a cosmic mistake. It is a clue.

Across the week, you will see the same theme from multiple angles. **Jesus is not a helpful add-on to life. He is the source of life.** Jesus is not merely light in the sense of comfort. He is light in the sense of revelation. He makes the world intelligible, and He makes us honest. The invitation this week is not to be impressed. The invitation is to come into the light.



JOHN 1:4
JOHN 1:4
**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**
JOHN 1:4
JOHN 1:4

*In Him was life, and
that life was the
light of all mankind.*

JOHN 1:4

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

“Before Everything Else”

READ

John 1:1-2, Genesis 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-17

REFLECT

John begins with a phrase that sounds familiar because he wants it to sound familiar. In the beginning. Those three words take you back to Genesis, back to the first page of Scripture, back to the origin of everything. John is not borrowing poetry. John is making a claim. Before anything existed, the Word already was. The universe has a beginning. The Word does not. Creation is contingent. The Word is eternal. That difference matters because it means Jesus is not part of the system. He is the one the system depends on.

Then John says, "The Word was with God." Before there was matter, there was relationship. Before there was space, there was communion. This is one of the most imagination-capturing truths in all of Scripture. Love is not a late development in the universe. Love is foundational. Reality is not built on loneliness, survival, or competition. It is built on fellowship with God Himself. Colossians echoes this by saying all things were created through Jesus and for Jesus, and that in Him all things hold together. That means your life is not drifting through an indifferent cosmos. You are living in a reality made by Christ and oriented toward Christ.

QUESTIONS

- What changes in you when you realize Jesus is not a figure inside history but the foundation beneath history?
- Where are you trying to carry your life on your own instead of receiving it from God?

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

“Held Together By the Word of God”

READ

John 1:3, Psalm 33:6-9, Hebrews 1:1-3

REFLECT

John moves from eternity to creation, and he does it without hesitation. Through Him all things were made. John does not give a list. He does not qualify the statement. He makes it total. Everything you can name and everything you cannot name belongs in that sentence. Galaxies and gravity. Cells and consciousness. Oceans and oxygen. Time and space. There is no corner of reality that is not downstream from Christ. This means the world is not a closed machine. It is a crafted work. A world that is made can be understood. A world that was spoken into existence can be interpreted. A world that comes from the Word can be studied.

Psalm 33 describes creation as the result of God speaking, and Hebrews says the Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. That is the truth that should capture you today. Jesus is not only the Creator at the beginning. He is the Sustainer in the present. The same Word that spoke the world into existence is still holding it together right now. Nothing about your life is accidental. Even your next breath is a gift from the One who sustains life.

QUESTIONS

- How does it change the way you see your ordinary day to remember that Christ is sustaining all things right now?
- What part of your life feels unstable, and what would it look like to place that instability under the sustaining Word?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

“Life at the Source”

READ

John 1:4, Deuteronomy 30:19-20, Acts 17:24-28, Psalm 36:7-9

REFLECT

John takes the conversation from what exists to what it means. In Him was life. John is not simply describing biological vitality. He is describing the kind of life that is whole, grounded, and overflowing. Scripture often distinguishes between mere survival and true life. Deuteronomy calls the people of God to choose life, not as a motivational slogan but as a covenant reality. Acts 17 says that in God we live and move and have our being. That is more than poetry. It is ontology. It is a statement about what you are. You are not self-originating. You are dependent, moment by moment, on God's generosity.

Psalm 36 adds a line that pairs perfectly with John 1. With you is the fountain of life. In your light we see light. Light is not only something we see. Light is what makes seeing possible. John is teaching you that Jesus does not merely offer encouragement when life feels dark. Jesus is the condition for clarity. Many people today feel anxious because reality feels fragmented and frightening. Our minds are flooded with options, fears, information, and outrage, yet we cannot make sense of ourselves. John is saying we were made to live connected to Jesus. When we lose that connection, life doesn't stop; it just feels heavier and unbearable.

QUESTIONS

- Where do you feel fragmented or internally divided right now, and what might it mean to bring that to the fountain of life?
- What are you holding onto that's keeping you from trusting Jesus more fully?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

“The Light Tells the Truth”

READ

John 1:4-5, Isaiah 9:2, Psalm 27:1, 2 Corinthians 4:6

REFLECT

John now introduces light, and he does not present it as sentimental. Light is revelation. Light tells the truth. Light creates distinction between what is real and what is false. Isaiah speaks of people walking in darkness who have seen a great light. That prophecy is about deliverance from deception, oppression, and despair. Psalm 27 says the Lord is my light and my salvation. The connection is important. Light and salvation belong together because you cannot be saved without being seen, and you cannot be healed without truth.

Second Corinthians says God has made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. The light of God is not merely a concept. It has a face. Christianity does not proclaim a system. It proclaims a Savior. Jesus is not a flashlight that helps you navigate your own life on your own terms. He is the sunrise that redefines the entire landscape.

When sunrise comes, you realize that the path you're walking was actually a cliff you were about to go over. You realize what you were trusting was fragile. You realize what you were ignoring is now undeniable. That is why some resist the light. Not because they cannot see it, but because they can.

QUESTIONS

- What might you be afraid God will reveal if you truly come into His light?
- How would your decisions change if you treated truth as grace instead of a threat?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

“Built on What Lasts”

READ

John 1:1-4, Proverbs 3:5-6, Romans 11:33-36, James 1:16-18

REFLECT

Today you're reading John 1:1-4, but with a new question. What does it mean for Jesus to be the foundation rather than an addition? Many people try to add Jesus to an already-built life, as if faith were a helpful accessory. John will not allow that. If all things were made through Him, then all things find their rightful place only in relation to Him. Proverbs calls you to trust the Lord with all your heart and not lean on your own understanding. That does not mean God is against understanding. It means your understanding is not a sufficient foundation for your life. Your mind is a gift, but it is not God.

Romans 11 erupts into worship, saying from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. James reminds you that every good and perfect gift is from above. If Jesus is Creator and Sustainer, then gratitude is not just an emotion we're supposed to feel at certain times when things are going well for us. Gratitude is spiritual alignment. It is the soul recognizing reality. When you wake up, you are not beginning the day from scratch. You are stepping into a world upheld by Christ. That truth begins to quiet anxious striving because you are no longer carrying the weight of being your own source.

QUESTIONS

- Where are you leaning on your own understanding as if it is enough to sustain your life
- How will you practice gratitude today as an act of trust and alignment?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

“The Word Brings Life”

READ

John 20:30-31, John 1:1-4, Psalm 119:97-105, 2 Timothy 3:14-17

REFLECT

John eventually tells us why he wrote this Gospel. These things are written so that you may believe, and by believing, have life. John is not writing to win an argument. He is writing to bring you to a crossroads. The goal is not mere information. The goal is transformation. Psalm 119 describes the Word of God as a lamp and a light, which means Scripture is not merely inspirational. It is directional. It exposes what is true and guides you into what is good.

