



By Rev. Dr. Isaiah Fadzlin

Unfiltered JESUS Devotional

30 Days in the Gospel of John

Introduction: Come and See

We live in a world saturated with filters—on our photos, in our conversations, and even, sometimes, in how we view Jesus.

But what if we took a step back and allowed ourselves to encounter Him without the layers?

What if we could walk with Him in the raw moments, the quiet miracles, the hard truths, and the intimate conversations that changed everything?

That's what this 30-day journey through the Gospel of John is all about.

This book isn't a deep theological commentary—though you'll find Greek word studies and rich truths. It isn't a textbook—though you'll learn a lot. And it's not meant to be read and forgotten—it's meant to be lived, wrestled with, and prayed through.

Each day invites you to meet the Unfiltered Jesus—not the one shaped by culture or convenience, but the one who walked dusty roads, washed dirty feet, called the broken close, and went all the way to the cross because of love.

You'll explore one passage each day, anchored in John's Gospel, paired with a key Greek word, real-life reflection, and honest questions to help you internalize what you've read.

This isn't about information—it's about transformation.

So wherever you are in your journey—curious, skeptical, weary, passionate, or barely holding on—

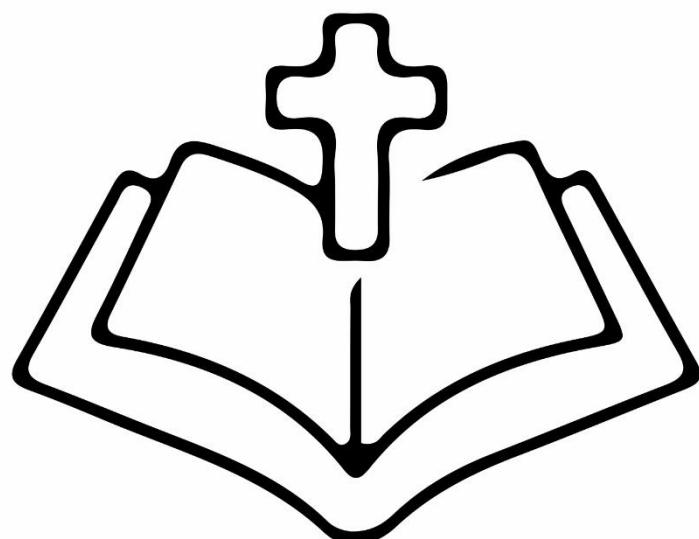
Jesus is saying to you what He said to those first disciples:

“Come and see.”

Let's begin.

—Rev. Dr. Isaiah Fadzlin

Day 1: The Word Became Flesh



Scripture:

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek – Logos (λόγος)

This word means more than just “word” in the sense of speech. Logos speaks of divine expression, the very reasoning and logic of God made visible. To say Jesus is the Logos is to say He is God’s mind, heart, and voice in human skin.

Devotional Thought:

Jesus didn’t shout from the clouds.

He came close.

John opens his Gospel with the boldest truth imaginable: that the Creator stepped into creation. That the infinite became touchable. That the divine Logos became like us—not virtually, not symbolically, but with breath, bone, blood, and emotion.

He walked our dust. Felt our weariness. Cried our tears.

I’ll never forget talking to a young man named Elijah at a youth retreat. He sat at the back, hoodie up, arms folded. After one session, he approached and muttered, “I’ve heard about God my whole life. But tonight, it felt like God saw me.”

I asked him what changed. He said, “It wasn’t the talk. It was knowing that Jesus came all the way into my mess... I don’t feel like I have to pretend anymore.”

That's what John 1:14 reveals—Jesus is not afraid of your mess.

He isn't asking for perfection. He came into imperfection. He came into a broken world and offered beauty. Into a skeptical world and brought truth. Into a chaotic world and released peace.

He didn't just visit. He dwelt.

The word dwelt (Greek: *skēnoō*) literally means “to pitch a tent.” Jesus set up camp in our pain, our questions, our reality.

So when you feel invisible, remember:

He saw you before you knew how to see Him.

When you feel numb, remember:

He felt every human weakness and never turned away.

When you feel too broken to belong, remember:

He moved in, not to judge you—but to walk with you.

The Word didn't stay in the clouds. He moved into the neighborhood.

Unfiltered. Unashamed. Unafraid.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn't come to shout at the world, He came to step into it.*
- *The Word became flesh, not just an idea or a vibe—but a person who gets you.*
- *If Jesus moved in then, He still wants to move into your heart now.*

Quote:

“He came to us not through thunder, but through a whisper wrapped in skin.” —
Anonymous

Reflection Questions:

1. What area of your life feels “too messy” for Jesus to step into right now?
2. How does knowing Jesus became fully human change how you relate to Him?
3. Are there filters or masks you wear when you come to God? Why?

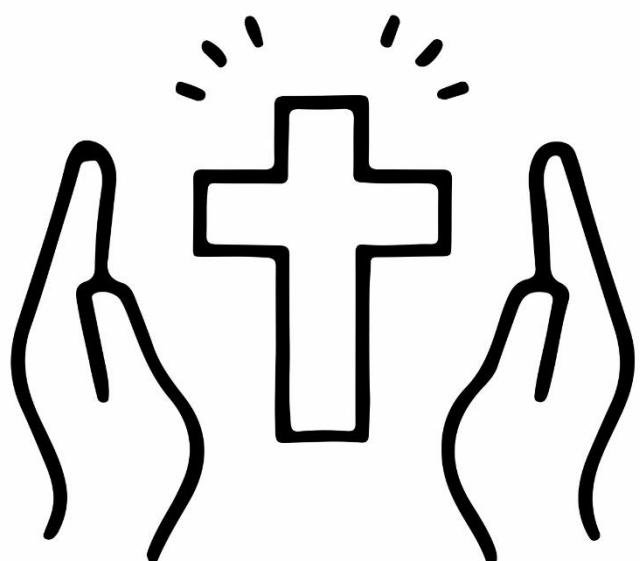
Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for stepping into my world—not just as God, but as a friend, a Savior, and a brother who knows what it means to be human.

Help me remove the filters I hide behind and trust that You love me as I am, not as I pretend to be. Come dwell in me again today—fully, freely, and deeply.

Amen.

Day 2: Come and See



Scripture:

“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nathanael asked.

Philip replied, “Come and see for yourself.” John 1:46 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Erchou kai ide” (ἔρχου καὶ ἵδε)

This phrase means “Come and see” — a simple yet profound invitation. It’s not a demand. It’s not a debate. It’s a call to personal experience. In biblical usage, “erchou” (come) speaks of movement toward something new, and “ide” (see) implies perception, discernment, or spiritual sight.

Devotional Thought:

Sometimes the best way to know Jesus isn’t through explanation—it’s through experience.

Nathanael was skeptical. He had every reason to be. Nazareth was the kind of place no one expected a prophet, let alone the Messiah, to come from. It was small. Insignificant. Known for nothing. Like someone saying, “The Saviour of the world is from a forgotten back alley.”

But Philip didn’t argue. He didn’t defend Jesus.

He just said: Come and see.

That’s still the invitation today.

Not: Come and figure it all out.

Not: Come and be perfect.

Not even: Come and believe right away.

Just: Come and see.

When I was in polytechnic, a classmate who had never stepped into church before asked me if God was even real. Instead of quoting Bible verses or launching into an apologetics debate, I said, “Why don’t you come this Friday to our youth service? You don’t have to believe anything—just come.”

That night, he sat quietly during worship. No tears, no dramatic response. But after service, he turned to me and said, “I don’t know why, but I felt like someone cared about me. Like... God maybe.”

He came and he saw. He didn’t get all the answers that day—but he encountered something. Jesus doesn’t need you to have it all figured out. He just asks that you take one step toward Him. He’s not afraid of your questions, your skepticism, or your doubts. Real faith doesn’t begin with certainty.

It begins with an encounter.

So if you’re unsure, discouraged, jaded, or just tired of religion—Jesus still whispers the same thing to you:

Come and see.

Key Points:

- *Jesus invites the doubters, the skeptics, and the curious—not just the convinced.*
- *You don’t need full faith to follow; just a willingness to come and see.*
- *Personal experience with Jesus outweighs every argument about Him.*

Quote:

“Don’t try to debate someone into the Kingdom. Invite them into an encounter.”
— Christine Caine

Reflection Questions:

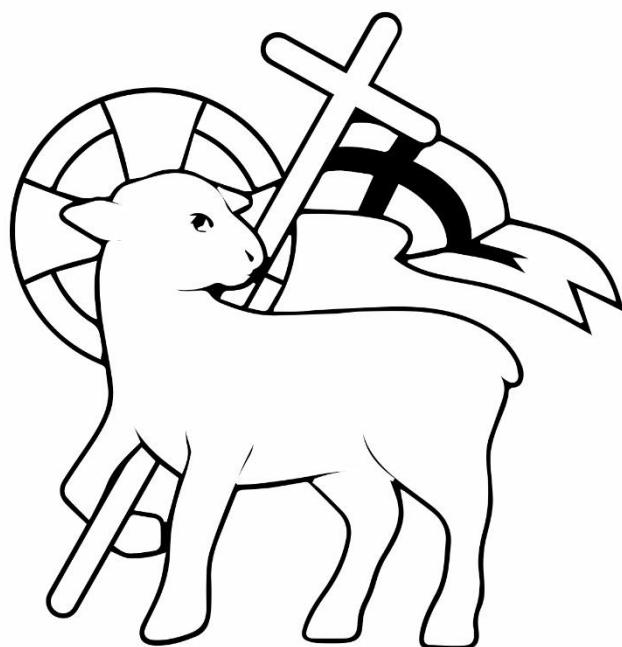
1. Have you ever been hesitant about Jesus because of what others said or assumed?
2. What would it look like for you to “come and see” Jesus again with fresh eyes?
3. Who in your life needs a simple invitation—not a sermon—but a real encounter?

Prayer:

Jesus, I don't want to follow You based on someone else's story—I want to know You myself. Help me take the step to come closer, even when I still have questions. Open my eyes to see Your love and truth for what they really are.

Amen.

Day 3: The Lamb of God



Scripture:

*“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
‘Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”
—John 1:29 (NLT)*

Word Study – Greek: “Amnos” (ἀμνός)

*The word *amnos* refers specifically to a sacrificial lamb, spotless and chosen for offering. It's used only a few times in the New Testament, always pointing to Christ's role in salvation. This isn't just poetic imagery—it's a loaded reference to the Passover lamb in Exodus 12, whose blood protected God's people from death.*

Devotional Thought:

Imagine this: You're in a crowded place, and someone yells, “Look!”

Heads turn. People stare. You expect to see someone powerful—maybe a warrior or king.

Instead, you see a carpenter. A man walking gently. No sword. No followers. No title. And someone calls Him... a Lamb?

John the Baptist didn't say, “Behold the Lion!”

Not, “Behold the King!”

But: “Behold the Lamb of God.”

Why a lamb?

Because from the beginning, God's plan for saving the world wasn't domination—it was sacrifice.

When I was 16, I carried guilt like a backpack full of bricks. I had said things I couldn't take back. Hurt people I loved. I thought God was done with me.

Then I read this verse—and for the first time, it clicked:
Jesus didn't come to crush me for my sin.
He came to carry it.

Lambs don't fight back. They don't protest. They don't run.
Jesus came willingly.

That's what John wanted his listeners to understand. The people were waiting for a revolutionary to overthrow Rome.
But what they got was a Lamb who would overthrow sin.
Not through violence, but through blood.
Not by taking lives, but by giving His.

Jesus is the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world—not just covers it up, not just forgives it abstractly—but removes it completely.

