



THE BOOK OF JOHN:

# ABUNDANT LIFE

NAME:

# YOUR TIME WITH JESUS

Something you will hear about often during Youth Group is “doing a quiet time”. This phrase gets thrown around a lot, and it is just assumed that everyone knows what it means and how to do it. But if you are similar to how I was when I was younger, I was always kind of curious what to do and also not very confident I was doing it right. While there isn’t one right way to spend time with Jesus, there are some pieces that should be in a quiet time no matter what. What is laid out below is a simple way to do a quiet time, and it will only take you 20 minutes! You can do aspects for longer or shorter, but this is a great starting point and how I like to do my quiet times!

## **Outline of How to Do a Quiet Time**

1. Journal (3 minutes)
  - 2 Personal Requests (Whatever is heavy on your heart, finances, relationships, etc.)
  - 2 Requests for other people (Friend in hospital, new baby born)
  - 2 Unsaved people to pray for (Write down their names)
2. Pray through your journaled requests (3 minutes)
3. Pray specifically for your time reading the Word (1 minute)
4. Read the passage slowly and carefully and look for something specific that stands out (7 minutes)
5. Pick one of the methods of meditation and use it on the verse you picked out (5 minutes)
  - You can try a couple methods if you have time, try and find one you like!
6. Close out in prayer, thanking the Lord for what he showed you! (1 minute)

## **Methods of Meditation for step 5 from above (Pick one or 2 that you like!)**

- Emphasize Different Words in the Text
- Rewrite the Text in Your Own Words
- Formulate a Principle From the Text- What does it teach?
- Think of an Illustration from the text- What picture explains it
- Look for Applications of the Text
- Ask How the Text Points to the Law or the Gospel
- Ask How the Text Points to Something About Jesus
- Ask What Question is Answered or What Problem is Solved by the Text
- Pray Through the Text
- Memorize the Text
- Create an Artistic Expression of the Text
- Set and Discover a Minimum Number of Insights from the Text
- Find a link or Common Thread Between all the Paragraphs or Chapters you Read
- Ask How the Text Speaks to your Current Issue or Question

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE WORD

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

## JOHN 1:1-8

[1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. [4] In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. [6] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7] He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. [8] He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose (look for a "so that...") and what is the goal (look for a "and that by...") of John writing this book (answer in John 20:31)?
2. In v. 1, John writes that before the world was created, Jesus was with God and that Jesus is God. How can this be?
3. What did Jesus create (v. 3)? What does it mean that Jesus is the light (v. 4-5)?
4. What do these 8 verses tell us about Jesus?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

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## Thursday, September 4 (Psalm 141)

Q: As we start the Youth Group year, what are you most looking forward to?

## Friday, September 5 (Psalm 140)

Q: What is a way God can deliver you from difficulties in your life?

## Saturday, September 6 (Psalm 139)

Q: Verse 14 says that you are fearfully and wonderfully made. How does it make you feel to know God knew you even when you were in your mom's womb? What does this say about your worth and value?

## Sunday, September 7 (Psalm 138)

Q: In verse 3, David remembers a time where God answered his prayer. What is something that you have prayed for and seen God answer?

## Monday, September 8 (Psalm 137)

Q: Recalling what had happened to them, the Jews wept. Is there anything wrong with crying? (Hint look to John 11:35) What breaks your heart today?

## Tuesday, September 9 (Psalm 136)

Q: Giving thanks to the Lord is something that we may forget, but it should be something we always are doing. What are 5 things you are thankful for? Pray and thank the Lord for them now.

## Wednesday, September 10 (Psalm 135)

Q: What are 3 ways that God has shown His greatness that this Psalm documents? (v.5-12)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS BECAME HUMAN

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

## JOHN 1:9-18

[9] The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. [10] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. [11] He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. [12] But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, [13] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. [14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. [15] (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") [16] For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. [17] For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. [18] No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. How does someone become a child of God according to v.12?
2. Verse 13 says that just because you were born to parents who claim to be Christians, or you grew up going to church, or because you do some Christian-ish kind of things—none of those things make you a child of God. Who is responsible for making someone a child of God (v.13)?
3. What is the difference between the law coming through Moses, and grace and truth coming through Jesus (v.16)?
4. John tells us that the people He came to save—for the most part—rejected Jesus (v.11). Have you ever felt lonely, rejected, or isolated? How does what Jesus experienced connect to you?

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## Thursday, September 11 (Psalm 134)

Q: In Psalms we hear the phrase "bless the Lord" often. What does that mean? You can use google or text a leader if you want!

## Friday, September 12 (Psalm 133)

Q: What makes being together with other Christians so great? Think about Fort, or even the Ripley overnight. What makes it so special?

## Saturday, September 13 (Psalm 132)

Q: In verse 11, the Lord made a promise to David, and He stayed true to His Word. What are three promises that God has made to every Christian?

## Sunday, September 14 (Psalm 131)

Q: The hardest question that Christians have to answer is why God allows evil. How can this Psalm give us some good ground to start on?

## Monday, September 15 (Psalm 130)

Q: If you tried to count how many sins you have done this week, how many would you guess you have done? If God counted all of the sin of your life, how many would He count? What is the good news despite all of our sin? (V.3-4)

## Tuesday, September 16 (Psalm 129)

Q: Who is someone who has afflicted you in your life? Can they win against you if God is on your side?

## Wednesday, September 17 (Psalm 128)

Q: What does it mean to be blessed? If you are a Christian, are you blessed? Why?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS TAKES AWAY SIN

SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

## JOHN 1:19-34

[19] And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" [20] He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." [21] And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." [22] So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" [23] He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." [24] (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) [25] They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" [26] John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, [27] even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." [28] These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. [29] The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! [30] This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' [31] I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." [32] And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. [33] I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' [34] And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. Only the lowest of slaves would untie people's sandals, so what does John the Baptist mean in v. 26-27?
2. In v. 29, John calls Jesus the 'Lamb of God'. Why would John call Jesus that?
3. In v. 32-33, John talks about when he baptized Jesus. Read Matthew 3:13-17 and describe here what happened:
4. John testifies that he saw supernatural miracles at Jesus' baptism (v. 33-34)--so he knows that Jesus is God. Have you seen anything in your life that would show that Jesus is God?

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## Thursday, September 18 (Psalm 127)

Q: What is an example of something that we can do as Christians, even something good, that will be meaningless if God does not bless it? (v.1)

## Friday, September 19 (Psalm 126)

Q: What are 3 great things you have seen God do recently? (v.3)

## Saturday, September 20 (Psalm 125)

Q: Why are we so secure if we trust the Lord? What confidence can we have that we are ultimately safe and secure?

## Sunday, September 21 (Psalm 124)

Q: The Lord protects us from things that would destroy us. What is something in your life that God has rescued you from that would have destroyed you?

## Monday, September 22 (Psalm 123)

Q: What is mercy? (v.3)

## Tuesday, September 23 (Psalm 122)

Q: David was excited to go to the Tabernacle and worship. What are 3 things you enjoy about coming to RBC?

## Wednesday, September 24 (Psalm 121)

Q: This is a famous Psalm, and it is a part of a catchy song by Casting Crowns. Look up "Praise you in this Storm" by Casting Crowns and worship as you listen to it.

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE LAMB OF GOD

OCTOBER 1, 2025

## JOHN 1:35-51

[35] The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, [36] and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" [37] The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. [38] Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" [39] He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. [40] One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. [41] He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). [42] He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

[43] The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." [44] Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. [45] Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." [46] Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." [47] Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" [48] Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." [49] Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" [50] Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." [51] And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

## LESSON NOTES

### QUESTIONS

- 1, After John pointed Andrew to Jesus, what did Andrew do (v. 41-42)?
2. Unlike Andrew, many Christians today don't bring people to Jesus. What are some fears you have in bringing others to 'meet' Jesus?
3. In v. 45, Philip tells Nathanael that Jesus is the One that the Old Testament talked about. What do these verses say about Jesus?  
Psalm 132.11-  
Psalm 16.10-  
Isaiah 9.6-7-  
Isaiah 53.4-6-
4. In v. 51, Jesus promises to show Nathanael amazing things that reveal He is from God. Have you seen God do amazing things? What is one of them?

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## Thursday, September 25 (Psalm 120)

Q: People's speech can wound us like an arrow (v.4). When was the last time someone wounded you with their words? What impact did it have on you?

## Friday, September 26 (Psalm 119) (!)

Q: You get a day off from a question, but read the whole chapter—it's all about God's Word. It will take you some time!

## Saturday, September 27 (Psalm 118)

Q: How long does the Lord's steadfast love endure? Come up with an illustration for how long eternity is.

## Sunday, September 28 (Psalm 117)

Q: You read the longest psalm (119) and now you get to read the shortest. What are 5 countries that will have people in heaven someday that you will get to worship with?

## Monday, September 29 (Psalm 116)

Q: On average, about 150,000 people die each day worldwide. What does the Lord think about the death of his saints? (v.15)

## Tuesday, September 30 (Psalm 115)

Q: We are tempted to take glory for ourselves, even though all of it should go to the Lord. What is one way you are tempted to take glory for yourself? (v.1)

## Wednesday, October 1 (Psalm 114)

Q: What does a rock turning into water remind you of in the Old Testament? (v.8)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS TURNS WATER TO WINE

OCTOBER 8, 2025

## JOHN 2:1-12

[1] On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

[2] Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. [3] When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." [4] And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." [5] His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

[6] Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. [7] Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. [8] And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. [9] When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom [10] and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." [11] This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him. [12] After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. Why does Jesus turn the water to wine?
2. Jesus gently rebukes His mother that "His hour has not yet come." What does this mean? Look up these verses from John to help answer that: John 4:23, 7:30, 8:20, 12:23, 12:27, 13:1, 17:1.
3. The instructions in v.5 that Mary gave to the servants are some of the best directions ever given. What is the application of this in your own life?
4. This miracle also serves as a spiritual picture. Many of us try to find joy and happiness in this life—but like the hosts in John 2—we run empty quickly. Jesus offers us Himself (the better 'wine') for our emptiness. How do you experience the goodness of Jesus in your life vs the emptiness of this world?

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## Thursday--October 2-Psalm 113

Q: The rising sun to the setting sun symbolizes the full day. Is there a time where the Lord shouldn't be praised? (v.3) Why?

## Friday, October 3 (Psalm 112)

Q: Verse 7 describes someone who receives bad news but stands firm in the Lord. Who is someone you have seen model this in your life? (v.6-8) How did they do that?