Second Timothy says Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. God does not reveal truth merely to inform you but to form you. Many people want Scripture to comfort them, but not confront them. John will do both. He will show you a Jesus who is tender with the broken and unyielding toward hypocrisy. A Jesus who welcomes doubters and challenges pretenders. A Jesus who heals broken bodies and exposes what's really in our hearts. If you give yourself to this Gospel slowly, it will not simply add religious content to your mind. It will reorder your life from the inside out.

QUESTIONS

- What kind of reader do you want to be during this series, and what habits will support that?
- Where do you most need Scripture to form you, not merely inform you?

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

“The Light That Makes All Things New”

READ

John 1:1-4, Genesis 1:26-28, Revelation 21:1-5, Ephesians 1:17-19

REFLECT

The Bible begins with creation and ends with renewal. Genesis shows God speaking a world into existence, and Revelation shows God making all things new. John places Jesus at the center of both. The Word who was in the beginning is the Word who will bring the end to its intended completion. This is not cyclical history where everything repeats forever. This is a story moving toward restoration. The God who created is also the God who redeems.

Ephesians prays that the eyes of your heart would be enlightened so that you may know the hope to which He has called you. When John calls Jesus, “The Light,” he is not merely referring to intellectual clarity. He’s saying Jesus will change our perception of reality. God wants to help us learn to see reality as it truly is. As you gather for worship, remember that you are not showing up merely to learn a lesson. You are coming into the presence of the One who is the Author of life itself. The goal of the Gospel of John is not to give you mere facts about Jesus. It is to bring you into the light of Jesus, where belief becomes life, and life becomes a witness.

QUESTIONS

- What would it look like for the eyes of your heart to be enlightened in this season and to see Jesus more clearly?
- How does the promise that God is making all things new strengthen your faith today?



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part one:
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WEEK TWO READING PLAN

LIGHTS ON

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

JOHN 1:1-5



the
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JOHN

who is Jesus?

WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 2026

LIGHTS ON

John does not allow us to remain neutral about Jesus. John says that Jesus is the light, and because the light has come into the world, a response is unavoidable. Light reveals what is already there. It does not force belief, but it does force honesty. Throughout this week, we will watch how people respond when Jesus brings light into dark places. Some resist because the light threatens their control. Some receive the light and begin to see with increasing clarity. Others reflect the light, becoming witnesses to what God has done in them. John wants us to understand that belief is not simply knowing facts about Jesus. Belief is responding to Jesus. And how we respond to the light determines what we see next.

This week invites us to slow down and examine our own posture. Are we resisting what Jesus reveals? Are we receiving what He offers? Are we reflecting the light we have already received? The light is not the variable. Our response to it is.

WEEK TWO READING PLAN

JOHN 1:5

**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**

JOHN 1:5
JOHN 1:5
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JOHN 1:5

*The light shines in
the darkness, and
the darkness has not
overcome it.*

JOHN 1:5

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026

When the Lights Come On

READ

John 1:5, John 1:10-11, John 3:19-21, Isaiah 6:9-10

REFLECT

John tells us that the light shines in the darkness, yet the darkness does not receive it. This is not because the light is unclear, but because the light reveals what we would rather keep hidden. Light exposes reality as it truly is. When Jesus enters a life, He does not merely add comfort or inspiration. He reveals motives, desires, fears, and misplaced trust. That is why resistance to the light often feels reasonable. It protects what we have learned to manage on our own.

Throughout Scripture, resistance to God's revelation is rarely framed as ignorance. It is framed as unwillingness. Isaiah describes people who can see and hear but refuse to perceive. Jesus later says people avoid the light because it exposes their deeds. John wants us to understand that rejecting the light is not a failure of information. It is a posture of the heart that resists surrender.

QUESTIONS

- What has Jesus revealed that feels uncomfortable or threatening right now?
- What might you be protecting by avoiding the light?

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The Cost of Certainty

READ

John 9:13-16, John 9:35-41, Proverbs 26:12, Romans 10:2-3

REFLECT

In John 9, the religious leaders encounter undeniable evidence of God's work. A man born blind can now see. Yet instead of celebrating, they interrogate. Instead of rejoicing, they defend their system. Their certainty becomes the very thing that blinds them. Jesus tells them that their claim to sight is what keeps them from seeing. This is one of the most sobering warnings in Scripture.

Spiritual certainty that refuses correction becomes dangerous. When we assume we already see clearly, we stop listening. When we stop listening, we stop growing. John shows us that humility opens the door to clarity, while arrogance locks it shut. The issue is not knowledge. It is posture. God resists certainty that refuses dependence, but He gives grace to those willing to be taught.

QUESTIONS

- Where might certainty be preventing you from seeing clearly?
- What would humility look like in your relationship with God right now?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Receiving the Light

READ

John 1:12-13, John 9:17, John 9:30-33, Ephesians 2:8-9

REFLECT

John makes it clear that receiving the light is not the same as understanding everything. To receive Jesus is to welcome Him, to trust Him, and to open yourself to His work. The man born blind demonstrates this beautifully. His understanding of Jesus grows gradually. He does not begin with a fully formed theology. He begins with honesty. He responds to what he knows, and as he does, clarity increases.

This is how belief works. Faith is not instant certainty. It is progressive sight. As we receive Jesus, our lens begins to realign. We start seeing God differently. We start seeing ourselves differently. We start seeing the world differently. This new sight is not earned. John says it is given. We are not reborn through effort or willpower, but through God's gracious initiative.

QUESTIONS

- What has Jesus brought to light in your life that helped you grow?
- Where have you been waiting for certainty instead of choosing trust?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

From Sight to Identity

READ

John 1:12, John 9:35-38, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 4:4-7

REFLECT

When John says those who receive Jesus become children of God, he is describing a change of identity, not just belief. The man in John 9 not only gains vision. He gains belonging. When Jesus finds him again, the man moves from healing to worship. He no longer speaks about Jesus from a distance. He responds to Jesus personally.

New sight leads to a new identity. When we receive the light, we do not simply gain insight. We are adopted into a new relationship with God. Scripture consistently connects belief with belonging. We are no longer defined by our past blindness, but by our present relationship with Christ. Seeing rightly reshapes who we understand ourselves to be.