And that includes your sin.
You don't need to hide in shame or strive to earn forgiveness.
You just need to look at the Lamb—and believe He came for you.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn't come to rule by force—He came to redeem through sacrifice.*
- *The Lamb of God carries away what you can't carry anymore.*
- *The cross was not God's backup plan—it was always His greatest expression of love.*

Quote:

"God didn't shout our guilt. He carried it, bled for it, and buried it." —Judah Smith

Reflection Questions:

1. What guilt or sin are you still carrying that Jesus already paid for?
2. How does seeing Jesus as the Lamb reshape your view of God's love?
3. What would it look like to live from forgiveness rather than striving?

Prayer:

Jesus, You didn't just take the punishment—I should've faced.

You chose the path of the Lamb so I could walk free.

Help me not to forget the weight of Your sacrifice or the depth of Your mercy.

Thank You for taking away my sin.

Amen.

Day 4: Water to Wine



Scripture:

“This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.” John 2:11 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Sēmeion” (σημεῖον)

The word sēmeion is translated as “sign”—not just a miracle, but a supernatural act that points beyond itself to a greater truth. This wasn’t just about turning water into wine—it was a sign revealing the nature and heart of Jesus. He transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary.

Devotional Thought:

Jesus’ first miracle didn’t happen in a temple or at a funeral.

It happened at a wedding—a party. A celebration. A joyful, noisy, very human moment.

And He didn’t raise the dead or heal the sick. He refilled the wine supply. At first glance, it almost feels... unspiritual. But that’s the point. God isn’t just present in the holy moments—we find Him in the everyday ones too.

In Jewish weddings, running out of wine was a social disaster. It wasn’t just inconvenient—it brought public shame. Hospitality was a matter of honour. For the groom’s family, this would be humiliating. So Mary comes to Jesus. And even though He says, “My time has not yet come,” He still moves.

Quietly. Without fanfare. No lightning. No drama. Just jars filled, water turned, wine served.

And here's the beautiful part:

Jesus didn't just make average wine. He made the best wine.

The master of the banquet said, "You saved the best till now."

That's the heart of God. He doesn't give leftovers.

He brings joy where shame tried to settle.

He brings beauty where things feel broken.

He brings better when all you've known is empty.

Years ago, a friend of mine walked through a devastating breakup. She felt rejected and unworthy—like her story was over.

But over time, she encountered Jesus in fresh ways. She discovered community, purpose, and identity not based on anyone's opinion—but on the One who makes all things new.

She told me once: "I thought I was done... but Jesus saved the best wine for last."

He still does. If your life feels dry or disappointing, remember:

Jesus didn't come just to save your soul.

He came to fill your life.

With joy. With purpose. With Himself.

Key Points:

- *Jesus shows up in unexpected places and transforms ordinary moments into divine ones.*
- *What looks empty to you may be where God wants to pour something new.*
- *Jesus doesn't give leftovers—He brings the best wine last.*

Quote:

“When God steps in, even what’s run out can become more than enough.” — Lisa Bevere

Reflection Questions:

1. Where in your life do you feel like “the wine has run out”?
2. Have you been limiting God to only spiritual spaces or church services?
3. What jars in your life—ordinary and overlooked—could Jesus be ready to fill?

Prayer:

Jesus, You see the empty places in me—the parts I hide or try to fix on my own.

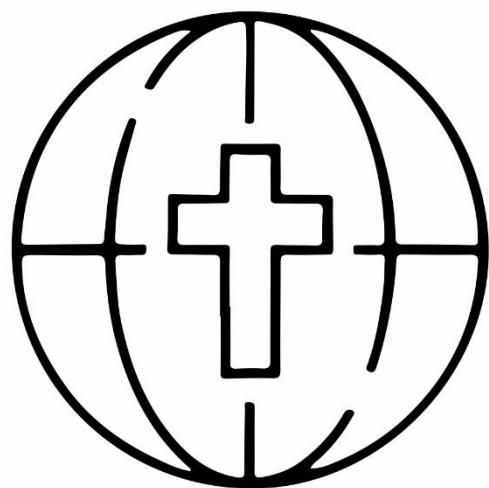
Would You step into my everyday, and do what only You can do?

Fill what is dry. Restore what is broken.

And let joy overflow again.

Amen.

Day 5: Zeal for The House



Scripture:

“Then His disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: ‘Passion for God’s house will consume me.’” John 2:17 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Zēlos” (ζῆλος)

Zēlos means intense passion, fervor, or zeal. It’s a word that can describe jealousy or fiery devotion. In this context, it describes Jesus’ burning desire for purity and reverence in God’s house—a love so consuming, it stirred action.

Devotional Thought:

Most people picture Jesus as gentle, calm, peaceful—and rightly so.

But then we get to John 2. Jesus walks into the temple and sees people turning sacred space into a shopping mall. Doves chirping, coins clinking, merchants haggling... The place meant for prayer had become a marketplace of profit.

Jesus didn’t walk away.

He didn’t ignore it.

He flipped tables.

This moment shocks us. But it also reveals something we need to see:

Jesus has passion. Fierce, holy passion. Not anger out of control, but zeal—the kind that fights for what matters.

Why did He react so strongly?

Because the temple was meant to be a meeting place between God and His people. And people had made it a convenience store. They were profiting off of worship instead of participating in it.

That wasn’t just disrespect. It was a misrepresentation of who God is.

I remember once walking into a youth ministry where the stage setup was flawless, the lights were on point, and the vibe was magnetic...

But behind the scenes, leaders were gossiping, worship was casual, and the Word was barely preached. It broke my heart. But I think it also breaks God's.

Jesus isn't impressed by hype. He's moved by honour.

This verse reminds us: God still cares about His house.

Not just the physical church building—but our hearts, our motives, our spiritual spaces.

What would Jesus flip in your temple today?

Sometimes zeal looks like gentleness. Other times, it looks like confronting compromise. Jesus does both. And He calls us to follow His lead.

He's not asking for empty hype. He's looking for holy hunger.

Key Points:

- *Jesus is not passive about purity—He's passionate about presence.*
- *God's house is meant to be a place of encounter, not exploitation.*
- *Zeal for God means refusing to treat sacred things casually.*

Quote:

"God isn't looking for a show. He's looking for surrender." — A.W. Tozer

Reflection Questions:

1. What sacred spaces in your life have become too casual or cluttered?
2. Are there habits or attitudes Jesus might want to confront in your "temple"?
3. How can you cultivate real zeal for God's presence this week?

Prayer:

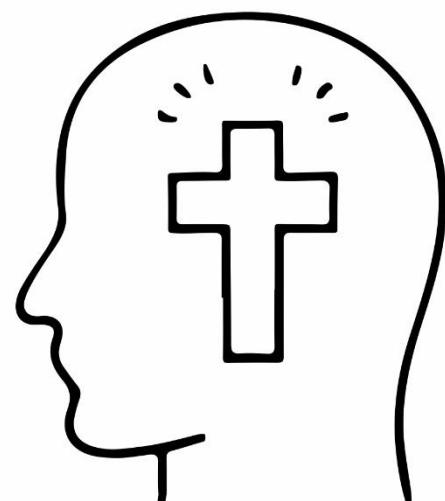
Jesus, give me Your kind of zeal—not for performance, but for Your presence.

Search my heart and flip whatever tables need turning.

Make my life a house where You are welcomed, honoured, and known.

Amen.

Day 6: Born Again



Scripture:

“Jesus replied, ‘I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.’” John 3:3 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Anōthen” (ἄνωθεν)

Anōthen is translated as “again” in most English versions, but it also means “from above.” Jesus wasn’t talking about a second physical birth—He was speaking of a spiritual rebirth that comes from heaven. A new life. A new identity. A whole new start.

Devotional Thought:

Nicodemus came to Jesus at night.

He was a respected religious leader—well-educated, well-behaved, and well-known.

But even with all his status, he was still searching.

What he didn’t expect was for Jesus to look him in the eye and say, “You must be born again.”

It sounded ridiculous to Nicodemus. “You mean... go back into my mother’s womb?” But Jesus wasn’t being literal. He was being liberating.

To be “born again” is not a religious upgrade. It’s a spiritual reset. It’s not polishing up your past—it’s starting a new life entirely. From above. From the Spirit.

Some of us try so hard to fix our old lives. We try to clean up our habits, add some Jesus, and hope we’ll be “good enough.” But Jesus didn’t come to make bad people better.

He came to make dead people live.

When I was younger, I thought following Jesus meant fixing myself—becoming nicer, holier, more disciplined.

But I still felt stuck in cycles I couldn't break.

Until one day, a mentor said: "Isaiah, Jesus didn't die so you could renovate your old life. He died so you could receive a brand new one."

That changed everything.

You don't need to carry your old identity into your new season.

When you're born again, God doesn't just give you a second chance.

He gives you a new nature.

It's not about being perfect. It's about being reborn.

So if you feel stuck, tired, or spiritually dry, maybe you need less self-effort—and more Spirit-breath.

Let the Holy Spirit do what only He can do:

Make you new. From the inside out.

Key Points:

- *Being "born again" means receiving a new life, not improving your old one.*
- *The Holy Spirit births something in you that self-effort never could.*
- *Real transformation starts from above, not from within.*

Quote:

"Jesus didn't come to make bad people good. He came to make dead people alive."

— Ravi Zacharias

Reflection Questions:

1. Have you been trying to fix your old life instead of receiving a new one?
2. What would it mean for you to live as someone completely reborn?
3. Is there a habit, identity, or mindset from your “old life” that God wants you to let go of?

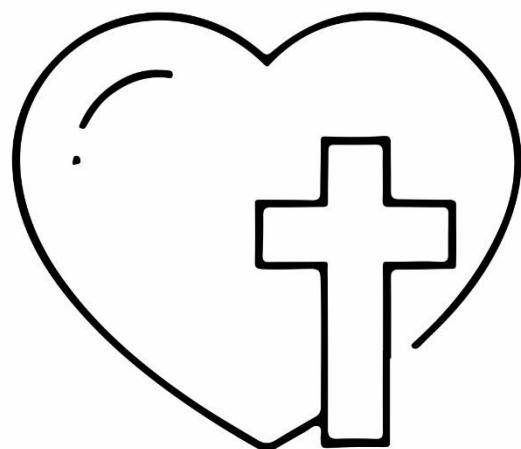
Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that You didn’t come to make me better—you came to make me new. I surrender my old ways and tired efforts.

Let Your Spirit breathe life into every dead space in me. Make me new today.

Amen.

Day 7: God so Love



Scripture:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, So that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”
John 3:16 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Agapaō” (ἀγαπάω)

Agapaō is the verb form of agapē—the deepest, most sacrificial form of love. It's not based on feelings, attraction, or merit. This is the love that initiates, gives, and keeps going even when it's not returned. It's divine love—God's love in motion.

Devotional Thought:

It's the most famous verse in the Bible.

You've seen it on billboards, T-shirts, maybe even sports events.

But don't let familiarity rob you of its weight.

This is not just a memory verse.

It's the heartbeat of the Gospel.

God. So. Loved. Not tolerated. Not slightly cared about. LOVED.

And not just “the good ones.” Not just the ones who go to church.

Not just the ones who try their best. The world.

That includes the messed up, the broken, the proud, the forgotten, the ashamed.

That includes you.

One of the most defining moments in my early ministry happened during a camp altar call. A teenage girl sobbed at the front. She had been abandoned by her father, abused by someone she trusted, and had attempted suicide more than once. Through tears she asked me, “Why would God love me?”

I didn't give her a sermon.

I whispered back: "Because He already gave up everything to prove it."

You don't have to earn this love.

You don't have to understand it fully.

You just have to receive it.

The cross is not just a symbol of death.

It's the loudest declaration: "You are worth loving."

And not just on your best day—on your worst.

Not just when you sing the songs—when you're doubting, failing, running.

God's love doesn't shrink based on your performance.

It stays. It gives. It saves.

So wherever you are today, hear this:

You are not disposable.

You are not forgotten.

You are not too far gone.

You are so loved.