## Saturday, October 4 (Psalm 111)

Q: The Lord provides even things we take for granted, like food. What is your favorite food to eat? Thank the Lord that he has allowed for you to eat this food.

## Sunday, October 5 (Psalm 110)

Q: Who is someone you know who changes their mind often? Maybe they will flake on plans or they just can't be counted on? How is the Lord different? (v.4)

## Monday, October 6 (Psalm 109)

Q: What does David do when people attack and hate him? (v.4) What is your first response when people wrong you or speak about you behind your back?

## Tuesday, October 7 (Psalm 108)

Q: How high do you think the clouds are in the air from the ground? Take a guess, write it down, and then google how high the clouds are. David writes that God's steadfast love is even higher than this—an illustration of the limitless love of God.

## Wednesday, October 8 (Psalm 107)

Q: This psalm has 4 situations that are bad and dangerous (v.4-9, v.10-16, v.17-22, v.23-32). What are they, and what happens after the Psalmist asks God for deliverance?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS CLEANS HOUSE

OCTOBER 15, 2025

## JOHN 2:13-25

[13] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. [14] In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. [15] And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. [16] And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." [17] His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." [18] So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" [19] Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." [20] The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" [21] But he was speaking about the temple of his body. [22] When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. [23] Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. [24] But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people [25] and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus had a zeal and passion for God and His glory that drove Him to take radical steps. What radical thing did He do in this story? Why did He do it?
2. The Jews were angry at Jesus for this and demanded a miracle to be done to prove that Jesus had the authority to clear the Temple. Jesus said He'd rebuild the Temple in 3 days. What did He mean (v. 22-23). Maybe you want God to give you a sign to show you that He is real—but what sign has God given you (Acts 17:30-31)?
3. Jesus knows what is in your heart. We can be fake (even around our friends and family)—yet Jesus truly knows what is in us (v. 23-25). Does this scare you? Why?
4. We don't get to worship God however we want. We worship God on His terms—the way He says. If we don't, it's not real worship. The moneychangers' worship was blocked by animals and coins—but what blocks the true worship of God in your life and heart?

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## Thursday, October 9 (Psalm 106)

Q: Write down the many ways this psalm lists in how God's people failed to obey. Yet, the people's sin isn't the end of the story—what is (v. 44-45)?

## Friday, October 10 (Psalm 105)

Q: Throughout our countdown, there will be days that instead of answering a question, your task will be to pray through the Psalm. It may seem challenging, but it is actually very easy! After you read a verse, pause and pray whatever comes to your mind. This can be anything, and after you pray through whatever comes to mind, go to the next verse. Sometimes you will just pray exactly what it says, and other times it will remind you to pray for something else. Text Caleb if you have questions and he can help you get better at this! For today, practice praying through the first 5 verses.

## Saturday, October 11 (Psalm 104)

Q: Verse 34 talks about what you meditate on—our what you dwell on, daydream about, or where your mind goes when it wanders. What do you often think about? Is it pleasing to the Lord? How can it be?

## Sunday, October 12 (Psalm 103)

Q: Verse 8 reminds me of exodus 34, and then looking forward it reminds me of Jonah chapter 4. Pick one of those chapters and flip to it and read it.

## Monday, October 13 (Psalm 102)

Q: How are humans like grass? (v.11) Come up with 3 ways we are similar.

## Tuesday, October 14 (Psalm 101)

Q: How seriously does God take slander? (v.5) When was the last time you slandered someone? Do you need to make things right?

## Wednesday, October 15 (Psalm 100)

Q: Pray through this Psalm today. It is a short one, and it is good practice!

# ABUNDANT LIFE: YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

OCTOBER 22, 2025

## JOHN 3:1-15

[1] Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. [2] This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." [3] Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." [4] Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" [5] Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. [6] That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [7] Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' [8] The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

[9] Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" [10] Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? [11] Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. [12] If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? [13] No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. [14] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, [15] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. Nicodemus' position as a ruler of the Jews is the equivalent of a Senator in America today. Yet, when did he come talk to Jesus? Why?
2. What is the absolute requirement of everyone to enter heaven (v.3)? Has this happened to you? When?
3. Jesus further breaks down what it means to be born again by saying that you must be born of "water and of the Spirit" (v.5). What does that mean (see Ezekiel 36:25-27)?
4. Numbers 21:4-9 gives the background to v.14. What is the connection between the snake from Numbers and Jesus?

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## Thursday, October 16 (Psalm 99)

Q: What is justice? If you were to put it into a sentence, what does someone who practices justice do?

## Friday, October 17 (Psalm 98)

Q: How do you feel about singing on a Sunday morning or a Wednesday night? How should you feel about it? (v.4)

## Saturday, October 18 (Psalm 97)

Q: What are some examples of idols that people in your schools worship? These aren't literal statues, but what are things that people functionally treat as idols?

## Sunday, October 19 (Psalm 96)

Q: Do you ever do family worship (v.7)? Is this something you could possibly start with your family? Why or why not?

## Monday, October 20 (Psalm 95)

Q: When was the last time you went to your knees to talk to the Lord in prayer? What does going to your knees symbolize? (v.6)

## Tuesday, October 21 (Psalm 94)

Q: Who is the smartest person you know? What makes them so smart? Who ultimately taught them all that they know? (v.10)

## Wednesday, October 22-Psalm 93

Q: Pray through this Psalm! Worship God in this psalm as you pray.

# ABUNDANT LIFE: LIFE IS FOUND BY BELIEVING IN JESUS

OCTOBER 29, 2025

## JOHN 3:16-21

[16] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. [18] Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. [19] And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. [20] For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. [21] But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. Why do some people consider John 3:16 to be the greatest verse in the Bible? Why is God gracious to give people a way to heaven at all?
2. Until Jesus comes back again, what is He here to do (v.17)? When Jesus returns to earth, what will He be here to do (v.17)?
3. In verse 19, we see that light has come into the world. This refers to Jesus, but rather than loving the Light (Jesus), people loved darkness instead. This means they would rather have their sin than come to Jesus. Have you ever avoided Jesus because of your sin, or the shame and guilt you feel from it? Do you know anyone who has preferred to stay in darkness because of their sin, and as a result they avoid church and youth group?
4. Jesus says that His followers live in the light, v. 21. This doesn't mean every Christian is perfect, but that Christians are people who are honest and open about sin (they don't hide it) and they confess and repent and then obey. In short, they truly talk about Jesus and love to obey Jesus. Does this sound like you-why or why not?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

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## Thursday, October 23 (Psalm 92)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this Psalm? Use one of the methods of meditation (from the back of this booklet), and meditate on a verse.

## Friday, October 24 (Psalm 91)

Q: Do you ever think about angels and demons? Do you think there is a spiritual battle going on that you can't see? Why or why not? (v.11)

## Saturday, October 25 (Psalm 90)

Q: How would numbering your days lead to a heart of wisdom? Use a calculator and try to figure out how many days old you are. Then, give an example of how this perspective gives you wisdom (v.12).

## Sunday, October 26 (Psalm 89)

Q: List 5 of the most random items you can think of in the world. Does God own these things? (v.11)

## Monday, October 27 (Psalm 88)

Q: What is a time in life you were really down? Maybe something bad happened, or you just were in sin, but describe that time. What helped pull you out of it? What is the psalmist depending on? (v.1-2)

## Tuesday, October 28 (Psalm 87)

Q: How many people do you think are born every day? Write down your guess and then google it. How many of the people born every day does God know?

## Wednesday, October 29 (Psalm 86)

Q: What are 3 ways that you specifically can glorify the Lord with your life? (v.12)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS MUST INCREASE, I MUST DECREASE

NOVEMBER 5, 2025

## JOHN 3:22-36

[22] After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. [23] John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized [24] (for John had not yet been put in prison).

[25] Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. [26] And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." [27] John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. [28] You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' [29] The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. [30] He must increase, but I must decrease."

[31] He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. [32] He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. [33] Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. [34] For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. [35] The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. [36] Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why are John the Baptist's disciples jealous of Jesus (v. 26)? What is an example of you personally struggling with jealousy?
2. John completely trusts God's sovereignty (v. 27)--John knows he deserves nothing good in his life. When we think we deserve things in life--and then we don't get them--we are bitter, complaining, angry, and proud. On a scale of 1-10, how happy are you when bad things happen, because you know God is in control?
3. John says in v. 30: "He (Jesus) must increase, but I must decrease." In what areas of your life does Jesus need to increase and you need to decrease?
4. At the time of this happening, John was one of the most popular people in the whole country. Yet, at this point in the story, his fame is slipping away--because people are going to Jesus. For John, though, in good times and bad times--John finds contentment in Jesus alone. What makes you discontent? How do you find contentment in Jesus?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

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## Thursday, October 30 (Psalm 85)

Q: Write down 3 sins that you are the most ashamed of. After you have done this, cross them off and thank God that you are forgiven and these sins are covered! (v. 2)

## Friday, October 31 (Psalm 84)

Q: Pray this Psalm! Pray especially v. 10--that you would want to serve and live for God, rather than enjoy the best that this world has to offer.

## Saturday, November 1 (Psalm 83)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this Psalm? Meditate on a verse with a method in the back of the booklet.

## Sunday, November 2 (Psalm 82)

Q: Who is someone who doesn't have an earthly father? Maybe their dad passed away, or he left. Pray for that person right now (v.3)

## Monday, November 3 (Psalm 81)

Q: What is your favorite instrument that is a part of our singing time at church?

## Tuesday, November 4 (Psalm 80)

Q: How did God deliver Israel out of Egypt? What were some of the major events that took place? (v.8) (The Vine refers to Egypt in that verse.)

## Wednesday, November 5 (Psalm 79)

Q: Sometimes we can have shame, even after God has saved us and forgiven us. We can remember what we have done, and Satan uses this to make us less effective for the kingdom. Does God hold your sin against you if you have trusted in Christ? (v.8)

# JESUS OFFERS LIVING WATER

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

## JOHN 4:1-45

[1] Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John [2] (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), [3] he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. [4] And he had to pass through Samaria. [5] So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. [6] Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. [7] A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." [8] (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) [9] The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) [10] Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." [11] The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? [12] Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." [13] Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, [14] but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." [15] The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." [16] Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." [17] The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; [18] for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." [19] The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. [20] Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." [21] Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. [22] You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. [23] But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. [24] God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." [25] The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." [26] Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." [27] Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" [28] So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, [29] "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" [30] They went out of the town and were coming to him. [31] Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." [32] But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." [33] So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" [34] Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. [35] Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. [36] Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. [37] For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' [38] I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." [39] Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." [40] So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. [41] And many more believed because of his word. [42] They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." [43] After the two days he departed for Galilee. [44] (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) [45] So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

## QUESTIONS

1. What does Jesus teach us about racial and cultural differences we have with people (v. 8-10? How does the gospel make a difference?
2. Jesus often uses earthly examples to teach spiritual truth. Verse 14 is an example of this. What is Jesus teaching in this verse?
3. This woman tried to find happiness in relationships (v. 17-18). But nothing truly satisfies our souls except Jesus. What other things are you tempted to try to satisfy your soul with? How come only Jesus can truly satisfy?