QUESTIONS

- How has Jesus reshaped the way you see yourself?
- What old identity or narratives might you still be carrying that the light has challenged?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026

Reflecting What You Have Seen

READ

John 1:6-8, John 9:24-27, Matthew 5:14-16, 2 Corinthians 4:6

REFLECT

John the Baptist was not the light, but he testified to the light. The healed man in John 9 does the same. He does not argue theology. He tells the truth about his experience. I was blind. Now I see. Reflection is not performance. It is alignment. When light has done its work in us, it naturally begins to shine through us.

Witness does not require mastery. It requires honesty. When we reflect the light, we point away from ourselves and toward Jesus. Scripture never calls believers to generate light. We are called to walk in it. Reflection flows from clarity, and clarity grows as we stay oriented toward Christ.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be a better reflection of the light you have received?
- What fear keeps you from sharing what God has done in your life?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

Staying Turned Toward the Light

READ

John 8:12, Psalm 36:9, Psalm 119:105, 1 John 1:5-7

REFLECT

Light is not a one-time experience. It is a direction we choose to face. Scripture often describes faith as walking in the light, not standing still in it. As we follow Jesus, clarity continues to grow. When we turn away from the light, vision dims. When we stay oriented toward it, understanding deepens.

John's invitation is not to perfection, but to proximity. Staying turned toward the light means returning again and again to Jesus as the source of life and truth. Over time, what once felt confusing begins to make sense. Not because life becomes easier, but because our vision becomes clearer.

QUESTIONS

- What practices or habits help you stay oriented toward Jesus?
- Where do you notice your vision dimming when you drift from the light?

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WEEK THREE READING PLAN

NO FILTER

WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

JOHN 1:14



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who is Jesus?

WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 2026

NO FILTER

John has already shown us that Jesus is the light and that our response to that light determines what we see. Now he takes us deeper. The Word did not remain distant. He became flesh and dwelt among us. **Grace and truth arrived not as abstract ideas but as a person.** God did not send information. He came Himself.

This week we explore what it means for God to come close. We will consider why grace must heal rather than merely affirm, why truth must reveal rather than flatter, and why the incarnation changes everything about how we understand God. If Jesus shows us what God is actually like, then our assumptions about God must yield to what we see in Christ. The invitation this week is simple and profound. Let the nearness of Jesus reshape how you see God and how you live before Him.

This week invites us to slow down and examine our own posture. Are we resisting what Jesus reveals? Are we receiving what He offers? Are we reflecting the light we have already received? **The light is not the variable. Our response to it is.**



**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**

*The Word became flesh and
made his dwelling among us.
We have seen His glory, the
glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father,
full of grace and truth.*

JOHN 1:14

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

God Came Close

READ

John 1:14; Exodus 33:7-11; Leviticus 26:11-12; Matthew 1:23

REFLECT

John's statement that the Word became flesh is one of the most stunning claims in all of Scripture. God did not remain distant. The language of dwelling echoes the tabernacle in Exodus, where God's presence filled the tent among His people. That earlier dwelling was partial and veiled. Now John says the fullness of God's glory is revealed in Jesus. The incarnation is not God visiting briefly. It is God stepping into human history in weakness, vulnerability, and proximity.

This matters more than we often realize. Many people imagine God as remote, detached, or waiting for us to climb toward Him. The incarnation corrects that. God moves first. God draws near. The nearness of Jesus means no corner of human life is beyond His understanding. Suffering, fatigue, rejection, joy, friendship, hunger, celebration, grief. He has entered it all. When you feel unseen or alone, remember that the God you worship chose closeness over distance.

QUESTIONS

- Where have you been assuming God is distant rather than near?
- What would change if you truly believed God understands your lived experience?

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026

Grace Upon Grace

READ

John 1:16–17; Romans 5:6–11; Ephesians 2:1–9; Titus 3:3–7

REFLECT

John describes grace as something we receive from the fullness of Christ. Not a single act of kindness, but grace in layers. Grace upon grace. The law given through Moses revealed God's holy standard. It showed humanity what righteousness looks like. But the law could expose sin without curing it. In Jesus, grace does not cancel the law. It accomplishes what the law could not. It heals what sin has fractured.

Grace is not permission for self-indulgence. It is restoration. It does not minimize the wreckage of sin. It addresses it. If someone survives a car crash, survival alone is not enough. Healing is required. In the same way, surviving sin is not thriving in life. Grace is God moving toward us in our weakness to restore what has been damaged. Grace is not earned. It is received freely as a gift from God. And it changes us from the inside out.

QUESTIONS

- Where have you mistaken grace for simple affirmation rather than restoration?
- In what area of your life do you need healing more than approval?

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Truth That Sets Free

READ

John 1:17–18; John 8:31–36; Psalm 119:160; Colossians 1:15–20

REFLECT

Truth in John's Gospel is not a human invention. Truth is God showing us who He really is. Jesus does not merely give information about God. He makes the unseen God known. To see Jesus is to see what God is actually like. That means our assumptions must be reshaped. Truth does not bend to our preferences. It invites us into alignment with God's character.

Many resist truth because they assume it will crush them. Yet Jesus pairs truth with grace. His truth exposes what harms us so that we can be healed. When Jesus says truth sets people free, He is not speaking about intellectual discovery alone. He is speaking about liberation from deception, sin, and bondage. Truth is not harsh when it comes from a loving Savior. It is clarifying and life giving.

QUESTIONS

- How have cultural definitions of truth shaped your thinking?
- What might it look like to let Jesus redefine how you understand God?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

No Filter

READ

John 1:14; Hebrews 4:14–16; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Philippians 2:5–11

REFLECT

The incarnation removes the filter. God does not present Himself through distance or illusion. He steps into flesh. The humility of Jesus shows us that God's glory is not detached power but self-giving love. In Christ, we see strength expressed through sacrifice and authority expressed through service. This reframes how we interpret divine power.

Because Jesus has entered our weakness, we approach God with confidence. Hebrews reminds us that we have a High Priest who understands our frailty. There is no need to curate ourselves before Him. He already knows. He has already drawn near. When we stop filtering ourselves before God, we open ourselves to transformation.

QUESTIONS

- Where are you tempted to present a filtered version of yourself before God and people?
- How might honesty before Christ open the door to deeper healing in your life?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

From Surviving to Thriving

READ

John 10:10; Isaiah 61:1-3; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20

REFLECT

Jesus declares that He came to bring abundant life. Not mere survival. Not grueling endurance. Abundance does not mean ease or wealth. It means wholeness. Restoration. Flourishing in alignment with God's purposes. The grace of Christ does not leave us limping through life. It strengthens us to walk forward renewed.

Transformation is gradual. Just as vision sharpens over time when the lens is aligned, so spiritual clarity grows as we trust Christ. We are new creations in Him. That identity reshapes how we see ourselves and how we live. Thriving is not self-improvement. It is Spirit empowered renewal rooted in grace and truth.

