

Day #1 (John 1)

The Word Becomes Flesh

In John 1, we learn that Jesus is The Word. The God we serve is actually three persons in one. There is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All three of these parts together make up “The Trinity,” which is God in three persons. Since Jesus is The Word, we know it’s important. In His Word, it says that He honors it above His own name. This proves not only the Bible’s importance, but it also shows us that we must read it to become more like Him. When we read it, we find out who He is and how to become like Him. In verse 14, it talks about how it’s “full of grace and truth.” This tells us that everything we read in the Bible is there to help us and that it’s 100% true. We can also know that His Word always was, always is, and always will be. Since His real and life-changing Word never changes, we must live our lives according to it. The world may show us countless unbelievable things, but thanks to His Word, we find something to believe in. That something is actually someone named Jesus Christ, and He is the only way to the Father and to Heaven for all eternity. His Word gives us hope in the good times and bad times, and it also gives us strength to get through whatever life throws our way. So, what are you waiting for? Dive into His Word today!

(John 1:1-18)

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. 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; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.”*

- 1) What did you learn about Jesus while reading this passage of Scripture?**
- 2) Knowing that Jesus Christ is The Word, which is “full of grace and truth,” what must be true about Him?**
- 3) After reading this chapter, what are you going to do moving forward to become more like Jesus Christ?**

Day #2 (John 2)

Jesus Clears Out the Temple

John 2 tells us about a time that may surprise some people. When you think of Jesus, you probably don't think of someone who lashes out and causes up a stir. When you think about *why* He did what He did, though, everything begins to make sense. Jesus loved and believed in the power of His Heavenly Father so much that He was willing to do whatever it took to make things right when it came to what was taking place in the temple. What if we began to act in the same way? What if the only things that made us mad are things that are against the things of God? What do you think it will take to begin to love what He loves and hate what He hates? The key to becoming more like Him and loving what He loves and hating what He hates is this: Read His Word! As you read His Word, you will discover the keys to all the doors He wants to open for you in your life. This chapter gives us a unique view of Jesus, but it actually gives us another reason to love Him, too. The love He has for His Father and for us is amazing. And knowing how much He loves you should make you feel extremely special. Next time you get down on yourself, just remember that He loves you, and also, He's willing to do whatever it takes to make everything right in your life! All you need to do is trust in Him and believe in faith that He's going to make all things come together for your good and for His incredible glory.

(John 2:13-22)

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."*

- 1) What does this passage of Scripture tell you about Jesus Christ?
- 2) Did Jesus acting out in righteous anger surprise you, and what does this example let you know what types of things and/or situations should make *us* angry?
- 3) How can you apply the example Jesus gave and lived out to move forward in your relationship with Him?

Day #3 (John 3)

For God So Loved the World

John 3 provides us with one of the most famous Scripture verses of all time. John 3:16 is known and memorized by all sorts of people. What's really cool, though, is that there is more to that message. Verse 17 says, "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." What's amazing about this is that it proves that we're worth dying for. Jesus didn't come to judge us and punish us for all the things we did wrong; He came to die the death that we deserved so that we wouldn't have to. When you look at His death like that, you'll start to see a new beauty behind it. When things get tough, just remember this: You were worth dying for! No one can take that away from you, either. No matter what you've done, no matter what you're going through, and no matter what life throws your way, Jesus Christ was willing to give up His life to save yours. And you know what? He'd do it all over again if He had to, because He loves you *that* much! It's easy to get down on ourselves, especially in this day and age when it's easier than ever to compare ourselves to other people. Next time you're scrolling on social media, just remember that Jesus died for each and every person you're scrolling by. Do that, and see how your thinking changes. He would've done it for one of us, yes, but He did it for *ALL* of us! There's truly no greater love than His, and what's awesome about walking with Him is that we, too, will begin to love more and more like that. And that's absolutely life-changing!

(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.”