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## Thursday, November 6 (Psalm 78)

Q: It is the job of the older generation (v.4) to tell about God's greatness and His goodness to the generation that is younger than them. Who are you thankful for who is 10-30 years older than you for teaching you about Jesus? How can you begin to tell the generation younger than you about God's greatness and goodness?

## Friday, November 7 (Psalm 77)

Q: Will God ever run out of compassion for his people (v.8)? How should this make us act towards those who are needy or less fortunate than us?

## Saturday, November 8 (Psalm 76)

Q: What are 2 examples in the Bible where God has shown His power? Is it appropriate to be afraid of God if you are His enemy? (v.7)

## Sunday, November 9 (Psalm 75)

Q: Verse 1 talks about 'recounting' what God has done. List 10 great things God has done that you have seen Him do in 2025.

## Monday, November 10 (Psalm 74)

Q: What is a Leviathan? Google "leviathan" and "answers in genesis" for help.

## Tuesday, November 11 (Psalm 73)

Q: Walk through what is happening in this Psalm? Is he jealous of those who are prospering? What conclusion does he come to eventually?

## Wednesday, November 12 (Psalm 72)

Q: When there is not a good ruler in a land, there isn't peace. Why does a good ruler make sure that peace is in place, and without someone righteous in power things can go badly?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS' POWER OVER DISTANCE

NOVEMBER 19, 2025

## JOHN 4:46-54

[46] So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. [47] When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. [48] So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." [49] The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." [50] Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. [51] As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. [52] So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." [53] The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. [54] This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. What was the real reason this man came to Jesus (v.49)? Was he interested in believing in Jesus as the Messiah and having life in Jesus?
2. What was the response of Jesus (the most compassionate person who ever lived) to the man whose child was dying (v.48)? Why did Jesus respond like this?
3. What was the response of the official when Jesus wouldn't go with him, but promised that his son would live? What does this show? What was the official's response (v.53)?
4. A lot of us try to manipulate God. We want God to do stuff for us, so we come to Him. In this story, the man wanted his son healed and he was desperate-so he came to Jesus. Do you only come to Jesus when you are desperate? Or do you come to Him only when you want stuff? Or do you follow Him for a different reason? What is that?

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## Thursday, November 13 (Psalm 71)

Q: Can you be saved at a young age? Why or why not? (v.5)

## Friday, November 14 (Psalm 70)

Q: Pray through this psalm by bringing to God an area of need in your heart. Maybe it's a health issue, or a sin struggle (like anxiety or lust or revenge), or maybe it's a family or friend issue. Humble yourself and ask God to work-by praying through the psalm.

## Saturday, November 15 (Psalm 69)

Q: God doesn't answer our prayers because we are so smart and godly. Why does God hear us (v.16)?

## Sunday, November 16 (Psalm 68)

Q: It may feel like the Lord will always stay silent, but soon He will arise and destroy His enemies. What are 2 things you are looking forward to about there being no more enemies?

## Monday, November 17 (Psalm 67)

Q: Turn to Numbers 6:24-26. Bookmark it and read it before you go to bed tonight.

## Tuesday, November 18 (Psalm 66)

Q: How is silver tried? If you don't know, you can google it. How are we tried like silver? (v.10)

## Wednesday, November 19 (Psalm 65)

Q: Every day our sin stacks up (v.3). When our sin stacks up (if you are in Jesus), what does God do (v. 3)?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS' POWER OVER TIME

DECEMBER 3, 2025

## JOHN 5:1-24

[1] After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. [2] Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. [3] In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. [5] One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. [6] When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" [7] The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." [8] Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." [9] And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. [10] So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed." [11] But he answered them, "The man who healed me, that man said to me, 'Take up your bed, and walk.'" [12] They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk?'" [13] Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. [14] Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you." [15] The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. [16] And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. [17] But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." [18] This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. [19] So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. [20] For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. [21] For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. [22] For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, [23] that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. [24] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."

## QUESTIONS

1. John heals a man on the Sabbath and tells him to carry his bed. Nowhere in the Bible does it say, "don't carry your bed." The religious leaders had added that law. They were so caught up in the breaking of their man-made law, they missed God's miracle. Do you ever fail to see God working in people's lives because you are so focused on how irritated you are or offended people don't do things your way?
2. Jesus finds this man again & warns him about his bigger problem (v. 14). Yes, this man was paralyzed for 38 years, but that wasn't his biggest problem. His biggest problem was hell (if he didn't repent). Today, we pray for what concerns us most. What do most of your prayers look like? Are they earthly things (like being paralyzed) or eternal things (like the state of souls)?
3. Anyone can come to youth group and say that Jesus is great when things are going well, but when life gets hard and we want to fit in, do we still love Jesus? This man folded (v. 15)--even though Jesus healed him! What kind of witness are you?
4. John 5:18 is a powerful verse--an important verse for Christians. Why is this verse important? What does it mean for you, even today?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



## Thursday, November 20 (Psalm 64)

Q: Why is the heart of man deep? Are we complex or simple in our sin? Explain.

## Friday, November 21 (Psalm 63)

Q: How does David describe his desire for God (v.1)? Does that sound like you? Pray for more of that?

## Saturday, November 22 (Psalm 62)

Q: Live out verse 8 today--pour out all that is in your heart to God in prayer right now. Pray until you feel like you've brought everything in your heart to Him.

## Sunday, November 23 (Psalm 61)

Q: It can sometimes feel like the Lord isn't listening to us when we pray to Him, but He is if we are one of His children. Take some time now to talk to the Lord, knowing He hears your prayers.

## Monday, November 24 (Psalm 60)

Q: Look up a video of an earthquake. Who makes the earth shake--and what does show about God? (v.2)

## Tuesday, November 25 (Psalm 59)

Q: It is God who shows us consistent love (v. 17). What are 4 ways you've seen God's love this week?

## Wednesday, November 26 (Psalm 58)

Q: The psalm starts by exposing our sinful heart motives. Ask God to change your motives today.

## Thursday, November 27 (Psalm 57)

Q: Think of the thing in life that brings you the most joy. Would you rather have that thing, or the steadfast love of God? Genuinely give an explanation.

## Friday, November 28 (Psalm 56)

Q: Text Abby or Bryce and ask them to share the song that goes with v.3-4.

## Saturday, November 29 (Psalm 55)

Q: When do you typically pray--morning or night? Pray at both times today like David (v.17).

## Sunday, November 30 (Psalm 54)

Q: What are 2 jobs that help people? How is God a helper in a similar but greater way?

## Monday, December 1 (Psalm 53)

Q: Why is it foolish to say that there is no God? Does this mean all atheists are intellectually dumb?

## Tuesday, December 2 (Psalm 52)

Q: Usually when we say "forever" we are exaggerating. Why is the forever in v.9 not an exaggeration?

## Wednesday, December 3 (Psalm 51)

Q: Pray this psalm as a confession for sin. Notice why/when David wrote this. Confess sin as you read it.

# ABUNDANT LIFE: THE BIBLE IS ALL ABOUT JESUS

DECEMBER 10, 2025

## JOHN 5:25-47

[25] "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. [26] For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. [27] And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. [28] Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice [29] and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

[30] "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. [31] If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. [32] There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. [33] You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. [34] Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. [35] He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. [36] But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me. [37] And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, [38] and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent. [39] You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, [40] yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. [41] I do not receive glory from people. [42] But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. [43] I have come in my Father's name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. [44] How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? [45] Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. [46] For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. [47] But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

## QUESTIONS

1. Verses 28-29 are a brief summary of the gospel. What are these verses teaching? What is the hope that is found in them?
2. What was the point of Jesus doing all the miracles and preaching and teaching (v. 34)?
3. All of us should be in God's Word every day. As we read/study/listen/meditate on God's Word, we look for Jesus at the center of it all (v. 39-40). How can you practically, actually, get into God's Word for the next 7 days?
4. Jesus then says that some people will not go to heaven because they care more about getting approval from people, then getting it from God (v. 44). What would this look like in someone's life (to care more about getting people's approval than God's)? Does this convict you? Why or why not?

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## Thursday, December 4 (Psalm 50)

Q: What are some things that a just judge will always do?

## Friday, December 5 (Psalm 49)

Q: Who is the most famous and proud person you know? Will their status and glory remain on the earth? (v.12)

## Saturday, December 6 (Psalm 48)

Q: Do you need guidance today (v.14)? What do you need guidance for: how to talk to a friend, for help in school, for help in making a decision? Ask God for guidance.

## Sunday, December 7 (Psalm 47)

Q: This whole Psalm seems to be loud as it rejoices in the facts of how great God is. Write down 3 ways we see God's greatness on display in this Psalm.

## Monday, December 8 (Psalm 46)

Q: When you are going through something that is really hard, this is a great psalm to remember. Pull out a pen and draw arrows in your Bible to remind yourself to come here when you need it.

## Tuesday, December 9 (Psalm 45)

Q: What would it look like if the opposite of v.7 was true? Imagine if America was like this. What would our country turn into?

## Wednesday, December 10 (Psalm 44)

Q: God knows every secret-every little thing we think and feel in our hearts (v.21). Pray and ask God to purify even the deepest parts of your heart and mind.

## BIBLE READING PLAN



### Thursday, December 11 (Psalm 43)

Q: When you are discouraged, depressed, or down, how can verse 5 be a chorus that you frequently remind yourself of?

### Friday, December 12 (Psalm 42)

Q: What does it mean for your soul to thirst after the Lord? How can this thirst be quenched? (v.1)

### Saturday, December 13 (Psalm 41)

Q: How are you at thinking about poor people and how you can help them? What does God think of those who help the poor? (v.1)

### Sunday, December 14 (Psalm 40)

Q: When was the last time you told someone about Jesus? (v.5) Was it recently? Why or why not?

### Monday, December 15 (Psalm 39)

Q: To try and keep your mouth closed doesn't really solve the issue. What is really controlling your speech? (v.2)

### Tuesday, December 16 (Psalm 38)

Q: Does v.18 reflect you when you sin? Why or why not?