Key Points:

- *God's love is not earned—it's given, freely and fully.*
- *The cross is the greatest proof that you are worth dying for.*
- *Eternal life begins the moment you believe and receive His love.*

Quote:

"God's love is not based on you. It's placed on you." — Matt Chandler

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you truly believe that God loves you—not just the world?
2. What part of you feels hardest to believe is lovable?
3. How might your life look different if you lived like you were truly loved?

Prayer:

Father, thank You that You didn't just feel love for me—You gave for me.

Thank You for Jesus, the proof of Your passion and the gift of eternal life.

Help me live every day like I am fully and forever loved.

Amen.

Day 8: The Samaritan Woman



Scripture:

“Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?” John 4:29 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “*Gunē*” (γυνή)

Gunē means “woman” or “wife,” but in John 4, it carries deeper cultural weight. Jesus, a Jewish rabbi, directly addresses a Samaritan *gunē*—a woman marked by broken relationships and societal shame. In His world, this was unheard of. But Jesus wasn’t bound by social norms—He was moved by divine love.

Devotional Thought:

She came at noon—when the sun was hottest and the crowd was gone.

Most women drew water in the early morning. But she couldn’t risk the stares, the whispers, the judgment.

Too many men. Too many mistakes. Too much shame. But then—Jesus.

He was waiting, not by accident, but on purpose.

He asks for water. She deflects. He responds with grace. She tries to hide.

He gently exposes. And then—He reveals what no one else had ever told her with love: “I know you.”

Not in a condemning way. In a redeeming way.

Jesus saw everything—and He stayed.

That’s the power of this moment.

She wasn’t just known by Jesus.

She was loved by Him.

And when she realized it, she ran back to the village—not hiding anymore, but shouting: “Come see a man who told me everything I ever did!”

Isn’t that ironic?

The very things she tried to bury—her past, her pain, her relationships—became her testimony.

Jesus didn’t give her a lecture. He gave her living water.

Not religion, not shame, not a second chance to fix herself—but a new life.

You may be like her—walking to the well alone, carrying secret burdens, convinced no one sees or understands.

But Jesus is already there, waiting to meet you in your story, not outside of it.

Key Points:

- *Jesus meets us at the place of our shame, not away from it.*
- *Your past doesn’t disqualify you—it may become your platform.*
- *Living water isn’t something you earn—it’s someone you encounter.*

Quote:

“Jesus didn’t avoid her because of her sin. He pursued her in spite of it.” — Christine Caine

Reflection Questions:

1. What “well” do you keep returning to that leaves you empty?
2. Are there parts of your past you believe disqualify you from being used by God?
3. How might God want to use your story as a testimony?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for seeing me fully—and loving me anyway.

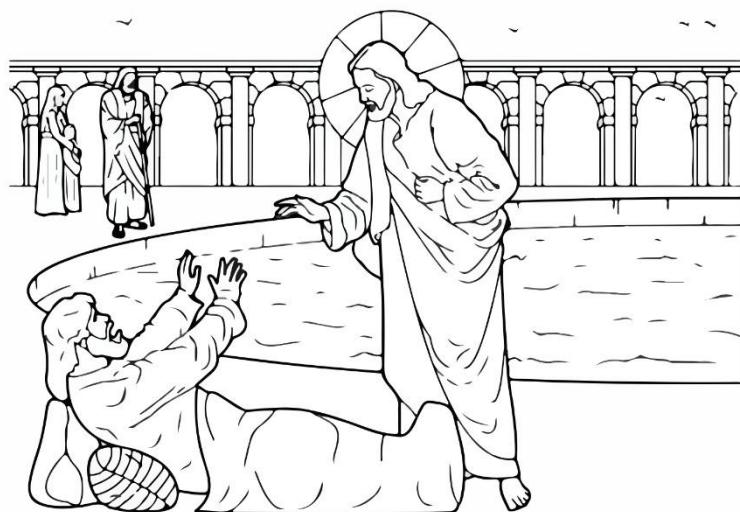
I bring You my shame, my secrets, and my scars.

Fill me with living water that never runs dry.

Help me turn my past into a story that points others to You.

Amen.

Day 9: Healing at The Pool



Scripture:

“Jesus told him, ‘Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!’” John 5:8 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Egēgertai” (ἐγέρω)

This verb means “to raise up” or “to awaken.” It’s not just physical—it’s often used in the New Testament to describe resurrection, spiritual awakening, or being stirred into action. When Jesus said this word to the man at the pool, He wasn’t just healing his legs—He was raising his life.

Devotional Thought:

Thirty-eight years.

That’s how long this man had been stuck—paralyzed at the pool of Bethesda, waiting, hoping, watching others get healed while he stayed the same.

Every time the water stirred, he tried to move.

But someone always got ahead of him.

He was forgotten, overlooked, and tired.

Then Jesus walked in.

Jesus asks, “Do you want to be well?”

It almost sounds insulting. But it’s not.

It’s revealing.

Sometimes we get so used to our brokenness, we don’t even realize we’ve stopped hoping.

Jesus wasn’t asking if the man liked being paralyzed—He was asking if he was ready for change.

The man answered with excuses:

“No one helps me... someone always goes before me...”

Sound familiar?

We all have mats—places of pain, habits of survival, identities built around our brokenness.

And when Jesus shows up, He doesn't always ask, “How did you get here?”

He says, “Do you want to get up?”

Years ago, I sat with a leader who had fallen morally. He was repentant, but also stuck in shame. He kept saying, “I don't know if I'll ever be the same.”

At some point, I gently said, “Maybe the question isn't whether you'll be the same—but whether you're willing to get up and walk with Jesus now.”

That moment broke him—and healed him.

Jesus didn't touch the water.

He spoke a word.

Egēgertai. Rise.

He still speaks it today—to your disappointment, your addiction, your fear, your spiritual paralysis. Get up. Not in your own strength—but in His word.

Key Points:

- Jesus meets you in the place where you've been stuck the longest.
- Excuses may explain your situation, but they can't heal it.
- His word has the power to raise you—even before the circumstances change.

Quote:

“You’ve been down long enough. Rise, not because you feel strong—but because He said so.” — Levi Lusko

Reflection Questions:

1. What area of your life feels stuck or paralyzed?
2. Are there “mats” you’ve been lying on for too long—habits, labels, patterns?
3. What would it look like for you to rise in obedience today?

Prayer:

Jesus, I confess the areas where I’ve settled into pain.

Speak into my stuck places.

Call me to rise—out of shame, out of fear, out of the past.

Give me the

Day 10: The Bread of Life



Scripture:

“Jesus replied, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’” John 6:35 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “*Artos zōēs*” (ἄρτος ζωῆς)

Artos means bread—specifically the kind baked daily for survival. Zōēs refers to life in its fullest sense—not just existing, but truly living. When Jesus says, “I am the bread of life,” He’s saying: “I’m your daily, sustaining, life-giving source. Not a side dish—your main nourishment.”

Devotional Thought:

The crowd came looking for another miracle.

They had just seen Jesus multiply bread and fish. Their stomachs were full. Their excitement was high.

They wanted more.

But Jesus offered something deeper.

Not just bread that perishes—but bread that truly satisfies.

Himself.

It's easy to chase what fills us for a moment—success, attention, affirmation, even spiritual highs.

But Jesus isn't here to be our vending machine.

He's here to be our source.

When He said, “I am the bread of life,” it wasn’t just poetic.

It was personal.

He was saying:

“I’m what you’re truly hungry for.”

“I’m the answer behind your appetite.”

“I’m enough—not just once, but every day.”

I once spoke to a young woman who shared how empty she felt, even though everything looked great on the outside—good grades, leadership roles, a growing social media following.

She said, “I’m eating a lot of things that don’t feed me.”

Her words hit hard.

Because many of us are full—but still starving.

Why?

Because we’ve been feeding our souls with crumbs—likes, applause, distractions—while neglecting the Living Bread.

You don’t need more stuff to feel full.

You need more Jesus.

He doesn’t just satisfy your soul—He sustains it.

And the beauty is: You don’t need to impress Him to come to the table.

You just need to be hungry.

He feeds the desperate, not the deserving.

Key Points:

- *True satisfaction isn’t found in what we consume, but in whom we trust.*
- *Jesus isn’t an add-on to your life—He is the bread that sustains it.*
- *You were never meant to live on spiritual snacks—only on the Bread of Life.*

Quote:

“The world offers fast food for the soul. Jesus offers the Bread that never spoils.”
— John Piper

Reflection Questions:

1. What are you feeding your soul with—and is it truly satisfying you?
2. Have you been seeking Jesus for what He can give, or for who He is?
3. What does it look like for you to daily come to Jesus as your bread?

Prayer:

Jesus, I confess I've often filled myself with things that don't satisfy.

Today, I come hungry—not for another thrill, but for You.

Be my Bread of Life.

Fill me, feed me, and sustain me daily.

Amen.

Day 11: Do You Also to Want Go Away?



Scripture:

“Then Jesus said to the twelve, ‘Do you also want to go away?’ But Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.’”

John 6:67–68 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Poreuesthe” (πορεύεσθε)

This word means “to go away, depart, or walk off.” It carries not just physical departure, but the idea of turning your back on something or someone. Jesus asked His disciples a piercing question—Are you walking away too?—as many others had after hearing His hard teachings.

Devotional Thought:

The crowd thinned.

Jesus had just taught something hard—too hard for many to accept.

He spoke of eating His flesh and drinking His blood (John 6:53), pointing to the cross, to surrender, to intimacy.

And just like that, what had started as a miracle-filled rally became an uncomfortable moment of decision.

Many walked away.

Not because Jesus failed them,

But because He challenged them.

Then Jesus turned to His twelve.

His voice wasn’t angry—just honest.

“Do you also want to go away?”

No manipulation. No pleading. Just the question.

It’s the same question He asks us today.

When it gets hard to follow...

When obedience costs more than we imagined...

When prayers feel unanswered...

When crowds leave and friends misunderstand...

Will you go too?

Peter's answer has become one of the most profound declarations of faith in all of Scripture: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

He didn't say, "We understand everything."

He didn't say, "We're comfortable with this."

He said, "Where else would we turn?"

I remember a time in ministry when everything felt like it was falling apart.

Leadership tension. Financial pressure. Family stress.

I knelt at the side of my bed and cried, "God, I don't know if I can keep doing this."

And in the stillness, I heard a whisper in my soul:

"Isaiah, if not Me, then who?"

That moment marked me.

Even when it's hard, even when we don't understand, even when our hearts ache...

Jesus is still the only one with the words of life.

So when you're tempted to walk away, remember:

You're not just walking from something—you're walking away from Someone who holds the life you're searching for.

Key Points:

- *Following Jesus will sometimes offend your comfort before it transforms your life.*
- *Faith doesn't mean we understand everything—but we know who we trust.*
- *There's nowhere else worth going when Jesus has the words of eternal life.*

Quote:

“When Jesus is all you have left, you’ll find He’s all you ever needed.” — Corrie ten Boom

Reflection Questions:

1. Have you ever felt like walking away from Jesus? Why?
2. What “hard teachings” of Jesus challenge you most today?
3. What anchors your faith when everything around you feels uncertain?

Prayer:

Jesus, You know the places in me that feel tired, confused, or disillusioned.

But still—I choose You.

Where else could I go?