- 1) What’s something you learned about Jesus while reading this passage of Scripture?**
- 2) John 3:16 is one of the most famous Scripture verses, but what other lines stood out to you, and how do they make you feel?**
- 3) As you move forward in your life and relationship with Jesus Christ, how does knowing that God sent His one and only son to die and rise again to pay the ultimate price for your sin impact the way you live?**

Day #4 (John 4)

Jesus Heals an Official’s Son

Jesus did many signs and wonders while He was here on earth, and in John chapter 4, we see another amazing example of how our best friend, Jesus Christ, did whatever He could to bring God glory and to do what was best for the good of the person. Why is it that countless people don’t believe in Him until they see His works, though? In today’s society, it’s incredibly easy to find things on the Internet. Finding the answers to many of our questions is as easy as typing keywords into Google, or even asking Siri. It’s almost as if we trust those things like they’re human beings. We also tend to trust things a lot more when we actually see them with our own eyes, whether we’re looking at a screen or in person. Something amazing about God’s love for us and Jesus’ story while He was on this earth is something we’ll refer to as the “faith component.” In order to fully put our trust in the Lord, we must have enough faith to believe that He is real, good, and just. And once we build our faith and begin to fully trust in Him, He will begin to blow our minds with all the amazing things He’ll do for us. Some people in the Bible didn’t even believe in Him until after the miracle occurred. What’s cool about you reading this right now, though, is that you’ve taken the steps to dive into His Word and learn more about Him. You’re taking steps towards Him, and as you are, He’s taking steps towards you, too. Our relationship with Him isn’t about what we give and what He takes. As we give Him our trust and have enough faith to believe that He deserves it, He will continue to give us all we need. After all, He did exactly that when He gave us His Son to die on the cross for our sins. Next time you

start to feel a single bit of doubt, just remember all the times you've experienced God's goodness and His grace!

(John 4:45-54)

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. **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."

- 1) How does this passage of Scripture about an amazing miracle make you feel about Jesus, and is this a new feeling to you?**
- 2) Why do you think it is that countless people don't believe in God until they see His signs and wonders?**
- 3) Moving forward, how can you pray and expect Him to do incredible miracles in your own life and the lives around you?**

Day #5 (John 5)

The Authority of the Son

Don't you hate being judged? There are countless ways in which that happens today, whether it's in relation to your grades on your progress reports and report cards, your performance on your sports team or performance team, or even how many likes and comments you get on one of your social media posts... John 5 shows us a situation where the Jews were judging Jesus for breaking the Sabbath, without considering what He was actually doing. Do you remember a

time where you were falsely accused? How did you react, if you did? How'd the person or people you responded to react back? You see, when people judge us, it seems like it's natural for us to judge them right back. When someone thinks we're wrong about something, it can be very easy to look for something that they're doing wrong or even something they've done wrong in the past. The people who were questioning Jesus were obviously the ones wrong in this situation, but their faults weren't the focus at all. In life, it's very easy to take the focus off of our own failures and to shift them on someone else to lighten our load. Jesus never did that, though. And you know what? Neither should we! God so freely gave His Son to die for our sins, and He also freely forgives us whenever we mess up and ask Him for forgiveness. When people do us wrong, we must be like Jesus and forgive them. When we do not get our way, we have to realize that Jesus had, has, and will always have our best interest in mind. As we move forward in this world that can seem pretty judgmental, we need to cling to Him and be reminded that only God can judge us in the necessary way. Whether it's good or bad, people will always have an opinion about you... When it comes to God, though, His opinion on you never changes, and it is this: You are loved and worth dying for.

(John 5:16-30)

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. **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."

- 1) Did this passage of Scripture teach you anything new about the relationship between God the Father and God the Son?**
- 2) Knowing that Jesus mirrored the Father's example and that we are supposed to follow His example, what must we do to become more like Him?**
- 3) As you move forward, what steps are you going to take in your day-to-day life to reflect Christ's love to the people around you?**

Day #6 (John 6)

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

John 6 talks about a time when Jesus performed one of his most well-known miracles. When everyone thought it was impossible, Jesus showed them who was boss. He can do the same thing in our lives today, too! In this story, you see Jesus using all that was given to Him and multiplying it to be more than enough food for the situation. I'm sure some of you are asking yourself, "Can he do something similar for me?" The question isn't "Can he?," though. He can do whatever He wants to do, and He'll do it in accordance with His perfect plan for our lives. All we need to do is do exactly what the other people in this story did. We need to give Him all that we have, and we need to trust Him to do the rest. In life, it's very easy to put the weight of our situations on our own shoulders. Jesus wants to take that load off of our shoulders, though. If we give Him what we have, He will multiply it and make it everything it needs to be because He's that good. This story is very specific when it comes to what He did. It was food! In our lives, it could be a number of different things. No matter what we need from Him though, it's awesome to see that we can look to His word and see a perfect example of when He supplied the needs of thousands of people! And you know what? He wants to provide you with all that you need, too.

(John 6:1-15)

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."