### Wednesday, December 17 (Psalm 37)

Q: How have you seen anger in your life lead to bad decisions or things you regret? (v.8) Give an example of a time anger led to something you wish it would not have.

### Thursday, December 18 (Psalm 36)

Q: Verse 7-9 talks descriptively about God's love. Describe below how good it is to experience God's love.

### Friday, December 19 (Psalm 35)

Q: Is there anything in your life that you seem to keep asking God to help you with, but He still hasn't done what you think he should? (v.17)

### Saturday, December 20 (Psalm 34)

Q: Look up the song "Psalm 34" by the Brooklyn Tabernacle and the one by Shane & Shane and enjoy!

### Sunday, December 21 (Psalm 33)

Q: Have you ever looked out a plane window when you are in the air? What do the houses and cars look like? How does this compare to what God is doing when he looks on the earth? (v.13)

## BIBLE READING PLAN



### Monday, December 22 (Psalm 32)

Q: Does this Psalm describe you? Take some time now to confess your sin in whatever way you need to, and experience a renewal of your relationship with the Lord.

### Tuesday, December 23 (Psalm 31)

Q: What are some ways the Lord has shown incredible love to you? (v.23)

### Wednesday, December 24 (Psalm 30)

Q: The night is often darkest before dawn is a movie quote, but we see something similar here in the psalm (v.5). What does this verse mean?

### Thursday, December 25 (Psalm 29)

Q: Pray this Psalm as you worship God today.

### Friday, December 26 (Psalm 28)

Q: When was a time the Lord heard a prayer of yours and answered it? (v.6)

### Saturday, December 27 (Psalm 27)

Q: What is the one thing that David wants? Do you have any of these same feelings and desires he has? Why or why not? (v.4)

### Sunday, December 28 (Psalm 26)

Q: What does it mean to be vindicated? In what way would you like to be vindicated by the Lord?

### Monday, December 29 (Psalm 25)

Q: What is integrity (v. 21)? Would you say your life is marked by integrity? Why or why not?

### Tuesday, December 30 (Psalm 24)

Q: What is the answer to the question in v. 3?

### Wednesday, December 31 (Psalm 23)

Q: What is your favorite verse in this Psalm? Why?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS CAN DO ANYTHING

JANUARY 7, 2026

## JOHN 6:1-21

[1] After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. [2] And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. [3] Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. [4] Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. [5] Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" [6] He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. [7] Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little." [8] One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, [9] "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" [10] Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. [11] Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. [12] And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." [13] So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. [14] When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" [15] Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

[16] When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, [17] got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. [18] The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. [19] When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. [20] But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." [21] Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus is testing Philip (v.6) to see how Philip would react to the situation of trying to feed the 20,000 people. Jesus wants Philip to see his inability to do anything in the situation and to see his need for Jesus. Why is this important for Philip (and us) to learn?
2. In v.14, the people see the miracle Jesus did and are wowed by Him. In your life lately, what about Jesus has wowed you?
3. In walking on the water, what was Jesus showing His disciples (see Hebrews 1:3, Psalm 77:19)?
4. When we become Christians, our lives are often full of difficulties. Jesus gets us through the 'storm' with His presence. How has Jesus been a comfort to you in difficult times?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## NOTES

- This plan is a way for you to get into God's Word every day and spend time with Jesus
- You can use the breakdown on page 3 for how to do a quiet time
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## Thursday, January 1 (Psalm 22)

Q: Why does this Psalm sound familiar? Where have you heard it before? Who quotes it later in the Bible?

## Friday, January 2 (Psalm 21)

Q: Will any of God's enemies be able to escape his wrath? (v.8) How does this make you feel? Do you know people who are enemies of God?

## Saturday, January 3 (Psalm 20)

Q: What is something the world will tell you to put your trust in that may seem secure at first, but cannot be trusted in the long run? (v.7)

## Sunday, January 4 (Psalm 19)

Q: What is the most incredible thing you have ever seen in nature? How did it declare the glory of God to you?

## Monday, January 5 (Psalm 18)

Q: Pray through verse 2. Look at the different names for God and praise Him for each.

## Tuesday, January 6 (Psalm 17)

Q: What is one area of your speech that you struggle with? This could be lying, swearing, gossiping, etc.

## Wednesday, January 7 (Psalm 16)

Q: How can sorrows multiply? What would it look like for someone to have their sorrows multiply as they don't pursue the Lord? (v.4)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE BREAD OF LIFE

JANUARY 14, 2026

## READ JOHN 6:22-71

[22] On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. [23] Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. [24] So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. [25] When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" [26] Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. [27] Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." [28] Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" [29] Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." [30] So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" [31] Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" [32] Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. [33] For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." [34] They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." [35] Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. [36] But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. [37] All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. [38] For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. [39] And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. [40] For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." [41] So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." [42] They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" [43] Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. [44] No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. [45] It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—[46] not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. [47] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. [48] I am the bread of life. [49] Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. [50] This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. [51] I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." [52] The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" [53] So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. [54] Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. [55] For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. [56] Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. [57] As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. [58] This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." [59] Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum. [60] When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" [61] But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? [62] Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? [63] It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. [64] But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) [65] And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father." [66] After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. [67] So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" [68] Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, [69] and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God." [70] Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil." [71] He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why were the crowds seeking Jesus (v.25-26)? What did Jesus want them to seek (v.27)? What is the difference between food that perishes and food that endures (v.27)? What do you live for?
2. What does Jesus mean: He is the Bread of Life and we need to eat His flesh to have eternal life (v. 51)?
3. Peter says the only place he can go for life is to Jesus (v.68). Where do you go to find 'life'?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## NOTES

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## Thursday, January 8 (Psalm 15)

Q: What does it mean to slander (v.3)? What is the difference between slander and gossip? You can look up the difference if you need.

## Friday, January 9 (Psalm 14)

Q: Verse 3 talks about how every person who has ever lived has been bent towards sin—we all go away from God. What hope does humanity have (v.7)?

## Saturday, January 10 (Psalm 13)

Q: Listen to the song "How Long O Lord" by Sovereign Grace on Youtube and write down one that you liked from it.

## Sunday, January 11 (Psalm 12)

Q: Turn one of the verses into an illustration to help you remember it.

## Monday, January 12 (Psalm 11)

Q: One day, those who trust in Jesus will do what (v.7)?

## Tuesday, January 13 (Psalm 10)

Q: What does it mean for God to incline his ear? Is this a good or a bad thing if he is inclining his ear to you? (v.17)

## Wednesday, January 14 (Psalm 9)

Q: What are some good reminders for us about being human? Why should we remember that we are just humans? (v.20)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: COME TO JESUS AND DRINK

JANUARY 21, 2026

## READ JOHN 7:1-52

[1] After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. [2] Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. [3] So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. [4] For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." [5] For not even his brothers believed in him. [6] Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. [7] The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil. [8] You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come." [9] After saying this, he remained in Galilee. [10] But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. [11] The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, "Where is he?" [12] And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, "He is a good man," others said, "No, he is leading the people astray." [13] Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him. [14] About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. [15] The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?" [16] So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. [17] If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. [18] The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. [19] Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?" [20] The crowd answered, "You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?" [21] Jesus answered them, "I did one work, and you all marvel at it. [22] Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. [23] If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the Sabbath I made a man's whole body well? [24] Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment." [25] Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? [26] And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? [27] But we know where this man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." [28] So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. [29] I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." [30] So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. [31] Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?" [32] The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. [33] Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. [34] You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." [35] The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? [36] What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come?'" [37] On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. [38] Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" [39] Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. [40] When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet." [41] Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? [42] Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" [43] So there was a division among the people over him. [44] Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. [45] The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" [46] The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!" [47] The Pharisees answered them, "Have you also been deceived? [48] Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him? [49] But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." [50] Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, [51] "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" [52] They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus' brothers mocked Him (v.5) and told Him to do some miracles in Jerusalem to gain popularity (v.1-4). When else did someone push Jesus to do public stunts (Matthew 4:5-7)? Why didn't Jesus do this?
2. Jesus tells people to judge (v.24), but not to judge by appearances. What does that mean? In verses 37-38, Jesus tells people to come to Him and drink and that if they do, living water will flow out of their heart. What does that mean (v.39)?
3. The end of the chapter reveals a bunch of different opinions on Jesus-some believe in Him, some think He's great, but don't follow Him, others think He's a liar. Most of you here probably believe Jesus existed and maybe even was a good Man, but what's the difference between thinking He's a prophet (v. 40) and following Him with your life?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## NOTES

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## Thursday, January 15 (Psalm 8)

Q: What 2 verses in this chapter are the same? Why is that?

## Friday, January 16 (Psalm 7)

Q: Does David want the Lord to give his enemies grace or judgement?

## Saturday, January 17 (Psalm 6)

Q: David starts off feeling hopeless, but he finishes the Psalm with confidence in the Lord and what he will do. What can we learn from David here?

## Sunday, January 18 (Psalm 5)

Q: How bad is pride on the sin scale? If you have to rank it, where does it rank on sin that is serious? What about in God's eyes? (v.5)

## Monday, January 19 (Psalm 4)

Q: What is an example of being angry and not sinning? When is it good to be angry? (v.4)

## Tuesday, January 20 (Psalm 3)

Q: When was the last time you had a hard time sleeping because you were anxious or worried about something? Here, we see David sleep because he knows the Lord will take care of him. (v.5) What are you not believing when you can't sleep because of anxiety?

## Wednesday, January 21 (Psalm 2)

Q: How does God respond to those who oppose Him?

# BEHOLD WHAT GOD HAS DONE

JANUARY 28, 2026

## OPEN SHARING NOTES/HIGHLIGHTS:

## QUESTIONS

1. What was the most fun thing about Fort this year?
2. What is one spiritual takeaway from the trip? It can be from devotions, conversations, or the sessions?
3. What is one change God wants you to make now that you are home?
4. What is one very specific way that your leaders can help you specifically grow in Jesus this semester?
5. What is one prayer request you want your small group to be praying for you?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



## Thursday, January 22 (Psalm 1)

Q: Today, pray with another student that God would speak to you on the trip.

## Friday, January 23 (FORT Devo)

Q: How is God working on you today at Fort?

## Saturday, January 24 (FORT Devo)

Q: Find the speaker and share one thing that has stood out from a message.

## Sunday, January 25 (Joshua 1:8-9)

Q: What is one way you want to change as you come back from the Fort retreat?

## Monday, January 26 (Philippians 1:1-11)

Q: What do you think verse 6 means? Is this true of everyone, or just those who are Christians? If you are a Christian, how does this make you feel?