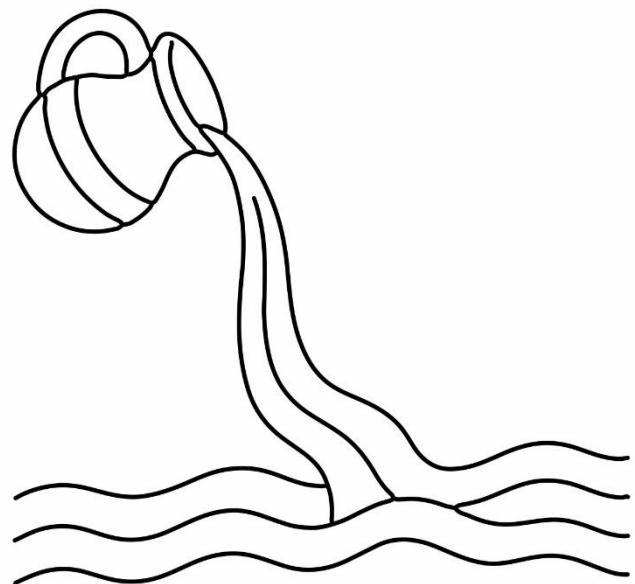
You are the One with life in Your words and healing in Your hands.

Hold me close, even when I don’t understand.

Amen.

Day 12:

Living Water



Scripture:

“Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” John 7:38 (NLT)

Word Study – Greek: “Potamos” (ποταμός)

Potamos means “river” or “torrent”—not a trickle, but a strong, overflowing current. It’s used here to describe the effect of the Holy Spirit flowing out of a believer’s life. This isn’t about surviving spiritually—it’s about overflowing with divine life and presence.

Devotional Thought:

The crowd gathered for the Feast of Tabernacles.

Each day, priests would pour out water at the temple altar, symbolizing God’s provision and the hope for rain.

On the final day, Jesus stood up and cried out—not softly, but with urgency and volume: “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink!”

It was bold.

It was public.

It was disruptive.

And it was everything.

He wasn’t just inviting them to a ritual.

He was offering them relationship.

A spring that never runs dry.

A river that flows not to them—but through them.

Years ago, I met a youth leader who looked spiritually burned out.

He said, "I feel like I'm pouring out of an empty cup."

We prayed, and I told him:

"God didn't call you to pour out from a cup. He called you to overflow from a river."

That changed the way he led.

Because he stopped performing—and started drinking again.

Jesus didn't say, "Come and work harder."

He said, "Come and drink."

He didn't say, "Try to overflow."

He said, "Let Me fill you until rivers run."

And here's the promise: This river never runs dry.

But notice: it flows from the inside out.

Not external hype. Not emotional buzz.

But the inner, sustaining, Spirit-powered presence of God.

You don't need to chase a feeling or rely on spiritual momentum.

You need to stay connected to the Source.

Thirst isn't a weakness—it's an invitation.

And when you bring your thirst to Jesus, He doesn't just satisfy it.

He multiplies it into a river that brings life to others.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't just quench your thirst—He fills you to overflow.*
- *The Holy Spirit flows from the inside out, not from outside in.*
- *God invites the thirsty, not the strong.*

Quote:

*"The world drinks to forget. We drink from Jesus to remember who we are." —
Louie Giglio*

Reflection Questions:

1. What are you drinking from right now that doesn't truly satisfy your soul?
2. Are you living from overflow—or out of emptiness?
3. What would it look like today to pause and simply drink from Jesus again?

Prayer:

Jesus, I bring You my dryness and my thirst.

I've been drinking from broken wells and empty fountains.

Fill me with living water—Your Spirit, Your presence, Your power.

Let rivers flow from my heart again, for Your glory and the good of others.

Amen.

Day 13: Neither Do I Condemn You



Scripture:

“And Jesus said to her, ‘Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.’” John 8:11 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Katakrinō” (κατακρίνω)

Katakrinō means “to condemn, judge against, pronounce guilty with punishment.” It’s not just identifying wrong—it’s issuing a final sentence. When Jesus says, “Neither do I condemn you,” He’s not denying her sin; He’s lifting the sentence. He offers grace instead of judgment, and freedom instead of shame.

Devotional Thought:

She was caught.

Dragged into the temple. Thrown in front of a crowd.

No time to explain. No room to run.

The law was clear: adultery deserved stoning.

And now, everyone waited to see what Jesus would do.

But instead of joining the accusers,

Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground.

No one knows what He wrote.

But whatever it was, it stopped the stones in their hands.

Then He stood and said,

“Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone.” Silence.

And slowly... one by one... the crowd walked away.

When it was just her and Jesus left, He looked at her—not with condemnation, but with compassion—and said,
“Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.”

He didn't justify her sin.

But He refused to define her by it.

He didn't crush her under the law.

He covered her in grace.

That's who Jesus is.

Years ago, I met a young adult who had just walked away from an abortion. She hadn't told anyone. She thought the church would hate her. She thought God was done with her.

But that day, she heard this story from John 8, and tears streamed down her face. She said, “I always thought God was holding a stone. But maybe He was holding me.”

You need to hear this too:

Jesus knows everything—and He still chooses mercy.

Not a license to stay in sin.

But an invitation to leave it—without chains, without shame, without condemnation.

You are not your past.

You are not your worst moment.

You are not what the crowd says.

You are who Jesus declares: forgiven, loved, free.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't ignore sin—but He doesn't define you by it either.*
- *Grace silences condemnation without excusing compromise.*
- *True forgiveness empowers true freedom.*

Quote:

“Grace is not the denial of sin; it is the declaration that sin doesn’t have the final word.” — Bob Goff

Reflection Questions:

1. What guilt or shame are you still carrying that Jesus has already forgiven?
2. Are you more afraid of the crowd's judgment than you are trusting in Christ's mercy?
3. What would it mean for you to truly walk in the freedom of “go and sin no more”?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that You saw my sin and didn't throw a stone.

You offered grace when I deserved judgment.

Help me walk in Your forgiveness, not in fear.

And give me the strength to leave behind everything You've already freed me from.

Amen.

Day 14:

I am The Light of The World



Scripture:

“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’” John 8:12 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Phōs tou kosmou” (φῶς τοῦ κόσμου)

Phōs means “light”—not just physical light, but illumination, clarity, and truth. *Kosmos* means the world—creation, humanity, and the systems within it. Jesus isn’t just a light in the world; He is the Light for the world, exposing darkness and guiding us into life.

Devotional Thought:

Jesus made this declaration right after the story of the woman caught in adultery. It’s no coincidence.

Darkness isn’t just about the absence of light—it’s where shame hides, sin grows, and fear thrives.

But Jesus doesn’t shame people out of the dark.

He shines into the dark.

He steps into it—bringing truth without terror, clarity without condemnation.

When Jesus says, “I am the light of the world,” He’s not just giving a theological metaphor.

He’s offering a way out. A way forward. A way home.

Light doesn’t make you perfect.

It just helps you see clearly.

It shows you what’s real, what matters, what’s safe, and what’s deadly.

And that’s why some people reject the light—not because it hurts, but because it reveals.

I remember counseling a young man who was struggling with secret sin. He said, “I can’t stop. I’m tired. But I’m also afraid to tell anyone.” I told him gently, “Darkness is where shame thrives. But light is where healing begins.”

That day, he brought his struggle into the light. And the journey of freedom began. Jesus is not just the light at the end of the tunnel. He’s the light in the tunnel—walking with you through it.

And here’s His promise:

If you follow Me, you will not walk in darkness.

Not: “You’ll never stumble.”

Not: “You’ll never sin.”

But: “You won’t be lost anymore. You’ll never walk alone.”

Because light doesn’t mean you never fall.

It means you always know who’s with you when you do.

Key Points:

- *Jesus exposes darkness to free you, not to shame you.*
- *Following Him doesn’t mean perfection—it means walking in clarity and direction. Light leads to life—don’t fear it, follow it.*

Quote:

“Jesus didn’t come to throw shade—He came to turn on the light.” — Jefferson Bethke

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there areas of your life still hidden in darkness?
2. What fears are keeping you from bringing things into the light?
3. How can you actively follow the Light of the world today?

Prayer:

Jesus, You are the Light in my darkness.

Shine into every corner of my heart.

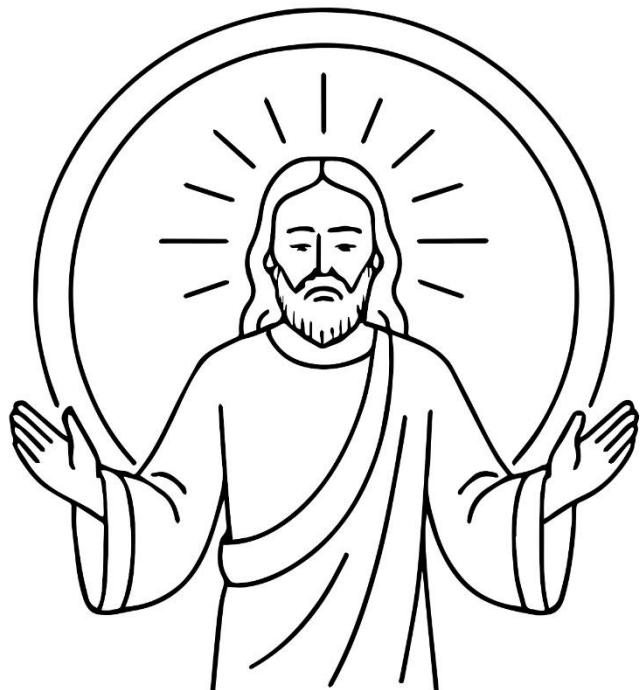
Expose what needs to change, and guide me into life.

Help me follow You even when it's uncomfortable,

Because I know in You, there is no darkness at all.

Amen.

Day 15: Before Abraham Was, I AM



Scripture:

*“Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’”
John 8:58 (NKJV)*

Word Study – Greek: “Egō eimi” (Ἐγώ εἰμι)

Egō eimi translates to “I AM,” the exact phrase God used in Exodus 3:14 when speaking to Moses: “I AM WHO I AM.” In John 8:58, Jesus doesn’t just claim pre-existence—He uses the divine name, identifying Himself as Yahweh. It was radical. It was personal. It was God in the flesh, revealed.

Devotional Thought:

*The people listening to Jesus were deeply religious.
They honored Abraham. They followed Moses.
But they couldn’t recognize God standing in front of them.*

And then Jesus dropped this bombshell:
“Before Abraham was, I AM.”
Not “I was.”
Not “I existed.”
“I AM.”

This was more than a grammar twist.
It was a declaration of divinity.
He wasn’t just saying He was ancient.
He was saying: “I AM the eternal God who always was, always is, and always will be.” In that moment, Jesus revealed His unfiltered identity.

And it caused chaos.

The crowd picked up stones to kill Him—not because they misunderstood Him, but because they understood exactly what He meant.

Sometimes, we treat Jesus like a teacher, a moral example, a spiritual influencer.

But He didn't leave that option open.

He claimed to be God.

C.S. Lewis famously said:

“Jesus is either a liar, a lunatic, or Lord. But not just a good teacher”

So here's the question: Who is Jesus to you—really?

If He's just an add-on to your life, a comfort when things are hard, or a motivational figure—you've missed it.

He is the I AM. He is uncreated. Unchanging. Unshaken.

The same God who spoke to Moses from a burning bush...

Now walking among us in human form.

And here's what that means:

Because He always is, His promises are always true.

Because He never changes, His love for you never dims.

Because He is I AM... you are never alone.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn't just point to God—He declared Himself to be God.*
- *The name “I AM” reveals the eternal, present, and unshakable nature of Christ.*
- *When you truly know who Jesus is, everything else finds its place.*

Quote:

“Jesus was not crucified for being a nice guy. He was crucified for claiming to be God.” Tim Keller

Reflection Questions:

1. Have you truly embraced Jesus as Lord—or just as a helper or teacher?
2. What would it look like to live today with the confidence that “I AM” is with you?
3. How does knowing Jesus is eternal and unchanging strengthen your trust in Him?

Prayer:

Jesus, You are not just a good man or a wise teacher.

You are the I AM—eternal, unshakable, and holy.

I surrender my small view of You and ask You to reveal Yourself more fully in my life.

Let everything I am find purpose in everything You are.

Amen.