- 1) This a very popular Bible story, but did you learn anything new about Jesus or discover something new to love and appreciate about Him?**
- 2) What do you think your reaction would've been that day if you were one of Jesus' disciples?**
- 3) What miracles are you believing for God to do as you move forward in your life and relationship with Him?**

Day #7 (John 7)

Jesus Teaches at the Festival

In John chapter 7, we read about Jesus instructing the people not to judge based on any appearances but to judge with what He referred to as "right judgment." That is a super important lesson in and of itself... If we stopped judging situations for what we thought they were, we might actually realize what they truly are. Some things we can miss out on in life are the "little things." It's simply human nature to try to figure everything out on our own. We judge by what we see, though, and we are truly missing out on the bigger picture. You see, God always sees the full picture. He saw what we went through, but unlike we sometimes do, He knows that it

was necessary to get us right where we are right now. On top of that, He also sees us in our current situations, knowing that it is necessary to grow us and get us to where He has us going. He also sees the future and wants so desperately to get us there when He wants us to be there. As human beings, though, we're so limited to the right now moments. Everything's so instant in today's day and age, and some of us are even convinced that right now is all that matters. What's comforting about God's right judgment, though, is that He sees the bigger and full picture that we frequently miss out on. Our minds definitely aren't able to understand the past, present, and future like God does, but that's where *FAITH* comes into play. If we begin judging our situations for what they're worth and actually are, instead of for what we think they are, we will begin to not just *go* through situations but to *GROW* through situations. And that's exactly what God wants for us! Start letting God judge your situation, because He already knows the outcome, and He already took care of all the details when He paid the ultimate price on the cross.

(John 7:14-24)

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."*

- 1) Does this passage of Scripture give you a new perspective on how we should "judge with right judgment" like verse 24 says?**
- 2) Are there any habits in your life can you change so that you're seeking *His* glory instead of your own?**
- 3) What's the next step you're going to take when it comes to moving forward in your relationship with Christ?**

Day #8 (John 8)

I Am the Light of the World

Imagine the world without electricity... No iPhones, no TV screens, and no light other than sunlight. We wouldn't have light bulbs, street lights, flashlights, or anything like that, so we'd automatically have to be much more dependent on the light that comes from the sun. The only light brighter than the sun that I can think of is the Son, though! Now, what if we started being more reliant on *Him*? In His Word, He refers to Himself as the "Light of the World." Also in His word, He calls us to be like "salt and light." When referring to calling us to be like light, He's instructing us to shine bright so that people look to Him! When people see us, they should notice something different about us. And that "something" is Jesus! When He steps into your life and your situation, everything changes. Not only do you notice a different, but the people around you do, too! There's such a sense of accomplishment when people come up to you and give you a compliment that goes something like this... "You've really come a long way!" And you know what? When you start walking with Jesus Christ, or when you advance your relationship with Him, you're really going a long way. You can go further with Christ is one experience than you could in your entire life on your own! So, next time you're either involved in a situation that seems heavy or are around a situation that seems dark, rely on His light to shine through you. As you do that, it will no longer be about you, but will be all about Him. And when that happens, the darkness will go away! If you want to be more like Him, shine bright like Him for all to see.

(John 8:12-20)

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.*”

- 1) Knowing that Jesus is the “Light of the World” and that we’re all called to be “salt and light,” is there anything new you’re going to do to shine His light to the people around you?**
- 2) Verse 19 says, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also,” so what does this teach you about the Trinity?**
- 3) What are you going to do to forward your relationship with God, and what does that look like when it comes to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?**

Day #9 (John 9)

Jesus Heals a Blind Man

In life, it’s fairly common to look at the outcomes of events we go through as “paybacks” or “payoffs” for what we either did or didn’t do... It seems like every result has a reason that we try so desperately hard to figure out for ourselves! Some people call it “karma” or maybe even good luck or bad luck. In all reality, though, God is always present and at work. We may try to figure a lot of things out all by ourselves, but what we sometimes forget or don’t realize is that God is always working in situations that are purposed to bring Him glory. God allows us to go through the situations we get ourselves in, though, to grow us and stretch us to become all that He’s calling us to be! In John chapter 9, we read about Jesus’ disciples wondering and even questioning out loud about why a man was born blind. They thought it was either because of something his parents did or something he himself did. As human beings, we tend to do the same thing sometimes... We attempt to find the reason why things are happening the way they are, when we really should be trying to trust Him more and more to get us through whatever’s happening! If we put our faith in Him who knows *ALL* things, rather than putting it in ourselves who think we know *some* things, we will begin to see that it isn’t because we or somebody else did or didn’t do something... It’s so that God’s works can be displayed through the entire situation! God can redeem *ANY* situation into being one that brings Him glory! Next time you’re going through something that seems impossible, just remember that you’re giving God the opportunity to make what seems impossible more than possible!