## Tuesday, January 27 (Philippians 1:12-18)

Q: Paul is writing from jail, yet he still has his mind set on serving and honoring the Lord. Who is someone you have seen who has suffered well and served the Lord despite hard trials. What did this do for your faith?

## Wednesday, January 28 (Philippians 1:19-26)

Q: Do our prayers actually do anything? (v.19)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

FEBRUARY 4, 2026

## JOHN 8:12-30

[12] Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [13] So the Pharisees said to him, "You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true." [14] Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. [15] You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. [16] Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. [17] In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. [18] I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me." [19] They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." [20] These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come. [21] So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." [22] So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come?'" [23] He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. [24] I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." [25] So they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. [26] I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." [27] They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. [28] So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. [29] And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." [30] As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

## QUESTIONS

1. Someone who truly follows Jesus (v.12) is someone who turns from sin and follows Jesus. Do you repent of sin? Do you seek to obey Jesus?
2. Some people hear the gospel and respond: "that's good for you, but it's not for me." How does v.24 show every human's need? Why does every human need Jesus?
3. Have you ever had someone compare you to one of your parents (like: "you look just like your mom!" or "your dad does the same thing!")? How so? It's a fact-children reflect their parents. If we are God's children, our lives will look like Jesus (v.29). In what ways do you look like your heavenly Father?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## Thursday, January 29 (Philippians 1:27-30)

Q: Paul's main point is verse 27. What does this mean, and what does it look like for your life specifically?

## Friday, January 30 (Philippians 2:1-4)

Q: How much of an issue is selfishness in your life? On a scale of 1-10, with 1 being you don't struggle at all, and 10 meaning you are the most selfish person on the planet, where do you rank?

## Saturday, January 31 (Philippians 2:5-11)

Q: When it says Jesus emptied himself, He did not get rid of His qualities of being God, but rather took on humanity. So it was subtraction by addition as confusing as that is. What is something that He had to do as a human that you never thought about?

## Sunday, February 1 (Philippians 2:12-18)

Q: As Christians, we are called to not grumble and complain, but we are prone to do this often. When was the last time you grumbled or complained? Why do you think we are so quick to do this sin?

## Monday, February 2 (Philippians 2:19-24)

Q: Paul loved to serve alongside Timothy. Who is someone you have enjoyed serving alongside, maybe on a youth trip? What makes it so enjoyable for you?

## Tuesday, February 3 (Philippians 2:25-30)

Q: Epaphroditus nearly died, but God spared him. Paul is so thankful, because this death would have caused him tons of sadness. What is one good thing in your life—that maybe you take for granted? Thank God for that today.

## Wednesday, February 4 (Philippians 3:1-11)

Q: Are the things Paul mentions good or bad? What is the whole point of what he is listing here?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS "I AM"

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

## JOHN 8:31-59

[31] So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, [32] and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." [33] They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" [34] Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. [35] The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. [36] So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. [37] I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. [38] I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father." [39] They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, [40] but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. [41] You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." [42] Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. [43] Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. [44] You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. [45] But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. [46] Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? [47] Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God." [48] The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" [49] Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. [50] Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. [51] Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." [52] The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.'" [53] Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" [54] Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.'" [55] But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. [56] Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." [57] So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" [58] Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." [59] So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

## QUESTIONS

1. How do you know if you truly follow Jesus (v.31)? What does that mean?
2. Jesus tells us that our problem as humans is that we are slaves to sin (v. 34). Every human sins and cannot stop—we are slaves to it. Have you experienced this in your own life? Are you still a slave to sin?
3. Verse 37 says that those who are saved have soft hearts to God's Word. How do you get into God's Word? Do you read/listen to it? Memorize it? Share it? Talk about it w/ Christians?
4. Jesus tells us that either we seek glory for ourselves or we seek glory for God (v.54). Whose glory do you live for? How can you tell whose glory you live for? How can you change?

# BIBLE READING PLAN

## Thursday, February 5 (Philippians 3:7-16)

Q: What is Paul willing to give up everything to get? What (or who) is worth more than anything else? Why?

## Friday, February 6 (Philippians 3:12-16)

Q: What lies behind in your life? What are you looking ahead towards? (v.13)

## Saturday, February 7 (Philippians 3:17-4:1)

Q: Paul wants them to look at him and model their lives after him. Who are 2 people you look up to and want to model your Christian life after?

## Sunday, February 8 (Philippians 4:2-9)

Q: Paul addresses some beef in the church. These women seemed to have some sort of disagreement, and Paul wants them to reconcile. Is there anyone you have beef with right now? How can you make things right?

## Monday, February 9 (Philippians 4:10-19)

Q: Verse 13 is famous. How do you hear people often use it? How is Paul using it?

## Tuesday, February 10 (Philippians 4:19-23)

Q: Paul says to greet every saint. This means that everyone who is a part of the church gets greeted, even if they are annoying or outcasts. How well do you love everyone in the church?

## Wednesday, February 11 (Your favorite verse(s) in Philippians)

Q: What do you like about these verses? Text one of them to a friend and encourage them with the verses!

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS GIVES TWO KINDS OF SIGHT

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## JOHN 9:1-41

[1] As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. [2] And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" [3] Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. [4] We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. [5] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." [6] Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud [7] and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. [8] The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" [9] Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." [10] So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" [11] He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." [12] They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." [13] They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. [14] Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. [15] So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." [16] Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. [17] So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." [18] The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight [19] and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" [20] His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. [21] But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." [22] (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. [23] Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him.") [24] So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." [25] He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." [26] They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" [27] He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" [28] And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. [29] We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." [30] The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. [31] We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. [32] Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. [33] If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." [34] They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. [35] Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" [36] He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" [37] Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." [38] He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. [39] Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." [40] Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" [41] Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains.

## QUESTIONS

1. The disciples see the blind man and assume that he's blind because God is punishing him for something (v.2). Jesus corrected them by saying what (v.3)? How can suffering and pain bring glory to God? How has God used suffering in your life for His glory?
2. What progression do you see in the blind man from the start until the end of the story? How does His view of Jesus keep changing as the story goes on? How has your view of Jesus changed in your life?
3. What is one of the purposes for why Jesus came into the world (v.39)? What makes someone spiritually blind (v.40-41)? What allows someone to 'see' spiritually?

## Thursday, February 12 (Mark 1:1-8)

Q: Did baptism save people back in John the Baptist's time? Why or why not? (v.4)

## Friday, February 13 (Mark 1:9-13)

Q: Why do you think Mark doesn't record whether or not Jesus passed or failed the temptations? (v.12-13). We know he didn't sin because of the other gospels, but why doesn't Mark say anything?

## Saturday, February 14 (Mark 1:14-15)

Q: Is the message Jesus proclaimed the same or different from the one we would believe at RBC? (v.15)

## Sunday, February 15 (Mark 1:16-20)

Q: What are the two things we see the disciples leave (v.18, 20)? What has Jesus called you to leave to follow Him?

## Monday, February 16 (Mark 1:21-28)

Q: What was the difference between the teaching the people normally hear and the teaching Jesus provided? What astonished them?

## Tuesday, February 17 (Mark 1:29-34)

Q: How much of the city gathered to try and get to Jesus?

## Wednesday, February 18 (Mark 1:35-39)

Q: Jesus made it a priority to pray—even after a long day. How often do you pray? Why?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

## JOHN 10:1-21

[1] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. [2] But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. [3] To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. [4] When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. [5] A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." [6] This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. [7] So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. [8] All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. [9] I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. [10] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. [11] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [12] He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. [13] He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. [14] I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, [15] just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. [16] And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. [17] For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. [18] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." [19] There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. [20] Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" [21] Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

## QUESTIONS

1. This section is all about our Good Shepherd, Jesus. He starts (v.1-6) using an illustration from sheep back then. At night, all of the sheep in the community would be kept in one giant pen. In the morning, each shepherd would come to the fold and call his sheep. Every sheep would recognize its shepherd's voice and follow the right shepherd. What connection is Jesus making? Whose voice are you following? How can you tell? How can you learn to listen to Jesus' voice?
2. In verse 7, Jesus compares Himself to a door. "Walk through" Him and you will find abundant life. "Walk through" the door of the enemy and you'll find destruction. Have you experienced this (v.10)? How does the world only steal, kill, and destroy? How does Jesus offer life?
3. Jesus then tells us that He is the Good Shepherd. What does Jesus do because He is the Good Shepherd (v.11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18)?
4. Was Jesus a helpless victim on the cross (v.17-18)? Why does this matter?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, February 19 (Mark 1:40-45)

Q: A leper was someone whose skin was falling off, and they were an outcast to society. We don't have lepers today, but we have people who are looked down on by our society. What is an example of an outcast today, and how should you treat them?

## Friday, February 20 (Mark 1:1-45 (read the whole chapter))

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you as you read the chapter as a whole?

## Saturday, February 21 (Mark 2:1-12)

Q: The friends of this man did everything they could to make sure he got to Jesus. Who are some friends in your life who help point you to Jesus? Take a minute and text them and thank them for always encouraging you.

## Sunday, February 22 (Mark 2:13-17)

Q: They meant to insult Jesus by saying he ate with tax collectors and sinners. How did Jesus feel about eating with these outcasts? (v.17)

## Monday, February 23 (Mark 2:18-22)

Q: Who is the bridegroom? (v.19)

## Tuesday, February 24 (Mark 2:23-28)

Q: The Pharisees were always trying to critique and trap Jesus for what He and His disciples did. But why did they care so much? What made them so opposed to Jesus?

## Wednesday, February 25 (Mark 2:1-28 (read the whole chapter))

Q: There are 4 questions that the Pharisees ask in this chapter. What are they?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS AND THE FATHER ARE ONE

MARCH 4, 2026

## JOHN 10:22-42

[22] At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, [23] and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. [24] So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." [25] Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, [26] but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. [27] My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. [28] I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. [30] I and the Father are one." [31] The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. [32] Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" [33] The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God." [34] Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? [35] If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—[36] do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?" [37] If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; [38] but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father." [39] Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands. [40] He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. [41] And many came to him. And they said, "John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true." [42] And many believed in him there.

## QUESTIONS

1. What is one way you can tell someone truly believes in Jesus (v.27)? How can you know that someone is doing this?
2. What does Jesus promise to His sheep (v.28)? Can you lose your salvation (v.28-29)? Why not? How should this give you hope?
3. What does this section say about who Jesus is (v.24-25, 30, 33, 36, 38)? What important point is Jesus making about His identity? Is this just boring theology or does it matter?
4. The Jews want to stone Jesus because Jesus is claiming to be God. If Jesus is God, He must be worshipped, obeyed, and followed 100%. If Jesus is not God—He is either lying or crazy. Why is it bogus to simply think He is a good Teacher or a good guy?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, February 26 (Mark 3:1-6)

Q: Jesus now gets to ask one question back after the Pharisees have asked him (v.4). What is their response to His question?