Day 16: The Good Shepherd



Scripture:

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”

John 10:11 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Poimēn kalos” (ποιμὴν καλός)

Poimēn means “shepherd”—a guide, protector, and caregiver. *Kalos* means “good” in the sense of noble, beautiful, worthy—not just morally upright, but deeply admirable and selfless. When Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd, He’s describing not only His role—but the heart behind it.

Devotional Thought:

Sheep are not the smartest animals.

They wander. They get stuck. They panic easily.

They have no natural defense—no claws, sharp teeth, or instincts to survive alone.

That's why they need a shepherd.

Not just someone to bark orders,

But someone who stays close, leads gently, and lays down his life to keep them safe.

When Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd,” He wasn’t giving us a cute metaphor. He was telling us something profound about His relationship with us.

He leads us—not drives us.

He knows us by name—not as a crowd, but as individuals.

And when danger comes, He doesn’t run.

He lays down His life. That’s what separates Him from the “hired hand”—someone who’s only in it when it’s easy.

Years ago, I watched a youth leader walk with a teenager through addiction, relapse, and restoration.

What struck me wasn't the strategy—it was the staying.

She never gave up on him.

And when I asked her why, she said, "Because that's what my Shepherd did for me."

That's what the Good Shepherd does.

He stays when others leave.

He leads when we're lost.

He carries when we're broken.

And He dies when we're in danger.

There's no one like Him.

In a world full of noise, manipulation, and leaders who disappoint—Jesus stands apart. He doesn't exploit the sheep. He becomes the Lamb.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't abandon us when we're messy—He lays down His life to rescue us.*
- *As our Good Shepherd, He leads with tenderness, not with fear.*
- *You are not just a number in the crowd—He knows your name and your need.*

Quote:

"The Shepherd became a Lamb so the sheep could come home." — Louie Giglio

Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of your life have you wandered from the voice of the Shepherd?
2. Are you following Jesus out of trust—or fear?
3. What would change if you believed, every day, that you are fully known and still fully loved?

Prayer:

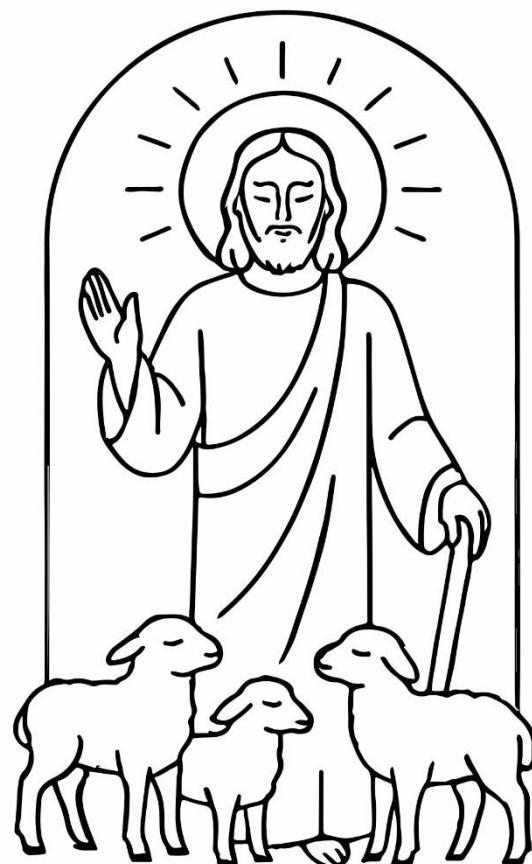
Jesus, my Good Shepherd, thank You for leading me when I'm lost and for staying when I stray.

Thank You for laying down Your life so I could be found.

Help me to follow Your voice, rest in Your presence, and trust in Your care.

Amen.

Day 17: The Door of The Sheep



Scripture:

“I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.” John 10:9 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Thyra” (Θύρα)

Thyra means “door” or “gate”—a point of access, protection, or entry. In ancient sheepfolds, shepherds would lie down at the opening, physically becoming the door—so nothing came in or out except through them. When Jesus says, “I am the door,” He’s saying: “I am your only way in, your ultimate protection, and your true provision.”

Devotional Thought:

We live in a world of endless access.

Apps. Options. Shortcuts.

There’s always another door to try.

But not every door leads to life.

Some lead to heartbreak.

Others to confusion, compromise, or burnout.

Jesus offers something radically exclusive—and beautifully inclusive:

“I am the door.”

He doesn’t say He’s a door.

He says He’s the door.

Not just the gate to heaven someday...

But the way to life here and now—safety, rest, freedom, and purpose.

In Jesus' time, sheepfolds were often stone circles with one small gap for entry. At night, the shepherd would lie down across the opening. He became the door.

That means:

If a wolf came, it had to go through the shepherd.
If a sheep tried to wander, it had to step over his body.

The shepherd literally put himself between the sheep and danger.

That's the gospel.

Jesus laid Himself down—so we could walk in.

He is the only door that leads to life.

All other doors may promise freedom—but only He delivers it.

A few years ago, a student told me, “I’ve tried every door—approval, partying, performance—and I’m still empty.”

Then he paused and said, “Maybe the only door I didn’t try... was the right one.”
That night, he met Jesus—not as a concept, but as the Door.
And he’s never been the same.

Maybe you’ve been trying other doors.

Maybe you’re tired of fake freedom.

Come home.

Come through the Door.

Key Points:

- *Jesus is not one of many doors—He is the only way to real life.*
- *As the Door, He offers both protection from harm and access to abundant life.*
- *You don't have to force your way in—He laid Himself down so you could walk through.*

Quote:

*“Jesus didn’t come to lock you out. He came to be the Door that lets you in.” —
Rich Villodas*

Reflection Questions:

1. What other “doors” have you been trying that lead to dead ends?
2. Do you trust Jesus as both your protector and your provider?
3. What would it look like to fully walk through the Door—to leave old patterns behind and enter real life?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for being the Door—for laying Yourself down to give me access to the Father.

I confess I've tried other ways that left me empty.

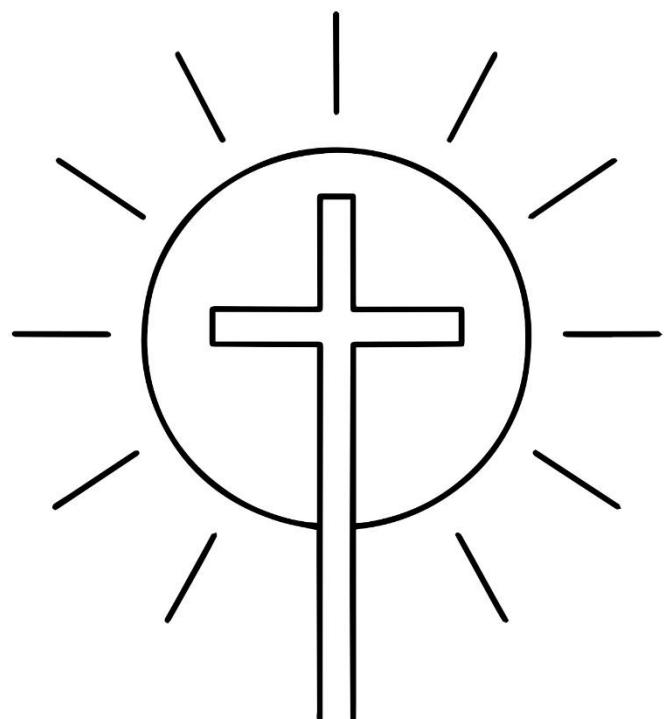
Help me walk through You—into freedom, safety, and rest.

Guard me. Lead me. Keep me.

Amen.

Day 18:

I and The Father are One



Scripture:

“I and My Father are one.” John 10:30 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Hen” (ἕν)

Hen means “one” in essence or nature—not just in agreement or purpose. When Jesus said, “I and the Father are one,” He wasn’t just claiming teamwork with God. He was claiming oneness of being. In Jewish ears, this was a direct claim to divinity—and it’s why many picked up stones to kill Him.

Devotional Thought:

Imagine someone saying, “I’m one with God.”

Not just aligned with His values.

Not just sent by Him.

But one in essence with Him.

That’s what Jesus said.

And it wasn’t poetic—it was provocative.

In one sentence, He shattered every category:

“I and the Father are one.”

To the religious leaders, this was blasphemy.

To us, it’s the foundation of our faith.

Jesus wasn’t just a prophet pointing to God.

He is God—full stop.

This matters because it changes how we see everything He did.

When He wept, God was weeping. When He touched lepers, God was reaching out. When He forgave sin, God was releasing grace.

No separation. No division.

The heart of the Father revealed in the face of the Son.

I once heard someone say, “I like Jesus, but I’m not sure about God. He seems harsh.” But Jesus clears that up.

He’s not the nice side of God.

He’s not the middleman softening the blow.

He is God—in fullness, in flesh, in love.

And here’s the best part:

Because Jesus is one with the Father,

You can be one with God through Him.

He didn’t just come to reveal oneness—He came to invite you into it.

Into intimacy. Into unity. Into relationship that religion could never produce.

You don’t need to strive to reach God.

Jesus brought God to you.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn’t claim to be like God—He claimed to be one with God.*
- *Everything Jesus said and did perfectly reflects the heart of the Father.*
- *Through Jesus, we are invited into deep, personal union with God.*

Quote:

“If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. He’s the exact imprint of His nature.” — Hebrews 1:3 (paraphrased)

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you struggle to believe that Jesus fully reveals the heart of God?
2. How does the oneness of the Father and Son affect your view of God's love for you?
3. Are there areas in your life where you're striving to "get to God" instead of walking in the relationship Jesus already secured?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that when I see You, I see the Father.

Thank You for not just pointing the way—but for being the way.

Draw me into deeper union with You.

Let my heart rest in the truth that I am fully known and fully loved by God—because of You.

Amen.

Day 19:

The Resurrection and The Life



Scripture:

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.’” John 11:25 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Anastasis” (ἀνάστασις)

Anastasis means “resurrection”—literally, “a rising up” or “standing again.” It’s not just resuscitation or recovery; it is the supernatural act of life conquering death. When Jesus says He is the resurrection, He’s not just pointing to a future event—He’s declaring Himself as the present source of new life, here and now.

Devotional Thought:

Lazarus was dead.

Four days in the tomb.

Wrapped in grave clothes.

The sound of mourning echoed through Bethany.

Martha, his sister, runs out to meet Jesus.

Her words are raw: “Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn’t have died.”

It’s not just grief—it’s confusion.

Where were You, Jesus?

We’ve all asked that.

“God, where were You when the relationship ended?”

“Where were You when the sickness came?”

“Where were You when I prayed and nothing happened?”

Jesus didn’t scold Martha for her honesty.

He gave her hope that went deeper than healing.

“I am the resurrection and the life.”

Not, I will be.

Not, I will bring it someday.

I AM.

Jesus didn’t come just to raise Lazarus—He came to reveal Himself.

He wasn’t offering theology. He was offering Himself.

He was saying: “I’m not late. I’m Life itself.”

And moments later, Jesus stood at the tomb and called, “Lazarus, come forth!”

And the dead man lived again.

That’s what Jesus still does.

He speaks to the dead things in your life—dreams, faith, joy, identity—and He calls them back.

He doesn’t avoid the tomb.

He walks into it—and brings resurrection with Him.

I once met a woman who lost everything in a fire—her home, business, even family photos.

She told me later, “I thought everything was over. But in the ashes, God met me. And I became someone new.”

That’s resurrection.

It’s not about reversing the past.

It’s about God bringing new life out of what looked completely lost.

If He can raise the dead, He can raise you.

Key Points:

- *Resurrection is not just something Jesus does—it's who He is.*
- *Jesus meets us in grief not with platitudes, but with power.*
- *No situation is too far gone when the Resurrection is in the room.*

Quote:

“The same voice that called Lazarus out of the tomb still speaks into dead places today.” — Christine Caine

Reflection Questions:

1. What areas of your life feel like they've died—hope, dreams, passion, purpose?
2. How does knowing Jesus is the Resurrection give you strength in loss?
3. Are you willing to let Him speak into the places you've already buried?