QUESTIONS

- In what area are you surviving where God desires you to thrive?
- What action could move you toward wholeness this week?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

Seeing the Father

READ

John 14:6–9; John 12:44–46; 1 Timothy 6:15–16; 2 Corinthians 3:18

REFLECT

John insists that no one has seen God, but the Son has made Him known. To see Jesus is to see the Father. This anchors Christian faith in revelation rather than speculation. We do not guess what God is like. We look at Christ. His compassion, His justice, His mercy, His holiness. These are not traits separate from God. They are the clearest picture of Him.

As we behold Christ, we are changed. Paul writes that we are transformed as we behold the Lord's glory. The more we see Jesus rightly, the more our lives align with Him. The goal is not information accumulation but relational knowledge that reshapes us.

QUESTIONS

- How does seeing Jesus clearly reshape your understanding of God?
- What attribute of Christ do you need to reflect more faithfully?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

Living in Grace and Truth

READ

John 1:16–18; Colossians 2:6–10; James 1:22–25; 1 Peter 2:9–12

REFLECT

Grace and truth are not just how we begin with Jesus. They are how we continue with Him. Having received Christ, we continue to live for Him. We become rooted so we can be built up and established in faith. Grace reminds us we are loved. Truth reminds us we are called to something better. Together, they steady us and strengthen us.

Living in grace and truth means walking honestly, loving deeply, and standing firmly. It means reflecting the character of Jesus in a world confused about both love and truth. We do not choose between them. In Christ, they belong together. And when we live from that fullness, others begin to see Him more clearly through us.

QUESTIONS

- How can you embody both grace and truth in your relationships this week?
- What practice could help you remain rooted in Christ daily?



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Jesus?*

WEEK FOUR READING PLAN

WHO ARE YOU
FOLLOWING?

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

JOHN 1:12

JOHN 1:12
JOHN 1:12
**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**
JOHN 1:12

*Yet to all who did receive
him, to those who
believed in his name, he
gave the right to become
children of God.*

JOHN 1:12

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.



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WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH 2026

WHO ARE YOU FOLLOWING?

John 1:19-42 is more than history. It is a turning point. It forces us to confront the shaping power of influence in our lives. In this passage, identities are clarified, burdens are exposed, and loyalties begin to shift. John the Baptist is interrogated about his identity, and he refuses to accept titles that do not belong to him. He anchors himself in Scripture and directs every ounce of attention toward Jesus. Then he names Christ as the One who carries what no one else can. From there, the story moves from testimony to transformation. Disciples begin to follow. They stay with Jesus. They bring others. A fisherman is given a new name. Everything begins to change.

This week is about allegiance. Every day, you are being shaped by someone or something. Voices compete for your trust. Expectations press in. Invitations pull at you. The question is not whether you are following. The question is who. As you read, ask the Spirit to reveal what is shaping you beneath the surface. Notice where you feel pressure, what you are carrying, and whose voice you are trusting. John is not merely informing you about Jesus. He is inviting you to decide whether you will follow Him.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

A Clear Voice in a Loud World

READ

John 1:19–23; Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3:1–3; Galatians 1:10

REFLECT

John the Baptist is questioned by religious leaders who want to categorize him. *Are you the Messiah? Are you Elijah? Are you the Prophet?* John answers each question clearly and without hesitation. He does not inflate himself. He does not soften the truth. He knows who he is not. Instead of accepting titles that would elevate his status, he defines himself as a voice. Not the Word. Not the Savior. A voice. A messenger sent to prepare the way for the One who is before all things.

In a culture that pressures you to curate an identity, to perform, to prove your worth, John's clarity is liberating. He is not scrambling for recognition. His life is rooted in God's calling, and His Word has shaped his identity. John knows where he fits in the story of God. That clarity frees him from comparison and competition. You do not have to be everything to everyone. You are called to be faithful where God has placed you.

QUESTIONS

- Where do you feel pressure to prove yourself?
- What role or responsibility might you be trying to carry that does not belong to you?

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

Rooted, Not Reactive

READ

John 1:22–23; Psalm 1:1–3; Colossians 2:6–7; Ephesians 4:14–15

REFLECT

When pressed for an answer, John quotes Isaiah. He does not shy away from responding. He draws his identity from Scripture. His identity is rooted in the story that God is writing. Because he is anchored in God's Word, he is not shaken by people's opinions of him. He is not defined by other people's expectations of him. He knows the larger story and his part in it.

When your identity is rooted in God's truth, you are less likely to drift when questioned, criticized, or misunderstood. The world constantly invites you to rebrand and reinvent yourself. Scripture invites you to find your identity, calling, and purpose in Him.

QUESTIONS

- What voices most shape how you see yourself right now?
- How might deeper immersion in Scripture shape your identity?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

The Weight You Were Never Meant to Carry

READ

John 1:29–31; Psalm 55:22; 1 Peter 5:6–7; Hebrews 12:1–2

REFLECT

John sees Jesus and shifts people's focus away from himself and to the Lamb—the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This is not merely metaphorical language. It is deeply personal. Sin is much more than just wrongdoing. Sin is a burden we all carry. We have all sinned and been sinned against. As long as our sin isn't removed, we live in shame. We hide behind our performance, yet we experience exhaustion. Jesus does not simply expose sin. He removes it. The invitation is not to try harder. It is to release what is crushing you.

You may be carrying expectations that are breaking you. Guilt you have not confessed. Fear that you will not measure up. Jesus steps into the scene not to condemn but to shoulder what you cannot sustain. The burden shifts from you to Him. Freedom begins not when you perfect yourself, but when you trust the One who came to carry you.

QUESTIONS

- What weight have you convinced yourself you must carry that Jesus never asked you to bear?
- What would it look like to surrender that burden this week?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

Freedom That Reorders Your Life

READ

John 1:30–34; Romans 8:1–4; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:1

REFLECT

John declares that Jesus ranks above him because He existed before him. The recognition of Christ's supremacy changes everything. Freedom is not simply relief from guilt. It is realignment under rightful authority. When you recognize who Jesus truly is, your priorities shift. Your decisions are filtered through allegiance to Him. Freedom is not found in living life on your own terms but in surrendering to His demands on your life.

The Spirit descending and remaining on Jesus signals divine confirmation. God Himself testifies to the identity of the Son. When you anchor your life in that reality, you are not tossed about by the tempest of life's pressures to constantly conform. You are secured by something eternal. The freedom Jesus provides is not found in self-reliance and independence, but in surrender and dependence on Him to sustain you.