## Friday, February 27 (Mark 3:7-12)

Q: Why are great crowds following Jesus? Would He have had this kind of following if He were alive today?

## Saturday, February 28 (Mark 3:13-21)

Q: Before the disciples get sent out to do miracles and spread the gospel, what are they called to do first? (v.14)

## Sunday, March 1 (Mark 3:22-30)

Q: Explain verses 23-24. Why does it not make sense when they accuse Jesus of being a part of Satan's team?

## Monday, March 2 (Mark 3:31-35)

Q: Jesus stresses that His spiritual family is even deeper than His physical family, because it lasts forever and has deeper roots. List an example of a spiritual father, mother, brother, and sister in your life. These are people that are family because of Jesus.

## Tuesday, March 3 (Mark 3:1-35) (read the whole chapter)

Q: Jesus calls His disciples, but it isn't smooth sailing after He calls them. What are some of the difficulties you see them encounter in this chapter?

## Wednesday, March 4 (Mark 4:1-9)

Q: Which of the 4 soils describes your life? Why?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS GIVES LIFE

MARCH 11, 2026

## JOHN 11:1-44

[1] Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. [2] It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. [3] So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." [4] But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." [5] Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. [6] So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. [7] Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." [8] The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" [9] Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. [10] But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." [11] After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." [12] The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." [13] Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. [14] Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, [15] and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." [16] So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." [17] Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. [18] Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, [19] and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. [20] So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. [21] Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. [22] But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." [23] Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." [24] Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." [25] Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" [27] She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." [28] When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." [29] And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. [30] Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. [31] When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. [32] Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." [33] When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. [34] And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." [35] Jesus wept. [36] So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" [37] But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" [38] Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. [39] Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." [40] Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" [41] So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. [42] I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." [43] When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." [44] The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

## QUESTIONS

1. Even though Jesus knew Lazarus was sick (v. 6), He stayed two extra days where He was. Why? Why does Jesus allow you to go through difficult things?
2. Look through the passage and find the difference between "know" and "believe." Do Mary and Martha "know" Jesus or do they "believe" in Him? Do you 'know' Jesus or do you 'believe in Him'?
3. To stay healthy spiritually, we need to see the glory of God regularly (v. 40). What are some ways you have seen God's glory recently?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, March 5 (Mark 4:10-20)

Q: If you are on good soil, you will bear fruit. The point is not so much how much fruit, but simply that you are bearing fruit. Is your life bearing fruit, even if it isn't a lot? (v.20)

## Friday, March 6 (Mark 4:21-25)

Q: What is one way you can be more intentional in letting your light shine?

## Saturday, March 7 (Mark 4:26-29)

Q: What does this parable mean?

## Sunday, March 8 (Mark 4:30-34)

Q: What is the point of Jesus speaking in parables? Do you think it is to make things more clear, to hide things, or both?

## Monday, March 9 (Mark 4:35-41)

Q: The disciples accuse Jesus of not caring whether or not they perish. What is ironic about them saying this? (v.38)

## Tuesday, March 10 (Mark 4:1-41) (read the whole chapter)

Q: Jesus does a lot of teaching in this chapter, but it ends with Him showing his power. Why is it important to hear His teaching, but also to see Him prove His power?

## Wednesday, March 11 (Mark 5:1-13)

Q: At the end of chapter 4, the disciples ask a question. Jesus now shows them exactly who He is. What does He demonstrate His power over?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP

MARCH 18, 2026

## JOHN 11:45 - 12:11

[45] Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, [46] but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. [47] So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. [48] If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." [49] But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. [50] Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." [51] He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, [52] and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. [53] So from that day on they made plans to put him to death. [54] Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples. [55] Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. [56] They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?" [57] Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

[1] Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. [2] So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. [3] Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. [4] But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, [5] "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" [6] He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. [7] Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. [8] For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." [9] When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. [10] So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, [11] because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

## QUESTIONS

1. These verses show us why the religious leaders didn't like Jesus. It was because they were successful and popular in society and didn't want to lose it because of Jesus (v.47-48). What are some ways following Jesus--for us today--will make us less 'successful' or 'popular'?
2. What's interesting about the high priest's words is that they took on a deeper meaning. What is that deeper meaning (v.50, 52)? What is the significance of this?
3. Mary's alabaster jar of fragrance showed her incredible love and devotion to Jesus--it was worth a year's salary. What is one act of love or devotion that you have seen? Do you love Jesus like this?
4. Jesus says that He takes priority over every other need (v. 8)--but we will always have needy people with us. How well do you care for the needy people in your life (siblings, less 'cool', etc)?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, March 12 (Mark 5:14-20)

Q: Why do they beg Jesus to leave? Jesus just made a crazy person normal, but they want Him out of their area. Why?

## Friday, March 13 (Mark 5:21-34)

Q: Jarius wanted his daughter healed more than anything. What is something you want Jesus to do more than anything? Stop and pray for that thing right now.

## Saturday, March 14 (Mark 5:35-43)

Q: What is the consequence of the people laughing at Jesus?

## Sunday, March 15 (Mark 5:1-43) (read the whole chapter)

Q: Jesus shows His power over multiple different things in this chapter. List as many of them as you can.

## Monday, March 16 (Mark 6:1-6)

Q: What is the response of the people to Jesus when He returns to His hometown? What is His welcome home like?

## Tuesday, March 17 (Mark 6:7-13)

Q: Why did Jesus send the disciples out in pairs? Why not send them all out on their own to cover more ground and spread out further? What are the benefits of a 2-pack?

## Wednesday, March 18 (Mark 6:14-20)

Q: Herod hears John talk, but he also is living in sin and unwilling to repent. Is there any sin in your life that you are unwilling to repent of, even if you get convicted at youth group or church? Stop and repent now.

# ABUNDANT LIFE: "SIR, WE WISH TO SEE JESUS"

MARCH 25, 2026

## JOHN 12:12-36

[12] The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. [13] So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" [14] And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, [15] "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" [16] His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. [17] The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. [18] The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. [19] So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him." [20] Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. [21] So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." [22] Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. [23] And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. [24] Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. [25] Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. [26] If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. [27] "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. [28] Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." [29] The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." [30] Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. [31] Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. [32] And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." [33] He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. [34] So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" [35] So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. [36] While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus rode on a lowly donkey-not on a majestic horse. The people wanted Jesus to be an impressive King that drove out the enslaving Romans. Instead, Jesus brought a different type of kingdom. What kind of kingdom did He bring?
2. The people who waved the palm branches were interested in Jesus at first, but soon fell away. How can you be someone who doesn't have superficial interest in Jesus, only later to fall away?
3. What does it mean to 'lose your life' and 'hate your life' (v. 24)? How does giving up your life actually bring you life?
4. The Father spoke in a voice from heaven, confirming Jesus is God (v. 28). But some people heard it as thunder and some heard an angel. Is that what God's Word is like to you-an unclear noise? Or has God shown you mercy to understand His Word? If you don't believe in Jesus today, believe while you still have time (v. 35-36)!

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, March 19 (Mark 6:21-29)

Q: What are the consequences for Herod not repenting of his sin for everyone involved? (Herod, John, Herodias's daughter, etc.)

## Friday, March 20 (Mark 6:30-34)

Q: Jesus is the good Shepherd. Turn to Psalm 23 and read it realizing that Jesus is the fulfillment of these verses.

## Saturday, March 21 (Mark 6:35-44)

Q: This miracle is recorded in all 4 gospels. What about it do you think stood out to the disciples so much?

## Sunday, March 22 (Mark 6:45-52)

Q: Jesus pulls away by Himself to pray after an incredible miracle. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus and pull away and pray and spend time with Him.

## Monday, March 23 (Mark 6:53-56)

Q: What is the limit to Jesus's power and the number of people He can heal? (v.56)

## Tuesday, March 24 (Mark 6:1-56) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is something that stood out to you from this chapter? Why?

## Wednesday, March 25 (Mark 7:1-13)

Q: What is a hypocrite? (v.6)

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS CAME TO SAVE THE WORLD

APRIL 1, 2026

## JOHN 12:37-50

[37] Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, [38] so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" [39] Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, [40] "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them."

[41] Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. [42] Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; [43] for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

[44] And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. [45] And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. [46] I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. [47] If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. [48] The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. [49] For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. [50] And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."

## QUESTIONS

1. Even though Jesus is really God, the Bible says only a few people believed in Him (v.37). Why didn't they believe (v.38-40)? What does this strong wording tell us about God?
2. Some religious leaders believed, which seems great, but it says they loved the praise of people more than the praise of God (v.43). They weren't saved—they wanted popularity more than salvation. There will be people today that don't go to heaven because they cared more about what people thought of them than salvation. What would it look like today for someone to know Jesus is true, but care more about popularity?
3. Is popularity (or love of sin, or what others think, or something like that) keeping you from heaven? Explain.
4. Jesus says that He submits to His Father (v.49). He only does what the Father wants Him to do. Are you submissive to the authorities in your life (parents, teachers, bosses, leaders, etc)? Who do you submit to? How are you doing at following them?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, March 26 (Mark 7:14-23)

Q: Some people today will not eat certain foods because they think it is wrong or the Bible is against it. What does Jesus say about that? (v.19)

## Friday, March 27 (Mark 7:24-30)

Q: Is Jesus mean to her in this passage? Why do you think He is so firm and seemingly cold? What is He trying to do?

## Saturday, March 28 (Mark 7:31-37)

Q: In Mark 5:20, someone goes to the Decapolis. Who was it, and what was He doing? How is Jesus received now when He comes to the Decapolis?

## Sunday, March 29 (Mark 7:1-37) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is something that stood out to you in the chapter? Pick a verse and meditate on it.

## Monday, March 30 (Mark 8:1-10)

Q: Why does Jesus have compassion on the people? Is it for a spiritual need? What does this tell you about Jesus?

## Tuesday, March 31 (Mark 8:11-21)

Q: The Pharisees seem to forget about the feeding of 5,000. They always want more signs, but are never willing to believe. Was it a lack of signs or a lack of faith that they didn't believe? Why?