Prayer:

Jesus, You are the Resurrection and the Life.

There are places in me that feel lifeless and broken.

Speak to them. Call them back.

I trust that nothing is too dead for Your power.

Resurrect my hope. Resurrect my joy. Resurrect my purpose.

Amen.

Day 20: Jesus Wept



Scripture:

“Jesus wept.” John 11:35 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Dakryō” (δακρύω)

Dakryō means “to shed tears, to weep softly.” This word is different from loud, wailing grief (*klaio*)—it’s a deep, quiet, heartfelt sorrow. When Jesus wept, He wasn’t just making a display; He was deeply moved by love, compassion, and the brokenness of death.

Devotional Thought:

Two words.

That’s the shortest verse in the Bible—and yet, it’s one of the most profound.

“Jesus wept.”

Why would Jesus cry when He knew He was about to raise Lazarus?

Because He’s not just the God who fixes problems.

He’s the God who feels with us.

Before He called Lazarus out of the tomb,

He entered the grief of Mary and Martha.

He didn’t rush them.

He didn’t say, “Don’t cry—I’ll handle this.”

He cried with them.

This is the heart of Jesus.

He doesn’t stand far off with divine detachment.

He steps into our pain and lets it move Him.

Have you ever had someone just sit with you when you were hurting—not offering solutions, just presence?

That's Jesus.

He doesn't just bring resurrection; He brings relationship.

I'll never forget sitting with a friend who had just lost his father.

There were no words that could make it better.

We just sat in silence, tears running down both our faces.

Later he said, "Your tears meant more than your words ever could."

That's Jesus.

He doesn't just change your circumstances.

He weeps in your valley before leading you out.

So if you're hurting today, remember this:

Your tears are not wasted.

Your pain is not invisible.

The God who created the universe weeps with you.

Key Points:

- *Jesus feels deeply—He is both fully God and fully human.*
- *Compassion is not weakness; it is the heartbeat of love.*
- *Sometimes the greatest miracle is that God is present in our pain before He brings change.*

Quote:

"Tears are prayers too. They travel to God when we can't find the words." — Unknown

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you believe that Jesus truly feels your pain and sorrow?
2. How does knowing that Jesus wept with Mary and Martha change your view of His compassion?
3. When was the last time you invited Jesus to sit with you in your grief?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for being a Savior who cries with me.

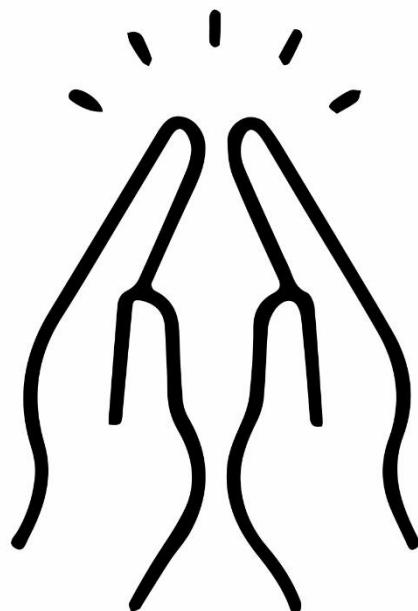
You see my pain and carry my sorrow.

Even when I don't understand, I trust that You are with me—feeling what I feel, loving me through it.

Help me to find comfort in Your presence today.

Amen.

Day 21: If You Believe, You Will See



Scripture:

“Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?’” John 11:40 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Pisteuō” (πιστεύω)

Pisteuō means “to believe, to trust, to place confidence in.” It’s not merely intellectual agreement—it’s personal reliance. When Jesus speaks of belief here, He’s calling Martha (and us) to trust who He is even before seeing what He will do.

Devotional Thought:

Standing outside the tomb of her brother, Martha had heard Jesus say, “I am the resurrection and the life.” But even with that promise, the weight of death still pressed in.

Now Jesus looks at her and says,
“If you believe, you will see.”

Notice the order:

Believe first. Then see.

This goes against how the world operates.
We say: “I’ll believe it when I see it.”
Jesus says: “You’ll see it when you believe.”

Faith is trusting God’s Word before you have proof in your hands.
Martha could have backed away.
The stone was still there.
The smell of death lingered.

Logic said it was over.

But Jesus said, “Trust Me.”

That's the tension we all face:

Will we believe in the middle, when the miracle hasn't come yet?

Will we believe before the stone is rolled away?

I once spoke with a young man who had battled depression for years.

He had prayed, cried, fought. Still, no instant breakthrough.

But every morning, he'd whisper, “Jesus, I still believe.”

Months later, healing began to break through—not all at once, but slowly, steadily. And he told me, “I didn't see because I believed. I believed—and then I saw.”

That's what Jesus honors.

A heart that trusts when nothing makes sense.

A faith that clings when feelings fade.

A belief that God's glory is on the way, even if it hasn't shown up yet.

Your breakthrough may not look like Lazarus walking out of a tomb.

But the glory of God will be revealed in your story—if you believe.

Key Points:

- *Faith trusts God's Word even when circumstances disagree.*
- *Believing isn't about denying reality—it's about anchoring to a greater one.*
- *God's glory is often seen through the lens of trust, not just miracles.*

Quote:

“Faith is not believing God can—it’s believing God will, even when you don’t see it yet.” — Christine Caine

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there areas in your life where you've stopped believing because you haven't seen?
2. What would it look like to act in faith, even before you feel like it?
3. How has God shown His glory in past situations where you chose to trust?

Prayer:

Jesus, I want to believe even when it's hard.

Help me to trust You before the breakthrough, before the tomb is open, before the answer arrives.

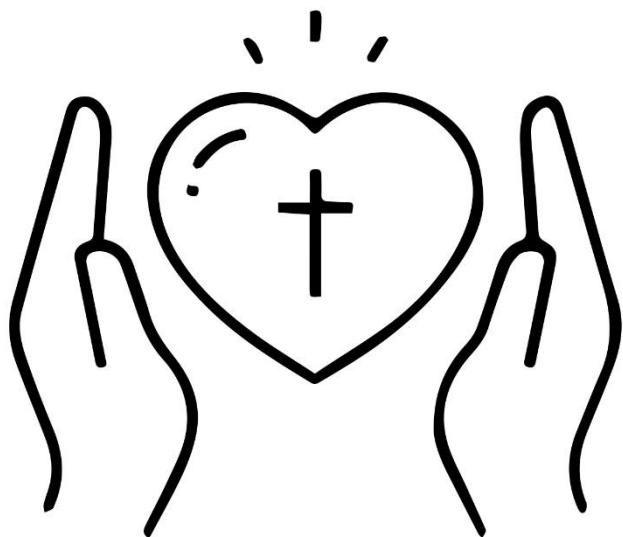
Let my faith be rooted not in what I see, but in who You are.

I believe—help my unbelief.

Amen.

Day 22:

He Loved Them to The End



Scripture:

“Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.” John 13:1 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Telos” (τέλος)

Telos means “the end, goal, completion, or full extent.” It’s not just about time—it speaks of reaching the ultimate purpose. When John says Jesus loved His disciples “to the end,” it means He loved them to the fullest degree, with nothing held back, even through betrayal, denial, and the cross.

Devotional Thought:

This verse is a quiet thunder.

Before Jesus picks up the towel to wash feet,
Before He breaks the bread and pours the wine,
Before Judas leaves to betray and Peter promises what he can’t keep...
John tells us something simple but stunning: “He loved them to the end.”

Not until they failed.

Not until they disappointed Him.

Not until it got hard.

He loved them through it all.

To the fullest. To the finish.

To the telos.

This is the kind of love we’re not used to.

Our world gives up easily.

We “cancel” people when they mess up.

We keep score.

We pull back when it costs too much.

But Jesus—He leaned in.

Even when His closest friends fell asleep.

Even when they deserted Him in His darkest hour.

Even when He carried their sins—and ours—on the cross.

He never stopped loving.

I once met a young woman who walked away from church for years.

She told me, “I thought God loved me when I was at my best. But when I was at my worst, I assumed He was done with me.”

But then she read John 13:1.

She paused and said, “So... He loved them to the end? Even Judas?”

Yes. Even Judas.

Jesus’ love isn’t fragile.

It doesn’t flinch at failure.

It doesn’t evaporate in weakness.

It endures.

And that’s how He loves you.

Not just when you’re strong.

Not just when you’re faithful.

But all the way—through your doubts, your mess, your seasons of silence.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't love you for a season—He loves you to the end.*
- *His love remains steady through our worst failures and our greatest pain.*
- *You can rest in a love that doesn't give up or grow cold.*

Quote:

"God's love is not based on your performance. It's anchored in His character." — Tim Keller

Reflection Questions:

1. Have you ever felt like God's love for you had limits or conditions?
2. What would it look like to fully receive a love that endures to the end?
3. Are you loving others the way Jesus has loved you—fully, consistently, unconditionally?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that You love me—not just for a moment, but to the end.

Thank You for loving me even when I run, when I fall, and when I forget.

Teach me to rest in Your relentless love.

And teach me to love others with the same faithful heart.

Amen.

Day 23:

Washed Feet, Clean Heart



Scripture:

“If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.” John 13:14 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Niptō” (νίπτω)

Niptō means “to wash” but specifically refers to the act of washing a part of the body—like the feet. It implies care, humility, and intentionality. It’s not ceremonial—it’s personal. In John 13, niptō is the word used as Jesus kneels to cleanse the dirtiest part of His disciples, setting an example of servanthood and love.

Devotional Thought:

The Creator kneels before creation.

The One who spoke galaxies into being now holds calloused feet in His hands.

It's one of the most jarring and beautiful moments in all of Scripture.

Jesus washes feet.

Dusty, smelly, rough feet.

Feet that would run away in fear.

Feet that would stumble in denial.

Even feet that would betray Him.

And He doesn't skip a single one.

This wasn't about hygiene.

It was a prophetic picture—of humility, cleansing, and love in action.

Peter, like many of us, couldn't handle it.

“You shall never wash my feet,” he said.

But Jesus responded:

“Unless I wash you, you have no part with Me.” (John 13:8)

Why?

Because to follow Jesus is to let Him clean what you can’t.

You don’t impress Him with polished performance.

You invite Him into the dirt.

And then—He turns and says:

“As I’ve done for you, go and do for others.”

Not literally start a foot-washing ministry (unless He tells you!)

But serve with the same heart—quiet, sacrificial, hidden love.

Love that kneels.

Love that serves even when it’s inconvenient or unnoticed.

Love that forgives—even feet that might walk away.

I remember a leader who once carried out the trash every week in secret after our youth services—long after the crowd left.

One day I asked him why.

He smiled and said, “I just want to love like Jesus. Sometimes that means holding trash bags, not microphones.”

That’s niptō love.

What’s beneath you today?

Maybe that’s exactly where Jesus is calling you.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't avoid the dirt—He washes it.*
- *True leadership looks like service; true love looks like humility.*
- *If Jesus stooped to serve, we're never too important to do the same.*

Quote:

"If serving is beneath you, then leadership is beyond you." — Craig Groeschel

Reflection Questions:

1. What areas of your life do you try to hide instead of letting Jesus wash?
2. Are there people you've been unwilling to serve because of pride or pain?
3. How can you tangibly love and serve someone today like Jesus did?

Prayer:

Jesus, You saw the dirt—and You still knelt.

Wash what I cannot clean in myself.