QUESTIONS

- In what areas of your life have you kept control instead of surrendering to Christ's authority?
- What practical change could you make that would demonstrate how Jesus truly ranks first in your life?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Come and See

READ

John 1:35–39; Psalm 34:8; Matthew 11:28–30; Luke 9:23

REFLECT

Two disciples hear John's testimony and begin following Jesus. When Jesus turns and asks what they want, they reply, "Where are you staying?" They desire proximity and want to be in His presence. Jesus doesn't reject them; rather, He invites them to come and be with Him. They stay with Him. Being a follower of Jesus begins not with fully understanding everything but with a desire to be with Him.

Following Jesus is not merely saying you agree with certain ideas about God. Following Jesus means reordering and reprioritizing your life around being with Him. It is making space for Him to dictate and direct your schedule. It is desiring to sit at His feet and learn from Him. You become like who you follow and hang out with. If your schedule leaves no time to spend with Christ, it should not surprise you if your life reflects someone or something else.

QUESTIONS

- What competes with your time with Jesus right now?
- What would it look like to reorder your week around being with Him?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Bring Someone With You

READ

John 1:40–42; Matthew 4:19; 2 Timothy 2:2; Hebrews 10:24–25

REFLECT

Andrew finds his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus. There is no sermon. No debating or arguing. Just an invitation. The natural result of following Jesus will mean inviting others to join us in following Him. When you find something life-changing, you want others to experience it, too. Andrew does not try to fix Simon's life. He simply introduces him to Jesus. Jesus renames Simon, marking the beginning of a transformation.

God wants to use you to reach your family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. He is already at work in them. You have not been called to fix them. You have been called to invite them to follow. This week, consider who in your life needs a gentle invitation? Not pressure, but presence. When we keep showing up for those who need His hope, we find we become more and more like the One we follow.

QUESTIONS

- Who in your life needs your invitation to experience the hope and help only Jesus can give?
- What simple step could you take this week to show up for someone who needs an invitation to follow Jesus?



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WEEK FIVE READING PLAN

THE GOD WHO SEES YOU

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH, 2026

JOHN 1:43

JOHN 1:43
JOHN 1:43
**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**
JOHN 1:43
JOHN 1:43

Follow me.

JOHN 1:43

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.



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WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH 2026

THE GOD WHO SEES YOU

John 1:43–51 reveals the architecture of discipleship. Before there is understanding, there is invitation. Before there is certainty, there is encounter. Before there is vision of heaven opened, there is a simple word: “Follow me.”

This passage exposes two common misconceptions about faith. First, that it begins with our search. In reality, it begins with His initiative. Second, that clarity must precede obedience. In truth, obedience often precedes clarity. Philip follows before he understands. Nathanael confesses before he fully comprehends. And only then does Jesus expand their horizon, promising a reality far greater than a private sign beneath a fig tree.

The promise of “greater things” is not the promise of comfort or achievement. It is the promise of revelation. Heaven opened. Access restored.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

He Finds You First

READ

John 1:43-45; Luke 19:1-10; 1 John 4:19; Ephesians 2:4-5; Isaiah 65:1

REFLECT

John's Gospel does not begin with people searching for God. It begins with Jesus finding people. Philip is not exactly in pursuit of God when Jesus says, "Follow me." Love initiates. Scripture repeatedly affirms this pattern. We love because He first loved us. We seek because He first sought. Even Isaiah speaks of God revealing Himself to those who were not asking for Him. Salvation is not a human achievement. It is a divine pursuit.

This reframes your spiritual story. You may remember the moment you "found" faith, but the deeper truth is that you were being found long before that moment. Every nudge, every conversation, every restlessness was part of God's gracious initiative. If Christ finds you first, then your response is not earning but receiving. And when you respond, something changes. Found people find people.

QUESTIONS

- When did you first realize that Jesus had been pursuing you before you were pursuing Him?
- Who in your life might be one invitation away from discovering they are being sought?

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

Commitment Before Clarity

READ

John 1:43; Hebrews 11:8; Proverbs 3:5–6; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Psalm 119:105

REFLECT

Philip follows before he fully understands. There is no extended explanation in John 1:43. Jesus speaks, and Philip steps. Scripture consistently presents faith this way. Abraham left without knowing where he was going. We walk by faith, not by sight. The Word is a lamp, not a floodlight. Commitment often precedes comprehension.

Modern culture demands clarity before obedience. The Kingdom reverses that order. When you say yes to Jesus, you are not agreeing to understand everything. You are agreeing to trust Him with what you do not yet see. Clarity follows commitment. The next step often reveals the next sight. If you are waiting to understand fully before obeying, you may be waiting forever.

QUESTIONS

- Where is Jesus asking you to step forward before everything makes sense?
- What might change if you trusted Him with the next step instead of the whole path?

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

Cynicism and Wounded Hope

READ

John 1:46–47; Proverbs 13:12; Psalm 73:1–3; Matthew 11:2–6; Hebrews 12:15

REFLECT

“Can anything good come from Nazareth?” Nathanael’s question is more than sarcasm. It is guarded expectation. Cynicism often grows where hope has been disappointed. Proverbs reminds us that deferred hope makes the heart sick. When longings go unmet, the heart protects itself. Cynicism becomes armor.

But Jesus does not scold Nathanael. He sees through the armor to the heart. Scripture never shames honest questions, but it warns against hardened unbelief. The difference between doubt and cynicism is posture. Doubt seeks answers. Cynicism assumes them. When we allow wounded hope to calcify into permanent dismissal, we may miss what God is doing right in front of us.

QUESTIONS

- Where has disappointment hardened into cynicism in your life?
- What would it look like to lower your guard and come closer instead of stepping back?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

Seen in the Unseen

READ

John 1:48; Psalm 139:1-12; Genesis 16:13; Hebrews 4:13; Matthew 6:6

REFLECT

Before Philip called you, I saw you. The fig tree moment was private. Whatever Nathanael was doing or thinking, Jesus was already aware. Scripture consistently affirms that nothing about us is hidden from God. The psalmist declares that even darkness is not dark to Him. Hagar names God “the One who sees me.” We are fully known.

Yet this knowledge is not surveillance. It is presence. God sees not to condemn us but to call us. Jesus does not expose Nathanael to embarrass him. He reveals knowledge to reassure him. You are not overlooked. You are not invisible. You are not forgotten. Being seen by God is the beginning of confidence and the end of shame.

QUESTIONS

- Where in your life do you feel unseen or unnoticed?
- How does knowing Christ sees you reshape your sense of worth and security?

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

Confession and Confidence

READ

John 1:49; Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 16:15-17; 1 John 4:15; Philippians 2:9-11

REFLECT

Nathanael moves quickly from skepticism to confession. "You are the Son of God." Something shifts. When the heart recognizes who Jesus truly is, confession follows. Scripture consistently links confession with transformation. With the heart one believes; with the mouth one confesses. Clarity about Christ produces confidence in faith.