## Wednesday, April 1 (Mark 8:22-26)

Q: This miracle should be read with the context of what comes before and what comes after. What is Jesus trying to teach with this two step miracle?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS CAME TO SERVE

APRIL 8, 2026

## JOHN 13:1-20

[1] Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. [2] During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, [3] Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, [4] rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. [5] Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. [6] He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" [7] Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." [8] Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." [9] Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" [10] Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." [11] For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." [12] When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" [13] You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. [14] If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. [15] For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. [16] Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. [17] If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. [18] I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' [19] I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. [20] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

## QUESTIONS

1. The first verse says that Jesus loves you so much, that He did the greatest, most incredible thing for you—He endured hell for you, so you could have eternal life with Jesus (v.1). How amazing is this? How does this move you? How should it?
2. Foot washing was done by the lowest of slaves. Yet, Jesus does it to teach His disciples humility. How do you show humility to siblings? Friends? Parents? Those lower than you?
3. Jesus washed Peter and John's feet—and Judas' feet (v. 5). Who are some difficult people in your life? How can you love them even when they don't treat you well?
4. Jesus says that He did this as our Example (v.15). We are not greater than He is, so the least we can do is what He did (v.16). The blessing comes when we do it (v.17). So, how can you get better at serving others with selfless humility?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, April 2 (Mark 8:27-30)

Q: Did Peter get the answer right or wrong?

## Friday, April 3 (Mark 8:31-33)

Q: Peter is rebuked pretty harshly here, even though his intentions seem to be pretty good. What is the problem with what he is saying?

## Saturday, April 4 (Mark 8:34-38)

Q: Who is someone who has gained the whole world, but is going to forfeit their soul? Would you trade places with them?

## Sunday, April 5 (Mark 8:1-38) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick a verse and meditate on it.

## Monday, April 6 (Mark 9:1-13)

Q: Who is Elijah in the New Testament? Hint, we read about him at the start of the book.

## Tuesday, April 7 (Mark 9:14-29)

Q: Memorize the second half of verse 24. This is a good verse to pray often. Pray it today.

## Wednesday, April 8 (Mark 9:30-32)

Q: What do you think made the disciples afraid to ask Jesus about what He meant?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS COMMANDS LOVE

APRIL 15, 2026

## JOHN 13:21-38

[21] After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." [22] The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. [23] One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side, [24] so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. [25] So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" [26] Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. [27] Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." [28] Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. [29] Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. [30] So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

[31] When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. [32] If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. [33] Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' [34] A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. [35] By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

[36] Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." [37] Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." [38] Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times."

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus knew exactly what Judas would do, yet Jesus trusted His Father through the most difficult suffering anyone has ever gone through. How can Jesus' trust in the Father through ultimate suffering, help you when suffering hits your life?
2. The command to love others was not new, but goes all the way back to Leviticus. So, what did Jesus mean when He said that He was giving them a 'new' command (v. 34)? How does what Jesus was about to do give this command greater depth?
3. Which is the key mark of someone who follows Jesus (v. 35)? Give some examples of people at RBC (students, leaders, etc) who truly love other people well? What do they do?
4. Peter wanted to stand for Jesus, but Jesus told him that in his own strength, Peter could not (v. 37-38). This shows another reason that Jesus' sacrifice is so powerful. By believing in Jesus, we have the power (by God's Spirit) to live and please God. What does it mean to do things in God's strength vs doing things in your own human strength?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, April 9 (Mark 9:33-37)

Q: What are some characteristics of a child that we should strive to practice spiritually?

## Friday, April 10 (Mark 9:38-41)

Q: Sometimes, we can be very against other Christians who do things differently than us. When is a good time to distance ourselves from people who say they are Christians? When is a good time to befriend people who say they are Christians—but do things differently from us?

## Saturday, April 11 (Mark 9:42-50)

Q: What is a way you could lead a new Christian into sin? How serious is Jesus about this not happening?

## Sunday, April 12 (Mark 9:1-50) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Monday, April 13 (Mark 10:1-12)

Q: What are some things you notice about how God designed marriage from this passage?

## Tuesday, April 14 (Mark 10:13-16)

Q: What do the disciples do wrong in this section? How does Jesus correct them?

## Wednesday, April 15 (Mark 10:17-22)

Q: What was this young man unwilling to give up? How big of an issue is this in your life?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

APRIL 22, 2026

## JOHN 14:1-14

[1] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. [4] And you know the way to where I am going." [5] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" [6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

[8] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." [9] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. [11] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

[12] "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. [13] Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

## QUESTIONS

1. What things trouble your heart (v.1)? What can steal your joy and peace in Jesus?
2. Jesus knew as He was speaking these words that He was going to die only a few hours later for the sins of all who would believe. Yet, He isn't trying to find personal comfort—His focus (v.1-3) is on comforting His disciples (and us!). Are you self-absorbed and focused on you? Or are you others-centered? How can seeing Jesus' heart for you make you like Him?
3. John 14:6 is an important verse for 2026. Many people believe that there are many ways to God. The Bible clearly says here there is only one way to God. The way is through Jesus. Why is Jesus the only way to God—in other words, why won't other ways work?
4. Jesus says that those who follow Him (believers from 33AD - now) will do 'greater works' (v.12) than what He did. This doesn't mean Christians can walk on water or feed 5,000, but that, because of the resurrection and coming of the Spirit, the Gospel will spread. How many Christians were there when Jesus went back to heaven (Acts 1:15)? How many Christians are there now?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, April 16 (Mark 10:23-31)

Q: What can you expect if you leave everything to follow Jesus? (v.30)

## Friday, April 17 (Mark 10:32-34)

Q: What is so significant about Jesus rising from the dead? Could He have saved us if He stayed in the tomb after He was killed?

## Saturday, April 18 (Mark 10:35-45)

Q: Jesus has just told His disciples that He is going to the cross and that He will be killed. What is the first thing they want to talk about after this?

## Sunday, April 19 (Mark 10:46-52)

Q: Jesus asks this blind man the same question He asked James and John (v.36, 51). What is the difference in their answers?

## Monday, April 20 (Mark 10:1-52) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Tuesday, April 21 (Mark 11:1-11)

Q: The final third of Mark covers the final week of Jesus' life. There is a ton dedicated to documenting the final week before He is killed. How does this week start off?

## Wednesday, April 22 (Mark 11:12-19)

Q: Does Jesus sin in his anger? Is it possible for us to be angry and not sin, or was this unique to Jesus?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: JESUS SENDS THE HELPER

APRIL 29, 2026

## JOHN 14:15-31

[15] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. [16] And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, [17] even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. [18] "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. [20] In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. [21] Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." [22] Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" [23] Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. [24] Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me. [25] "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. [26] But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. [27] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [28] You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. [29] And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. [30] I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, [31] but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus starts off very clear and right to the point—and He repeats His point in case we miss it. A lot of people say they love Jesus. Jesus knows who truly loves Him. How can we tell (v.15, 21, 23, 24)? Look around, who can you tell does this?
2. What do these verses say about the Holy Spirit (v.16-17, 26-27)? What is His job in your life? What is He doing? How does He work?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says that He comes to give us peace, but not as the world gives (v. 27)? What is the peace that Jesus gives?
4. Throughout the whole book, and especially the last couple of chapters, we see Jesus obeying His Father. How does Jesus' obedience, even in the face of hard suffering and difficult people, reveal what our attitude ought to be to authorities (even unfair authorities) in our life?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, April 23 (Mark 11:20-26)

Q: Is there anyone who you are unwilling to forgive? What will happen if you are unwilling to forgive them?

## Friday, April 24 (Mark 11:27-33)

Q: Were those who asked Jesus questions really trying to understand what His answer was?

## Saturday, April 25 (Mark 11:1-33) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Sunday, April 26 (Mark 12:1-12)

Q: Who is the beloved Son in the parable? Who are the tenants?

## Monday, April 27 (Mark 12:13-17)

Q: Jesus had respect for Caesar and paying taxes, even though many of the Jews hated Rome and wanted them overthrown. How should this make us act towards our leaders and our government (even if we don't like them)?

## Tuesday, April 28 (Mark 12:18-27)

Q: God has always been God. Think about Him answering the prayers of your parents when they were our age (if they knew the Lord). For thousands of years, He has been ruling the universe, and He still is. Does he ever get tired of ruling? How does this make you feel?

## Wednesday, April 29 (Mark 12:28-37)

Q: What are the two greatest commandments? Does the order you follow them matter?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: ABIDE IN JESUS

MAY 6, 2026

## JOHN 15:1-11

[1] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. [2] Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. [3] Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. [4] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. [5] I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not abide in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. [7] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. [8] By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. [9] As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. [10] If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. [11] These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

## LESSON NOTES

## QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to 'abide'? Practically, what does this mean and look like? How can you do this? Linda Possing talks about trying to be the Vine, instead of simply abiding as a branch. What does that mean?
2. If you don't bear fruit, what happens to you (v. 2)? If you do bear fruit, what happens to you (v.2)? What do those two things mean?
3. Prayer is an important part of following and abiding in Jesus. How can we know that we are abiding in Jesus in prayer (v.7)? What answers to prayer have you seen recently?
4. By following what Jesus says in v.9-11, there is a great reward. Jesus says that we can have full joy. Our joy is full when we abide in Jesus' love for us. How do we abide in God's love (v.10)? What does this look like?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, April 30 (Mark 12:38-44)

Q: The widow gave an incredibly generous gift even though she was poor. What is the nicest gift someone has ever given you?

## Friday, May 1 (Mark 12:1-44) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Saturday, May 2 (Mark 13:1-13)

Q: Who is saved? (v.13) What does it mean to endure? What does that look like practically in a Christian's life?

## Sunday, May 3 (Mark 13:14-27)

Q: These verses are difficult to understand and many Christians disagree on what they are referring to. They either refer to the temple which was destroyed a few years later, or it refers to Jesus coming back some day. It may switch to talking about Jesus returning in v.24. Regardless, it is very difficult to understand. What is one thing you can learn from this text?

## Monday, May 4 (Mark 13:28-37)

Q: We know that Jesus is going to return, that much is clear in Scripture. How should we live knowing that He will come back when we don't expect it?