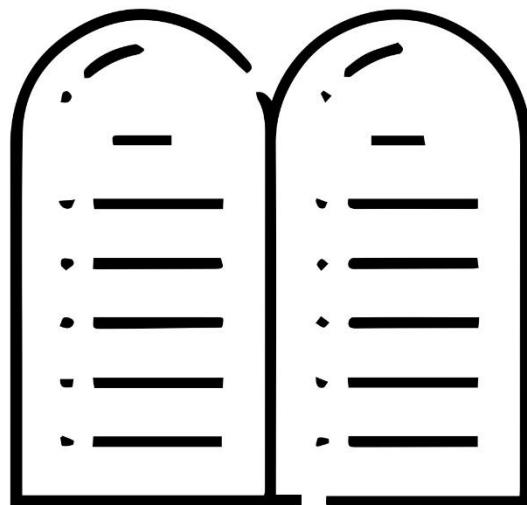
And give me the heart to kneel for others—not to be seen, but to love.

Let my hands reflect Your heart.

Amen.

Day 24:

A New Commandment



Scripture:

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.” John 13:34 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Entolē kainē” (ἐντολὴ καίνη)

Entolē means “commandment” or divine instruction. *Kainē* means “new” in nature, not just in time—something fresh, unprecedented, or radically different. This isn’t just a rephrased law—it’s a revolutionary call to love like Jesus, not merely love in general.

Devotional Thought:

Jesus didn’t say, “Here’s a new suggestion.”

He said, “Here’s a new commandment.”

And it wasn’t:

“Love others the way they deserve.”

“Love as long as they agree with you.”

“Love until it’s inconvenient.”

It was:

“Love as I have loved you.”

That’s the difference.

The world says love is a feeling.

Jesus says love is a choice—to stay, to serve, to sacrifice.

Think about the moment.

Jesus had just washed His disciples’ feet—including Judas.

He knew betrayal and denial were moments away.

Yet He said, “Love one another.”

Why is it “new”?

Because this isn’t love rooted in rules—it’s rooted in Christ’s own example.

Love that forgives enemies.

Love that restores failures.

Love that speaks truth with grace.

Love that bleeds on a cross—for people who didn’t deserve it.

And then He says:

“This is how they’ll know you’re Mine.” (John 13:35)

Not by how loud you worship. Not by how much theology you know.

Not by the size of your church or your Instagram influence. By your love.

I once heard a Gen Z believer say, “We don’t want louder Christians. We want loving ones.”

That’s the call.

And it’s not easy—but it is possible...

When we receive His love first.

Because you can’t give what you don’t carry.

So before you strive to love like Jesus, come back and be loved by Him.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn’t give a new suggestion—He gave a new command.*
- *The mark of a true disciple is not power or position—but Christlike love.*
- *To love like Jesus, we must first be loved by Jesus.*

Quote:

"You'll never love people well until you believe that God loves you without condition." — Brennan Manning

Reflection Questions:

1. Who is the hardest person for you to love right now?
2. Are you loving others based on Jesus' standard—or your own?
3. What would change if your love became the loudest part of your witness?

Prayer:

Jesus, You didn't just teach love—You lived it.

Help me to love not from pressure, but from overflow.

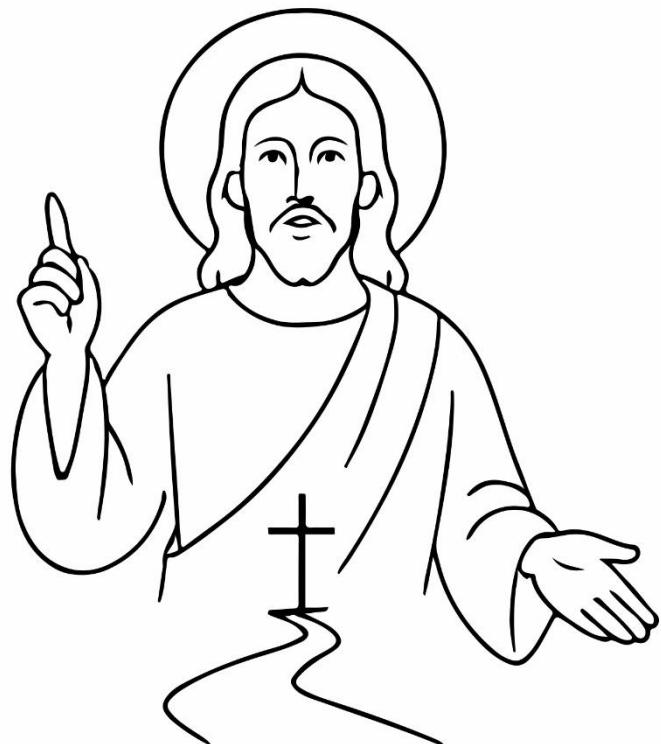
Let my life be marked by the kind of love that kneels, stays, forgives, and gives.

Shape me into someone who loves like You.

Amen.

Day 25:

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life



Scripture:

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’” John 14:6 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Hodos, Alētheia, Zōē” (ὁδὸς, ἀλήθεια, ζωή)

Hodos means “way, road, or path”—it implies direction and movement. *Alētheia* is “truth,” meaning reality as it actually is—not distorted, hidden, or manipulated. *Zōē* is “life”—not just existing, but fullness, vitality, and spiritual connection. When Jesus says *He is these things*, *He’s not pointing to a path—He’s claiming to be the path, the standard, and the source of life.*

Devotional Thought:

The disciples were confused.

Jesus had just talked about going away, and they didn’t understand.

Thomas—honest as always—asked, “Lord, we don’t know where You’re going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered with a declaration that still echoes across centuries:

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

Not a way.

Not one of many truths.

Not just a life-giver.

The way. The truth. The life.

It’s one of the most exclusive and yet most inviting statements Jesus ever made.

In a culture that says, “Choose your own path,”

Jesus says, “I am the path.”

In a world full of “your truth” and “my truth,”

Jesus says, “I am the truth.”

In a world chasing stimulation and survival,

Jesus says, “I am the life.”

And then He makes it personal:

“No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

This isn’t arrogance—it’s clarity.

Jesus wasn’t closing the door on people.

He was opening the only one wide enough to carry us home.

I remember walking with a teenager who felt lost in identity confusion, overwhelmed by voices pulling in every direction.

They asked me, “How do I even know what’s real anymore?”

And gently I said, “You don’t have to figure it all out. Just walk with the One who is truth.” They found freedom not in answers, but in a person.

Jesus.

He doesn’t just show you the way—He walks it with you.

He doesn’t just tell the truth—He is the truth.

He doesn’t just offer life—He is your life.

Key Points:

- *Jesus isn’t one option among many—He is the only true way to the Father.*
- *He offers direction (the way), clarity (the truth), and fullness (the life).*
- *Following Jesus means trusting a person, not just following principles.*

Quote:

“Jesus doesn’t just give us directions—He becomes our destination.” — John Mark Comer

Reflection Questions:

1. Are you following Jesus as the way—or just treating Him as one option?
2. In what areas of your life do you need His truth to bring clarity?
3. What would it look like to live like Jesus is your source—not just your supplement?

Prayer:

Jesus, You are the Way when I feel lost.

You are the Truth when I feel confused.

You are the Life when I feel numb.

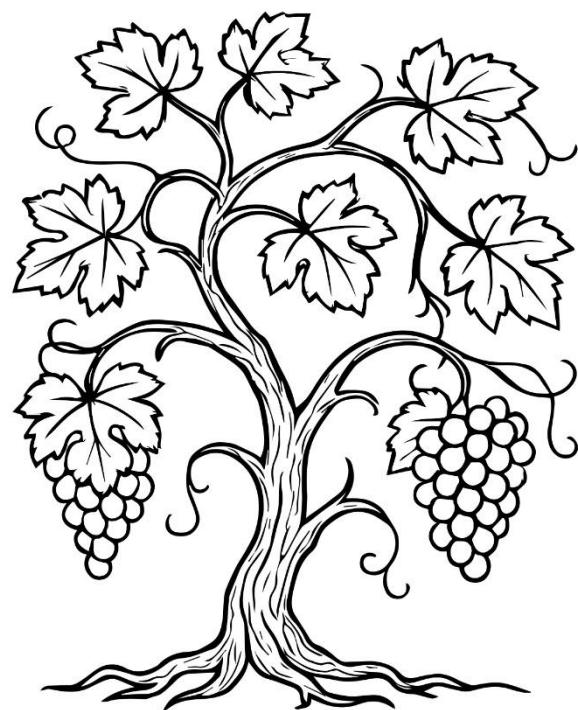
I choose to trust You completely—lead me, speak to me, fill me.

Let every part of my journey be rooted in You.

Amen.

Day 26:

Abide in Me



Scripture:

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Menō” (μένω)

Menō means “to remain, stay, dwell, or abide.” It implies not a momentary visit but an ongoing, enduring connection. When Jesus calls us to abide in Him, He isn’t asking for weekend visits or brief spiritual check-ins—He’s calling us to continuous communion with Him.

Devotional Thought:

There’s a difference between visiting and living.

You visit a hotel—but you live at home.

You visit a friend’s house—but you abide where you belong.

Jesus uses the image of a vine and branches—not a factory and workers, not a CEO and employees. Because what He wants with you is connection, not performance.

“Abide in Me.”

That’s the invitation.

Not: “Impress Me.”

Not: “Try harder.”

Not even: “Work more.”

Just: “Stay close.”

Because here's the secret—fruit doesn't grow by effort.

It grows by connection. A branch doesn't strain and grit its teeth to produce grapes. It just stays attached to the vine. That's how your life becomes fruitful—not by hustle, but by abiding.

I once hit a wall in ministry where everything I did felt dry.

I was busy doing "God's work" but far from God's presence.

Until one night in prayer, I sensed the Holy Spirit say:

"You're producing... but not abiding."

That broke me. And it brought me back to the vine.

Now I remind myself daily:

Fruit is not proof of your strength.

It's proof of your dependence.

And Jesus doesn't say, "Without Me, you'll do a little less."

He says: "Without Me, you can do nothing."

You don't need more strategy—you need more abiding.

You don't need to be amazing—you need to stay attached.

Key Points:

- *Fruitfulness is the result of connectedness, not effort.*
- *Abiding in Jesus means making Him your home, not your hotel.*
- *Without intimacy with Him, there is no real impact.*

Quote:

"The branch doesn't bear fruit by trying—it bears fruit by abiding." — Andrew Murray

Reflection Questions:

1. Have you been working for God more than walking with Him?
2. What daily rhythms help you stay spiritually connected to Jesus?
3. What “fruit” is missing in your life that could point to a need for deeper abiding?

Prayer:

Jesus, I don't want to visit You—I want to live in You.

Help me to stay connected, to rest in Your presence, and to trust that You are the Vine who gives life.

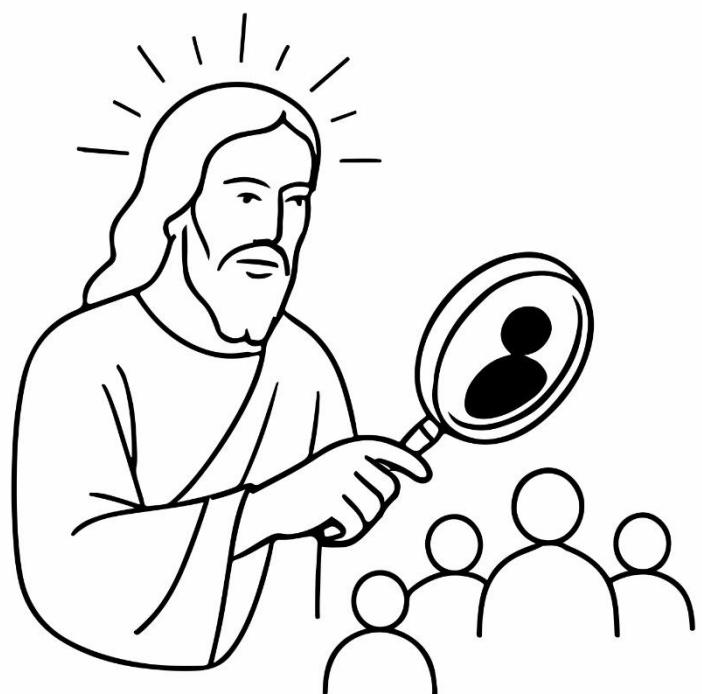
Let fruit come—not from striving, but from abiding.