Confidence does not come from having all the answers. It comes from knowing who He is. Nathanael does not suddenly understand everything about what God was doing or how Jesus was going to fulfill all the promises of God. He understood enough to declare allegiance. Confession stabilizes the soul. Questions do not disappear, but they lose their power to dominate our thinking and behavior. When you make Jesus your confession, your future changes.

QUESTIONS

- What keeps you from openly confessing who Jesus is in your life?
- How might declaring your faith strengthen your confidence?

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

All We've Seen Is Not All There Is

READ

John 1:50; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10; Ephesians 3:20; 2 Kings 6:15-17; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

REFLECT

"You will see greater things." Jesus expands Nathanael's expectations. The fig tree moment was only the beginning. Scripture reminds us that what we see is not the full story. Elisha's servant feared the army until God opened his eyes to the unseen reality. Paul writes that what is visible is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

God does not promise a comfortable life. He promises comfort and peace in the midst of the chaos. Having faith in God is not the result of blind optimism. It is trusting that the visible present is not the totality of the entire picture. If Christ has found you, your story is not finished. The invitation is to live with open expectation and let God's preferred future unfold for you.

QUESTIONS

- Where have your assumptions led to disappointment with God?
- How can you surrender your expectations and allow God to widen your perspective beyond your present limitations?

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

Distance Become Access

READ

John 1:5; Genesis 28:10-17; Hebrews 10:19-22; Ephesians 2:13-18; Colossians 1:19-22

REFLECT

Jesus references Jacob's ladder. In Genesis 28, heaven opens and angels ascend and descend. That vision symbolized access to God's presence. Now Jesus declares that He Himself is the fulfillment of that image. He is where heaven and earth meet. Through Him, distance becomes access.

The Gospel is not merely moral improvement. It is restored access to God. Hebrews declares that we can now approach God with confidence. Paul says those once far away have been brought near. Being found changes your future because it changes your standing with God. The distance you assumed permanent is not permanent. In Christ, heaven opens, and now, all of heaven's possibilities become our new reality.

QUESTIONS

- Where do you still feel distance between you and God?
- How would your life change if you truly believed access is already secured in Christ?



the gospel of JOHN

a 4 part series exploring the life of Jesus through John's gospel

SERIES SUMMARY

The Gospel of John is not written as a neutral biography. It is written as a carefully shaped testimony. John does not merely want you informed about Jesus. He wants you to be confronted by Jesus, drawn toward Jesus, and invited to decide what you will do with Him. John selects signs, conversations, and turning-point moments to form a single, pressing invitation. Believe, and in believing, find life.

John's Gospel is written for thinkers, seekers, skeptics, and believers alike. It assumes questions. It welcomes examination. It does not rush to conclusions. Over the coming weeks, we will slow down and let the text speak for itself, allowing Scripture, not assumptions, to shape what we believe about Jesus, about ourselves, and about the kind of life God offers.

John also writes as someone who understands the big questions we all have. This Gospel does not ignore questions, grief, disappointment, confusion, or complexity. It dares to speak to the places where people actually live. The places where we wonder if God is real, if love is possible, if truth is knowable, and if suffering has the final word. John insists that the answer is not a philosophy, a principle, or a program. The answer is a person.

Most importantly, John begins where we do not expect. He begins before Bethlehem. He begins before time. He begins in the beginning. In doing so, John tells us what this entire series will be about. We will not merely study the teachings of Jesus. We will encounter the identity of Jesus. We will not merely learn religious concepts. We will be invited into a reality where Jesus is the foundation of existence, the source of life, and the light that makes sense of the world.

John 1:1-4 is the doorway into the whole Gospel. It echoes Genesis 1, where God speaks light into darkness. John tells us that the One who speaks in Genesis is not distant from us. He has stepped toward us. The Logos, the Word, is not only the voice of creation. He is the face of God revealed. This series will help you look honestly at Jesus, without pressure, without pretending, and without rushing to conclusions. Regardless of how long you've been following Jesus, this is an invitation to look again.

the
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JOHN

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*who is
Jesus?*

WEEK SIX READING PLAN

THE NEXT DAY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2026

JOHN 2:5

**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**

JOHN 2:5
JOHN 2:5
JOHN 2:5

*Do whatever
He tells you.*

JOHN 2:5

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it true in you, not merely known by you.



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WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH 2026

THE NEXT DAY

The opening chapters of John's Gospel reveal a rhythm that is easy to miss at first glance. John repeatedly marks the movement of the story with a simple phrase: "the next day." What appears to be a small narrative detail actually reveals something profound about the way God works in our lives. Faith rarely arrives fully formed. Understanding grows slowly. Transformation unfolds through ordinary moments and faithful steps taken over time.

This week we trace the unfolding of those early days when people first began encountering Jesus. John the Baptist points his disciples toward Christ. Curious seekers begin to follow Him. Skeptics discover they are seen and known. And the week culminates at a wedding celebration where Jesus turns water into wine and reveals His glory. The pattern reminds us that spiritual growth rarely happens all at once. It develops through daily encounters with Christ, daily acts of obedience, and daily responses to His invitation.

Lamentations reminds us that God's mercies are new every morning. John shows us that following Jesus unfolds in that same rhythm. Each day is an opportunity to listen, to step closer, and to trust Him more deeply. As you read this week, consider the ways God may be inviting you to take your own "next step" toward Christ.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026

New Mercies, New Beginnings

READ

Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 90:12-17; Isaiah 43:18-19; John 1:35-39; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

REFLECT

The book of Lamentations was written in the aftermath of devastation. Jerusalem had fallen, the temple had been destroyed, and the people of God were wrestling with grief and uncertainty. Yet in the middle of that sorrow comes a remarkable declaration: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, and His mercies are new every morning. Even in the darkest moments, God's faithfulness continues to meet His people day after day. The rhythm of mercy becomes the rhythm of hope.

John's Gospel begins in a similar way. Instead of presenting faith as a sudden moment of clarity, John shows us people encountering Jesus in ordinary moments. Two disciples hear John the Baptist speak and begin following Christ. They are not yet certain of everything they believe. They are simply curious enough to come closer. The story reminds us that faith often begins quietly, with a willingness to take a small step toward Jesus. Each new day brings another opportunity to respond to His invitation.

QUESTIONS

- Where have you experienced God's mercy meeting you in a new way recently?
- What small step toward Jesus might today represent in your spiritual journey?