## Tuesday, May 5 (Mark 13:1-37) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Wednesday, May 6 (Mark 14:1-11)

Q: We see 2 different perspectives on money by Mary (The woman who pours the perfume) and Judas. How does money affect both of them?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: GREAT LOVE MEANS LAYING DOWN YOUR LIFE

MAY 13, 2026

## JOHN 15:12-27

[12] "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. [14] You are my friends if you do what I command you. [15] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. [17] These things I command you, so that you will love one another. [18] "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. [19] If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. [20] Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. [21] But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. [22] If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. [23] Whoever hates me hates my Father also. [24] If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. [25] But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.' [26] "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. [27] And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

## QUESTIONS

1. If you are a Christian, God has chosen you to be His. You didn't find Him or discover Him, He found you (v. 16). He loves you fully (v. 13), He even calls you His friends (v. 15). And, He has a job for you. What is your job (v. 16)? How is that going?
2. During Jesus' life, He confronted people with the truth and reality of their sin. Jesus said that many people hated Him for this (v. 22-25). Have you ever confronted people with their sin? How do you respond when confronted by your own sin?
3. Does the Holy Spirit prompt you with sin or convict you of sin in your heart? What is that like? What is an example? What ought you to do when God points out sin in your heart?
4. After Jesus rose from the dead and went back to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to live in believers. The Holy Spirit is God and He reminds believers of the truth of Jesus and gives us power to tell other people about Jesus (v. 27). Do you tell others about Jesus? Do you talk to either Christians or non-Christians about Jesus? Why or why not?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



Commentary

## Thursday, May 7 (Mark 14:12-25)

Q: None of the disciples knew that it was Judas who was going to betray Jesus. He had completely fooled them all. Pray now that God would protect your friend group from having someone walk away from Jesus.

## Friday, May 8 (Mark 14:26-31)

Q: The disciples and Jesus sang a hymn before going to the garden. What is your current favorite worship song, and why do you like it?

## Saturday, May 9 (Mark 14:32-42)

Q: Jesus prays fervently, but God doesn't let the cup pass. What does this teach us about prayer?

## Sunday, May 10 (Mark 14:43-50)

Q: Judas betrays Jesus for some money. Not only that, but all of the other disciples left him and fled too (v. 50). When you feel lonely or abandoned by friends, how can this bring you comfort?

## Monday, May 11 (Mark 14:51-52)

Q: Why do you think this section is included in the Bible?

## Tuesday, May 12 (Mark 14:53-65)

Q: Jesus is falsely accused and treated unfairly, and it seems like the guards and evil people got away with it? Did they get away with it?

## Wednesday, May 13 (Mark 14:66-72)

Q: What is the difference between Peter and Judas? Both of them sin against Jesus greatly, but only one of them is in hell. What separates them?

# ABUNDANT LIFE: THE SPIRIT WORKS IN OUR HEARTS

MAY 20, 2026

## JOHN 16:1-15

[1] "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. [2] They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. [3] And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. [4] But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. [5] But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' [6] But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. [7] Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. [8] And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: [9] concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; [10] concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; [11] concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. [12] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. [13] When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. [14] He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. [15] All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

## QUESTIONS

1. Jesus says that it is to our advantage that He goes to heaven (v.7), so that the Holy Spirit can come. Do you ever wish you could see and visit with Jesus physically? Do you meet with Jesus now even though you can't see Him? What is the advantage of having the Spirit?
2. What are the three things the Holy Spirit convicts of (v.8)? What is His effect in each of these areas (v.9-11)?
3. The Spirit also guides believers to the truth (v.13). As we read and dwell on God's Word, the Holy Spirit uses the Bible to change and reshape our thinking and our hearts. He also uses the Word to guide our steps each day. How have you actually seen this in your life (or someone else's life)?
4. Notice that the Holy Spirit isn't doing all this in us for attention for Himself-but for Jesus (v.14). Do you live your life to be noticed by others? Or do you want others to notice Jesus? How can you live so that your life points to Jesus?

**QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUTS:** How can I help you get into the Bible? Which of these is the best (and which needs help): prayer, church, spiritual conversations, worship? What sin do you need help fighting? What is in your life that I can pray for?

# BIBLE READING PLAN



[Commentary](#)

## Thursday, May 14 (Mark 14:1-72) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Friday, May 15 (Mark 15:1-15)

Q: Jesus took Barabbas's place. In a similar way, He took our place on the cross. What are some similarities to us and Barabbas?

## Saturday, May 16 (Mark 15:16-32)

Q: List the physical torture Jesus went through on the cross for us.

## Sunday, May 17 (Mark 15:33-41)

Q: What do we see that is worse than all the physical abuse Jesus took?

## Monday, May 18 (Mark 15:42-47)

Q: Joseph takes Jesus's body when it is the least popular to be a follower. What does this teach us about following Jesus, even when the world is not agreeing?

## Tuesday, May 19 (Mark 15:1-47) (read the whole chapter)

Q: What is one thing that stood out to you from this chapter? Pick one verse and meditate on it.

## Wednesday, May 20 (Mark 16:1-8)

Q: Does their fear and silence make them look good or bad? Does this make the Bible more or less believable?

# SUMMER PREVIEW

MAY 20, 2026

## Schedule for the night:

- 6:15pm - HS game / MS game
- 6:45pm - Announcements
- 6:55pm - Summer Preview
- 7:05pm - Break into summer trip groups
- 7:30pm - Sing (all together in the youth room)
- 7:40pm - Regular small groups

## General Questions for Small Group Time

1. How are you doing spiritually?
2. What do you want to see God change in you this summer?
3. What is one thing your friends and leaders can be praying for you this summer?
4. Who is someone you want to reach out to spiritually this summer? Who is someone you want to connect with spiritually this summer?

## Challenge One Another

1. How is your time with Jesus--in the Word, in prayer, and in worship?
2. Are you walking in obedience or are there areas of sin to fight?
3. How is your fellowship with Christian friends and witness to non-Christian friends?

## BIBLE READING PLAN 2025



### Psalms

"In the Lord I Take Refuge"  
by Dane Ortlund

## BIBLE READING PLAN 2026



### Mark

Commentary  
by The Gospel Coalition

# MEDITATION ON SCRIPTURE

Summary of the methods of meditation on Scripture taught by Don Whitney.

Begin by selecting a passage for meditation from your time of reading God's Word. Choose a verse or phrase that attracted your attention, or a theme verse or key verse from the passage.

1. Emphasize different words in the text.
  - Whatever** He says to you do it (John 2:5).
  - Whatever **He** says to you do it.
  - Whatever He **says** to you do it.
  - Whatever He says **to** you do it.
  - Whatever He says to **you** do it.
  - Whatever He says to you **do** it.
  - Whatever He says to you do **it**.
2. Rewrite the verse or phrase in your own words.
3. Formulate a principle from the text--What does it teach?
4. Think of an illustration of the text--What pictures or explains it?
5. Look for applications of the text--What should you do in response to it?
6. Ask how the text points to the Law or the Gospel.
7. Ask how the text points to something about Jesus.
8. Ask what question is answered or problem is solved by the text.
9. Pray through the text.
10. Memorize the text.
11. Create an artistic expression of the text--a song, poem, or sketch.
12. Ask the Philippians 4:8 questions of the text. What is true or what truth does it exemplify? What is lovely about it? What is honorable about it? What is admirable or commendable about it? What is right about it? What is excellent about it? What is pure or how does it exemplify purity? What is praiseworthy about it?
13. Ask the "Joseph Hall" questions of the text. What is it (define and/or describe what it is)? What are its qualities and attachments? What are its divisions or parts? What is contrary, contradictory or different to it? What causes it? What compares to it? What does it cause (its fruits and effects)? What its titles or names? What is its place, location or use? What are the testimonies or examples of Scripture about it?
14. Set and Discover a minimum number of insights from the text (set the number in advance).
15. Find a link/common thread between all the chapters/paragraphs you've read.
16. Ask how the text speaks to your current issue or question.
17. Use Meditation Mapping.
  - A. Put the verse(s), phrase, word or topic to be meditated upon in the middle of the page. (When possible, this should be done in picture form.)
  - B. Allow insights, ideas and thoughts to come quickly and freely.
  - C. Use key words to represent your ideas.
  - D. Connect your key words ideas to the central focus with lines.
  - E. Use as few words per line as possible.
  - F. P-r-i-n-t all the words for easier reading.
  - G. Use color for emphasis and recall.
  - H. Make frequent use of symbols and pictures in addition to words.
18. Push a notification to your phone every hour to remind yourself of the verse.
19. Talk about the verse with someone else.
20. Grab a devotion book off of the resource wall and slowly read what it says.

# YOUTH GROUP MUSIC

Spotify  
Playlist



Yesterday Is Dead	Josiah Queen
How Great Thou Art	The Forever Echo
The Mountain of the Lord	The Trails Church, David Ames
Isaac	Madalyn Rae
a light in me	Jervis Campbell
More Than Conquerors	Rend Collective
Abide - Live	The Worship Initiative, Aaron Williams, Dwell Songs
Jesus Our Judge and Our Savior - Live	Sovereign Grace Music
Miracles	Hulvey
Sing - Acoustic	Sovereign Grace Music
IN ALL THINGS	TEMITOPE
a life worth dying	Josiah Queen
I LOVE YOU TO DEATH	TEMITOPE
RESURRECTION HERE	TEMITOPE
Alone With You	Josiah Queen, Jervis Campbell
Better Yet	Leanna Crawford
Psalm 34 (Live)	Shane & Shane
Hosanna in the Highest	Camp Phillip
Empty as the Grave	Josiah Queen
He Will Be - Live	CityAlight
hold him high	Citizens, Mitch Wong
For You Alone	Altitude Worship, Adam McKinnon
All Things - Acoustic	Sovereign Grace Music
Springtime	Chris Renzema
stuck in these clouds	Jervis Campbell
Gentle and Lowly	Joyful Noise
My Savior's Love (What Tongue Could Tell)	Matt Boswell, Matt Papa
Hallelujah's Song (Psalm 103)	JUDAH., Caleb Chapman
We Remember	Emu Music
Jesus I My Cross Have Taken	Robert Marshall
All Things New Again	RYM Worship
Have Mercy On Me	Mercy Gordon
All Glory (Live)	Union Church Music
There Is One Gospel	Nathan & Clara
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	Nathan Drake
Grace Will Prevail	The Wood Drake Sessions, Wendell Kimbrough
Because of Jesus - Live	Charity Gayle
All Sufficient Merit (Live)	Crossings Venue Worship, Josh Edington
Can't Steal My Joy (feat. Brandon Lake)	Josiah Queen, Brandon Lake
love you to death	Josiah Queen, Strings And Heart
GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS	TEMITOPE
Light Of The World (Sing Hallelujah)	We The Kingdom
Help Us See Christ - Acoustic	Sovereign Grace Music
true north	Jervis Campbell
Rejoice - Live	Northwest Collective, The Modern Post
The Gospel is Rest	Elias Dummer, Land of Color
Because He Lives	The Worship Initiative, John Marc Kohl
Aleph	Exodus Music, Brittany Griffin
All We Have Is Christ - Acoustic	Thief to King
Every Good Gift - Live	ONE A Worship Collective, Clayton Brooks



**RACINE BIBLE**  
YOUTH

YOUTH GROUP 2025-2026