I need You in every moment.

Amen.

Day 27:

You Did Not Choose Me



Scripture:

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...” John 15:16 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Eklegomai” (ἐκλέγομαι)

Eklegomai means “to choose, to select out of a group with intention and purpose.”

This is not random or accidental. When Jesus says, “I chose you,” He’s speaking of deliberate, personal, mission-driven love. It’s a calling—rooted in His will, not our worthiness.

Devotional Thought:

Some of the most powerful words you’ll ever hear:

“I choose you.”

They silence insecurity.

They cut through comparison.

They crush rejection.

Jesus looked at His disciples—imperfect, impulsive, inconsistent—and said,

“You didn’t choose Me. I chose you.”

That flips everything.

In Jewish culture, disciples typically chose their rabbi.

They’d seek the best teacher and ask to follow.

But Jesus reversed the norm.

He handpicked His disciples—not based on their résumé, but on His relationship.

That’s grace.

He didn't choose them because they were the best.

He chose them because He loved them.

And that same love chose you.

You weren't a spiritual accident.

You didn't sneak into God's family through the side door.

You were picked, called, and appointed—to bear fruit that lasts.

I once spoke with a young leader struggling with imposter syndrome.

She said, "I feel like I don't belong—like I somehow got here by mistake."

I reminded her of this verse.

Tears filled her eyes as she whispered, "Jesus chose me on purpose."

Yes. He did.

And He didn't just choose you to exist.

He chose you to go, to bear, and to remain fruitful.

That means your life matters.

Your calling is real.

Your identity is not up for grabs.

You didn't earn this.

You don't have to fight to keep it.

Just walk in it—with boldness and humility.

Key Points:

- *Jesus chose you—not by accident, but with intention and purpose.*
- *Your calling doesn't begin with your ability—it begins with His choice.*
- *Lasting fruit comes from identity, not performance*

Quote:

"God doesn't call the qualified—He qualifies the called." — Dwight L. Moody

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you truly believe that Jesus chose you, or are you still trying to earn your place?
2. In what ways has insecurity kept you from stepping into your calling?
3. What lasting fruit do you sense God is calling you to bear in this season?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for choosing me—not because of what I could offer, but because of Your love.

I surrender my striving and receive Your calling.

Help me walk boldly, serve faithfully, and bear fruit that glorifies You.

Let everything I do be rooted in the confidence that I am chosen.

Amen.

Day 28:

That They May Be One



Scripture:

“...that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.” John 17:21 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Hen” (ἕν)

Hen means “one,” not just in number, but in unity—deep, intimate oneness of purpose, heart, and spirit. Jesus prayed this word into His final conversation with the Father, showing that unity among believers is not optional—it is central to His mission and message to the world.

Devotional Thought:

In His final prayer before the cross, Jesus didn’t pray for bigger churches, louder preaching, or flashier miracles.

He prayed for this:

“That they may be one.”

Not just “get along.”

Not just “tolerate each other.”

But one—the same way He and the Father are one.

That’s deep.

That’s costly.

That’s holy.

Jesus knew that unity wouldn’t be easy.

He was praying for Jews and Gentiles. For fishermen and tax collectors. For passionate Peters and doubting Thomases.

For the future church—with all its denominations, styles, races, backgrounds, and baggage.

He knew division would come.

And He prayed we'd fight for unity anyway.

Because the world isn't just convinced by our sermons.

The world is convinced by our oneness.

Jesus said it clearly:

“...that the world may believe...”

Unity is missional.

Our oneness reveals His realness.

I remember being in a room with believers from vastly different cultures—praying, worshiping, and weeping together.

No competition. No pretense.

Just hearts united in Jesus.

And I thought: This is what heaven must sound like.

But let's be real: unity isn't always easy.

It requires humility.

It means listening more than speaking.

It means choosing to stay at the table—even when it's uncomfortable.

The good news?

Jesus didn't just command unity—He prayed for it.

That means He's empowering it even now.

Key Points:

- *Unity isn't uniformity—it's shared purpose and surrendered hearts.*
- *The world recognizes Jesus not just through truth, but through love expressed in unity.*
- *Division may be natural—but oneness is supernatural.*

Quote:

"The church is never stronger than when it is united under the cross." — Tony Evans

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there any walls—bitterness, pride, preference—that are keeping you from unity with others?
2. What would it look like to pursue peace and understanding within the body of Christ?
3. How can your relationships with other believers point people to Jesus?

Prayer:

Jesus, You prayed for unity—not as an option, but as a witness.

Forgive me for the ways I've contributed to division or withheld grace.

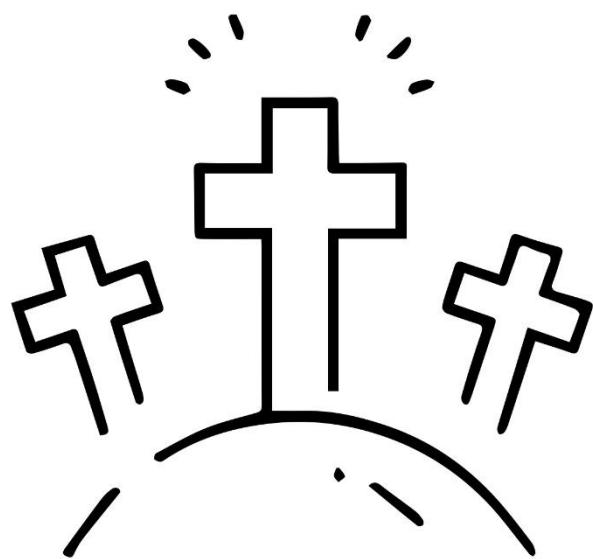
Make me a peacemaker.

Help me love, listen, and link arms with those who follow You.

Let our oneness reveal Your glory.

Amen.

Day 29: It Is Finished



Scripture:

“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.” John 19:30 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: “Tetelestai” (τετέλεσται)

Tetelestai is the perfect tense of the verb teleō, meaning “to complete, fulfill, accomplish.” In Jesus’ time, this word was stamped on receipts to indicate “Paid in Full.” It’s not a cry of defeat—but a declaration of mission accomplished. Nothing more needed. Nothing left undone.

Devotional Thought:

This wasn’t a whisper.

This wasn’t a gasp.

“It is finished!” was a cry of victory.

At the darkest moment in history,
With blood on His brow and nails in His hands,
Jesus didn’t say, “I am finished.” He said, “It is finished.”
The work. The payment. The penalty. The prophecy. The path back to God.

All of it—finished.

What does that mean for you?

It means your striving can stop.

It means shame has no voice.

It means sin doesn’t get the last word.

It means you don’t have to keep trying to earn what’s already been paid in full.

I once spoke with someone who grew up believing she had to “do enough” for God to accept her.

She lived exhausted—praying more, serving more, giving more. But she was always afraid it wasn’t enough.

Then she heard Tetelestai.

She paused, and tears ran down her cheeks.

“Wait,” she said. “So... it’s done?”

Yes. It’s done.

Jesus didn’t leave loose ends.

He didn’t save halfway.

He finished it.

On a cross—not with excuses, but with obedience.

Not with blame, but with surrender.

So whatever you’re carrying—guilt, regret, fear, unfinished cycles—bring it to the cross. And hear Him say it again:

Tetelestai.

Key Points:

- *Jesus didn’t die defeated—He died declaring victory.*
- *The cross was the full and final payment for our sin.*
- *You are not defined by what you do, but by what Christ has finished.*

Quote:

“Christianity doesn’t begin with a big DO. It begins with a big DONE.” — Watchman Nee

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there areas in your life where you're still trying to earn God's love or forgiveness?
2. What does "It is finished" mean personally for your past, your identity, and your future?
3. How can you live from the finished work of Christ rather than striving to prove your worth?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for finishing what I never could.

Thank You for paying my debt in full.

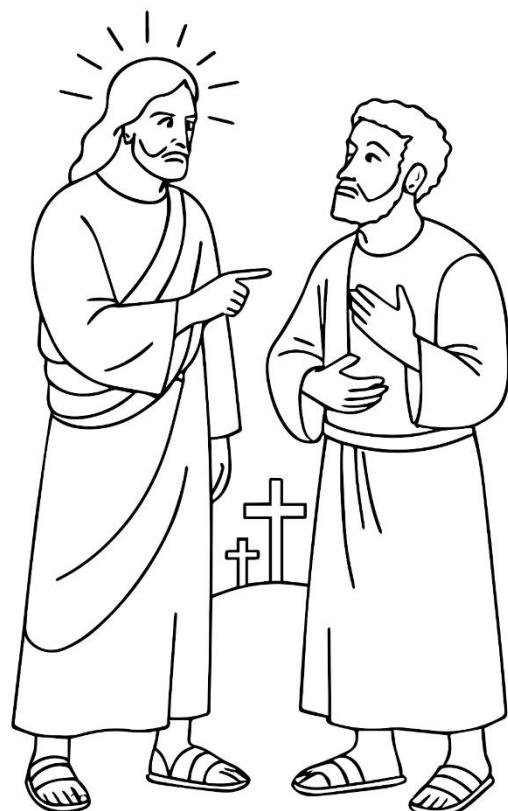
Help me live in freedom—not to earn Your love, but in response to it.

Let the cry of Tetelestai echo in my soul every day.

Amen.

Day 30:

Do You Love Me?



Scripture:

"He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?'.. And he said to Him, 'Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed My sheep.'" John 21:17 (NKJV)

Word Study – Greek: "Agapaō" (ἀγαπάω) vs. "Phileō" (φιλέω)

In this moment, Jesus uses two different Greek words for love. Agapaō refers to divine, unconditional love. Phileō is brotherly affection or friendship. Jesus first asks, "Do you love (agapaō) Me?" Peter replies, "Lord, I love (phileō) You." By the third time, Jesus meets Peter at phileō—meeting him where he is, but still calling him forward.

Devotional Thought:

The fire was familiar.

So was the shame.

Peter had denied Jesus by a fire.

Now, Jesus restores him beside another.

After the resurrection, Jesus didn't give Peter a speech.

He asked a question:

"Do you love Me?"

Three times.

Not to shame him.

But to redeem each of the three denials.

Peter had failed.

Spectacularly.

But Jesus didn't bring up the failure.
He brought up the relationship.
Because Jesus wasn't looking for perfection.
He was looking for love.

That's always His question:
Not "Will you impress Me?"
Not "Will you always get it right?"
But: "Do you love Me?"

And here's the beauty—
Even when Peter couldn't rise to agapaō,
Jesus accepted his phileō and said:
"Feed My sheep."
That's grace.

I once mentored a student who had walked away from her faith after a painful season of compromise.
When she returned, she didn't have eloquent prayers—just a simple confession:
"I still love Jesus... I just don't know how to serve again."
I told her, "Then start with love. Jesus always does."
She did. And she's still feeding sheep today.

So if you've failed, faltered, or fallen,
And you wonder what Jesus would say to you now—
It's not, "Why did you mess up?"
It's: "Do you love Me?" Because love restores.
And love leads to mission.

Key Points:

- *Jesus doesn't define us by our worst moment—He restores us through love.*
- *His call begins not with perfection, but with affection.*
- *Loving Jesus leads to loving and feeding others.*

Quote:

“Failure is never final when Jesus is involved—because love always has the last word.” — Bob Goff

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you believe Jesus still wants to use you, even after your failures?
2. What would it look like to respond to His question—“Do you love Me?”—with honesty?
3. How can your love for Jesus overflow into love for others this week?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for meeting me not with condemnation, but with a question of love.

You know all things. You know my failures—and You still call me.

I love You. Help me to love You more.

And help me to feed the people You place in my life.

Amen.