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026

Listening to Voices That Point to Jesus

READ

John 1:35–37; John 1:19–29; Malachi 3:1; Hebrews 12:1–2; Proverbs 13:20

REFLECT

One of the most striking aspects of John the Baptist's ministry is his willingness to redirect attention away from himself. When his own disciples are standing nearby, he points to Jesus and declares, "Look, the Lamb of God." In that moment John models humility and clarity. His role is not to gather followers for himself but to point people toward Christ. True spiritual leadership always directs people toward Jesus rather than toward personal recognition.

Throughout Scripture, God often uses people as signposts to guide others toward Him. Andrew brings Peter. Philip brings Nathanael. The Christian life is deeply relational. Our faith is strengthened and clarified through the influence of those who encourage us to seek Christ more fully. Listening to the voices that point us toward Jesus can become one of the most important influences in our spiritual growth.

QUESTIONS

- Who in your life consistently encourages you to move closer to Jesus?
- How does God want to use your own life to point someone else toward Christ?

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

Curiosity That Leads to Faith

READ

John 1:38–42; Psalm 34:8; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 7:7–8; Acts 17:27

REFLECT

“When Jesus first interacts with the disciples, He asks a simple but profound question: “What do you want?” Instead of responding with a theological statement, they ask where He is staying. Their curiosity leads them to spend time with Him. Faith does not always begin with certainty. Often it begins with questions. A willingness to explore who Jesus is can become the doorway to a deeper relationship with Him.

The Scriptures consistently affirm that those who genuinely seek God will find Him. Curiosity is not the enemy of faith. In many cases it is the beginning of faith. Questions about Jesus, the Bible, or the meaning of life can become invitations to discover the truth more deeply. As we pursue those questions honestly, we often discover that Christ has been inviting us closer all along.

QUESTIONS

- What questions about faith or Jesus have shaped your spiritual journey?
- How can your curiosity about Christ become an opportunity to grow closer to Him?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

When Jesus Finds Us

READ

John 1:43–46; Genesis 28:10–17; Psalm 139:1–12; Luke 19:1–10; Ephesians 2:1–10

REFLECT

When Jesus meets Nathanael, the encounter reveals something surprising. Before Nathanael ever approached Jesus, Jesus had already seen him. The statement about the fig tree suggests that Christ was aware of Nathanael in a moment of quiet reflection and prayer. This revelation transforms Nathanael's skepticism into belief. The story reminds us that our pursuit of God often begins with the realization that God has already been pursuing us.

Throughout Scripture we see this pattern repeated. God calls Abraham, finds Moses in the wilderness, and meets Zacchaeus in a tree. The initiative belongs to Him. The same is true today. Our search for meaning, purpose, or truth often leads us to discover that God has been at work long before we recognized His presence. The awareness that Christ sees and knows us fully can become a powerful turning point in our faith.

QUESTIONS

- When have you sensed that God was at work in your life before you realized it?
- How does the knowledge that Christ sees and knows you affect the way you approach Him?

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

From Skepticism to Confidence

READ

John 1:47-49; Isaiah 55:8-9; James 1:5; Mark 9:24; 1 Peter 3:15

REFLECT

Nathanael begins his encounter with Jesus in skepticism. His comment about Nazareth reflects doubt and hesitation. Yet his skepticism does not prevent him from encountering Christ. When Jesus reveals His knowledge of Nathanael's private moment under the fig tree, doubt begins to dissolve. Nathanael's questions are replaced by a confession of faith as he recognizes Jesus as the Son of God.

Many believers experience a similar journey. Questions and doubts are not unusual in the life of faith. When those questions are brought honestly before God, they can become opportunities for deeper understanding. The transformation from skepticism to confidence does not happen instantly. It often unfolds through continued encounters with Christ, through Scripture, and through the work of the Holy Spirit.

QUESTIONS

- What doubts or questions have shaped your understanding of faith?
- How might bringing those questions to God deepen your trust in Him?

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

Obedience Before Understanding

READ

John 2:1–8; Proverbs 3:5–6; Ecclesiastes 11:4–6; Luke 11:28; James 1:22–25

REFLECT

“At the wedding in Cana, Mary gives a simple instruction to the servants: “Do whatever he tells you.” At that moment the servants have no idea what Jesus is about to do. They are simply asked to obey. They fill the jars with water and follow His instructions step by step. Their obedience creates the context in which the miracle unfolds. The transformation from water to wine happens after they act on Jesus’ words.

The same principle applies in the life of faith. Often we want understanding before obedience. Yet many of God’s greatest works unfold when people choose to trust Him first. Obedience opens the door for transformation. As we follow Christ’s guidance, even when we do not fully understand the outcome, we discover His power at work in unexpected ways.

QUESTIONS

- Where might Jesus be inviting you to trust Him through obedience right now?
- How have past acts of obedience led to growth in your faith?

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

Joy at the Wedding Feast

READ

John 2:9–11; Amos 9:13–15; Isaiah 25:6–9; Revelation 19:6–9; John 15:9–11

REFLECT

When the master of the banquet tastes the wine Jesus created, he declares that it is the best wine of the entire celebration. This moment is more than a miracle. It is a sign pointing to the nature of the kingdom of God. Throughout the Old Testament, the coming reign of God is described as a time of overflowing joy and abundance. Amos speaks of mountains dripping with sweet wine. Isaiah describes a great feast prepared by the Lord.

The miracle at Cana becomes a preview of that future celebration. It reminds us that the story of redemption ultimately leads to joy, restoration, and fellowship with God. Revelation describes this future as a wedding feast where Christ and His people are united forever. The transformation that begins quietly in our lives today is moving toward a day when joy will be complete.

QUESTIONS

- How does the promise of God's coming kingdom shape your perspective on today's struggles?
- In what ways have you experienced the joy that comes from following Jesus?



the
gospel
of

JOHN

part one:
*who is
Jesus?*

WEEK SEVEN READING PLAN

CHANGE OF VENUE

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026
THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

JOHN 2:22

JOHN 2:22
**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**
JOHN 2:22

*Then they believed the
scripture and the words
that Jesus had spoken.*

JOHN 2:22

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this
verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it
true in you, not merely known by you.



the
gospel
of

JOHN

who is Jesus?

WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 21 2026

CHANGE OF VENUE

In John 2:12–25, Jesus enters the temple courts and disrupts what had become a system of religious routine. What should have been a place of worship had become a place of transaction. Instead of helping people draw near to God, the temple activity was creating distance between people and the very God it was meant to house. Jesus' strong response reveals something important about the heart of God: God cares deeply about genuine worship and authentic relationship.

But this moment is about more than correcting corruption. Jesus is also announcing a profound shift in how humanity encounters God. For generations, the temple had been the place people traveled to in order to meet God. Yet Jesus declares that the true meeting place between God and humanity is no longer a building. It is Himself. The incarnation means that God has come near. In Christ, the distance between heaven and earth has begun to close.