(John 9:1-12)

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."

- 1) Did Jesus' response to the disciples' question teach you anything new about Him?**
- 2) Verse 3 talks about things being done so that the works of God may be displayed... How does that change the way you look at the things that happen in your own life?**
- 3) Moving forward, in what area of your life or ways do you see works of God in your life, and what can you do to continue bringing God glory?**

Day #10 (John 10)

I Am the Good Shepherd

Have you ever seen a lost sheep that's lost its way from its flock and its shepherd? No? Neither have I. Let's bring this to modern day, though... Have you ever seen a friend at school trying to fit in with all the wrong people? Some people try insanely hard to be something they're not just to impress the people who may not even be who we think they are. Just like some can be when it comes to making friends or making a name for themselves, we all want to be accepted! We all want to experience mutual love and support. What's amazing about God's love is that He gave us His Son, Jesus, who is our Good Shepherd. So, if we're lost and we feel like no one sees us, He does. He sees us, yes, but He also goes far beyond that... Jesus not only sees you, but He sees even the details that you don't let show! He sees those details, and He cares about every

single one of them. Next time you feel lost or unwanted, just remember that the Good Shepherd keeps watch over His sheep. When you feel like you've strayed too far and that you're all alone, remind yourself that He'll never leave you or forsake you... John chapter 10 gives us the great example of Jesus as a shepherd, so think of yourself as a sheep who follows its flock. We try so hard sometimes to fit in with our "flock," or with the people we think we need to be associated with... God sees us individually, though, and He knows we're worth much more than what people think about us or the groups we associate ourselves with! He cares about all of us at the same time, yes, but that doesn't mean He'll ever forget about the one sheep who strays off the path. If you ever feel astray, just look to the Good Shepherd, because unlike many people in this world we live in, He'll always be there for you no matter what!

(John 10:1-10)

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."*

- 1) What did reading and learning about Jesus being our Good Shepherd teach you about Him?**
- 2) How does knowing that Jesus came so that we "may have life and have it abundantly" make you feel?**
- 3) As you move forward in your relationship with Christ, how does knowing that Jesus is our Good Shepherd change the way you look at Him and how He cares for and keeps you?**

Day #11 (John 11)

Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

Have you ever been so sad that you feel like your entire world pauses for a moment? I'm sure that's something we've all faced... We all go through times when we feel like what we're going through is all that matters. It can be easy to get caught up in our emotions so much that we actually remove ourselves from what's actually happening in the situation that God sees in all of its entirety. John chapter 11 shows us a time when Jesus was deeply saddened by the passing of His good friend, Lazarus. What's crazy, though, and what may also shock some readers, though is that Jesus was sad about something that He was going to fix very shortly... Some people fail to realize *why* He was sad, though. In this situation, Jesus was not sad because Lazarus would no longer be with Him. He was sad because He knew the pain others were going through because of Lazarus' death and the affect this broken world has on us. This right here proves just how *BIG* Jesus' heart is... Even though He was about to fix the entire situation, He still took the time to properly grieve and feel for the people who were feeling low. Jesus doesn't have to stoop down to our level to see where we're at... He knows how we feel about what we're going through even before we go through it! He loves us so much, though, that He's willing to go through the tough times with us. And with Jesus on our side, just like Lazarus, we will rise up from the ashes and conquer our battles! So, no matter what life throws your way, just remember this bold truth: Not even death can hold Jesus down.

(John 11:32-44)

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."*

- 1) What does knowing that Jesus was “deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled” when He found out about Lazarus’ death teach you about Him?
- 2) Jesus knows all things, so why do you think he was so sad about Lazarus’ death and the sorrows shown by his sister? What does this say about Jesus’ hearts?
- 3) Moving forward, how can you change the way you look at your problems knowing that God already knows the outcome of what you’re going through? After all, He is the only thing that can get you through what you’re going through!