The passage ends with a sobering insight. Many people believed in Jesus because of the signs they saw, yet Jesus knew what was in their hearts. Admiration alone is not the same as allegiance. The question confronting every reader of John's Gospel is not merely whether we are impressed by Jesus, but whether we will truly follow Him. This week invites us to examine where we are seeking God, how we are approaching Him, and whether we are allowing Jesus to lead our lives.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

When Worship Becomes Routine

READ

John 2:13–17; Psalm 69:9; Isaiah 29:13; Matthew 15:8–9; Amos 5:21–24

REFLECT

The scene in the temple reveals how easily religious activities can drift away from its original purpose. The temple courts were meant to help people worship and offer sacrifices to God. Yet over time, systems developed that prioritized efficiency, commerce, and convenience. What began as something helpful eventually became something harmful. Jesus' reaction is not a moment of unhinged anger. It is grief over the way people had subverted true worship.

This tension continues today. Faith can slowly become a collection of habits, routines, or external behaviors rather than a living relationship with God. It is possible to attend services, sing songs, and participate in spiritual practices while our hearts remain distant from the God those practices are meant to point us toward. Jesus' actions remind us that God desires more than ritual; He desires relationship.

QUESTIONS

- Where might faith in your life have become routine rather than relational?
- What practices could help renew your sense of genuine connection with God?

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

Zeal for God's Presence

READ

John 2:15-17; Psalm 69:7-9; Malachi 3:1-3; Luke 19:41-44; Jeremiah 7:9-11

REFLECT

John tells us that the disciples later connected Jesus' actions in the temple with Psalm 69:9: "Zeal for your house will consume me." This verse reveals that Jesus' intensity came from deep love for the Father and concern for the integrity of worship. His actions were not driven by rage but by a passion to restore the temple to its intended purpose.

Luke's account adds another dimension. Before confronting the corruption of Jerusalem's religious system, Jesus wept over the city. His grief shows that divine zeal is never detached from compassion. God's heart is not to condemn people but to restore them. Jesus confronts what is broken because He longs to bring people back into genuine relationship with God.

QUESTIONS

- What does Jesus' passion for true worship reveal about the heart of God?
- How can you cultivate a deeper love for God's presence in your life?

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

A New Meeting Place

READ

John 2:18–21; John 1:14; Exodus 25:8; 1 Kings 8:10–13; Hebrews 9:11–12

REFLECT

When religious leaders ask Jesus to explain His authority, He responds with a mysterious statement about destroying the temple and raising it again in three days. John later clarifies that Jesus was speaking about His body. The temple had long represented the place where God's presence dwelled among His people. But Jesus was declaring that He Himself would become the new and ultimate meeting place between God and humanity.

This claim echoes the opening of John's Gospel, which says the Word became flesh and "dwelt" among us. The language intentionally recalls the tabernacle where God's presence once rested. Through Jesus, God has come near in a way the temple only foreshadowed. Instead of traveling to a building to encounter God, people can now encounter God directly through Christ.

QUESTIONS

- How does Jesus' claim to replace the temple change the way we think about worship?
- What does it mean for you personally that God has come near through Jesus?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

God Draws Near

READ

John 1:14; Colossians 1:15–20; Hebrews 1:1–3; Philippians 2:6–8; John 14:6–9

REFLECT

The incarnation is one of the most profound truths in Scripture. In Jesus, God does not remain distant or abstract. He steps into human history, takes on flesh, and lives among us. This is the ultimate demonstration that God desires relationship with His creation. The distance created by sin is not ignored. It is addressed through the presence and mission of Christ.

Because Jesus reveals the Father, knowing Him becomes the pathway to knowing God. Worship, prayer, and spiritual practices are no longer about finding a location where God might appear. Instead, they are centered on responding to the Person who has already come near. The invitation of the Gospel is not simply to believe that God exists but to know Him through Jesus.

QUESTIONS

- How does the incarnation shape your understanding of who God is?
- What practices help you remain aware of Christ's presence in your daily life?

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

Admiration of Allegiance

READ

John 2:23–25; Matthew 7:21–23; James 2:14–17; Luke 6:46–49; 1 Timothy 2:19

REFLECT

The closing verses of John 2 introduce a sobering insight. Many people believed in Jesus because they saw the miracles He performed. Yet John tells us that Jesus did not entrust Himself to them because He knew what was in their hearts. This moment reveals the difference between superficial belief and genuine discipleship. Admiration can be based on excitement, curiosity, or fascination with what Jesus can do.

True faith, however, involves allegiance. It means trusting Jesus not only for His blessing but also for His leadership in our lives. The apostle Paul later echoes this truth when he writes that the Lord knows those who truly belong to Him. Authentic faith is not measured merely by enthusiasm but by the willingness to follow Christ with our lives.

QUESTIONS

- How can admiration for Jesus differ from genuine commitment to Him?
- What would deeper allegiance to Christ look like in your life today?

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

Following Jesus

READ

John 2:1-8; Proverbs 3:5-6; Ecclesiastes 11:4-6; Luke 11:28; James 1:22-25

REFLECT

Following Jesus involves more than believing certain truths about Him. It means entrusting our lives to Him and allowing His teaching to shape our decisions, priorities, and identity. Jesus describes His followers as those who hear His voice and follow Him. This relationship involves trust, obedience, and ongoing transformation.

The call to follow Jesus is both challenging and life-changing. It requires surrendering control and allowing Christ to lead. Yet, it also brings freedom and purpose. When we align our lives with Him, we begin to experience the life God originally intended for us; a life shaped by grace, truth, and the transforming presence of Christ.

QUESTIONS

- In what ways is Jesus currently inviting you to follow Him more closely?
- What step of obedience might God be asking you to take this week?

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

Drawing Near to God

READ

John 15:1-11; Hebrews 10:19-23; Psalm 16:8-11; James 4:8; Revelation 21:22-23

REFLECT

Because of Jesus, the way to God is open to us. Hebrews reminds us that through Christ we have confidence to enter God's presence. This access is not based on our performance or religious activity but on what Jesus has accomplished. The barriers that once separated humanity from God have been removed through His life, death, and resurrection.

Scripture ultimately points toward a future where God's presence fills all things. Revelation describes a new creation where no temple is needed because the Lord Himself is the temple. The story that began with God walking with humanity in the garden will end with God dwelling fully among His people. Until that day, believers are invited to live in daily awareness of God's presence and to draw near through Christ.

QUESTIONS

- How does knowing you have direct access to God through Jesus impact your daily life?
- What practices help you draw near to God and remain aware of His presence throughout the day?