Day #12 (John 12)

Mary Anoints Jesus at Bethany

Have you ever received a gift from someone and then instantly ask them how much they paid for it? It’s pretty common to wonder something like that... Some people always want to know the price of things because they think the price always accurately determines the value of it. When Mary anointed Jesus’ feet, though, something priceless took place... This story in John chapter 12 shows a woman giving everything she had to the One who deserved it all. Jesus’ followers were too caught up in the price of her perfume, though, that they missed out on the value of the sacrificial act! This woman wasn’t concerned about the price of the resources she was using... The only thing on her mind was giving her all to Jesus. And that’s the mindset we need to have when serving Him! We may not be rich, we may not wear the fanciest clothes, and we may not have the latest gadget, but we *do* have something even greater! That something is actually someone named Jesus Christ, and He’s worth more than anyone of anything in all of history! We can get so distracted on the price tags of things, though, that we can forget about just how big His love for us is. When Jesus paid the ultimate price on the cross for our sins, the system of measuring value was permanently changed. There will never be a greater value or love that was shown than when His blood was shed for us. So, next time someone gives you a gift, consider the thought behind the action rather than the monetary price they paid for it. Dollar signs can only measure numbers, but nothing on this earth will ever be able to measure God’s unconditional love for us.

(John 12:1-8)

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.”

- 1) What does Jesus’ reaction to Mary anointing Jesus’ feet teach you about Him, and why do you think His disciples responded the way they did?**
- 2) Mary was basically the only one there who was preparing Jesus for what He had to do on the cross, even though she was far from being the most expected to do so... How does that make you feel knowing that Jesus uses us even when we convince ourselves that we are not good enough or unqualified?**
- 3) What are you going to do moving forward now that you know or were reminded of how Jesus uses us for His best even when we feel like we are at our worst?**

Day #13 (John 13)

Jesus Washes His Disciples’ Feet

Think about a time when someone you loved did something as an example for you... Whether it was a teacher or coach you looked up to, or a parent who wanted what was best for you, that person took the time to show you how to do something in the best way they knew possible. In John chapter 13, we see Jesus setting an incredible example for His disciples when He was washing their feet. They were shocked by this, and they did not even feel worthy. Something about it felt wrong to them, but in all honesty, it was entirely right for Jesus to do what He did. This situation just proved how humble He is... He put the needs of others before His very own needs, even when His trying time was coming. In a world full of selfish people who seem to only want what’s best for themselves, this passage of Scripture may even be a surprise to us. Sadly, it’s uncommon to find selfless people these days... *YOU* can change that, though! Be like Jesus, and put the needs of others before yourself. And instead of denying the blessings you receive from other people, take them as if they’re coming straight from the Lord! If we freely give, we shall freely receive. We don’t give just so that we get something out of it, but God

always has a way of blessing us back. So, go try it out! Bless someone, and just see what happens. Even if it's not something you can touch, the feeling you have after blessing someone is a feeling we shouldn't take for granted! If we live our lives giving people what they need even when they don't think they deserve it, we'll be showing them God's love that everyone needs.

(John 13:1-17)

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."

- 1) Jesus said that He was washing His disciples' feet as an example so that they would do the same for others... What does that teach you about Jesus and why He does the things He does?**
- 2) Why do you think Peter originally refused when Jesus began washing the disciples' feet, and do you think you've ever tried to deny a blessing from Jesus because you thought you weren't worthy enough?**

3) Moving forward, how are you going to change the way you receive blessings from God? All good things from Him, and He deserves all the glory for all things good.

Day #14 (John 14)

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

Do you remember making a Christmas list for Santa Claus growing up? Okay... Maybe not *all* of us were about that life, but it's a pretty typical thing in our culture. I'm sure some of us remember writing those lists out like our happiness on Christmas morning depended on them, though... We may even look at our requests to God in a similar way. It may seem like a bit of a stretch, but some of us look at a Christmas list to Santa much like we look at a prayer to Jesus. Sometimes, it's easy to think that if we don't ask for something, we're not going to get it. After all, if we don't ask for something, the person won't know if or when to give the thing they don't even know to give to us. What's amazing about asking for things from Jesus, though, is that the results are *much* more legit than anything that could be wrapped up in a box and put under a tree... When we ask Jesus for anything in His name, He said that He will do it! There is power in prayer. And if we're seeking Him and praying for things that are in accordance to His perfect plan and will for our lives, He's going to give us everything we ask for and more. He knows not only our wants, but He also knows our needs! Sometimes, we're so distracted by what we *think* we need that we actually get it all wrong; however, God knows everything we need and exactly when we need it. John chapter 14 shows us a time when Jesus reveals Himself as "the way, the truth, and the life." That right there is something that can't be contained in a box or under a tree! That love was shown on a tree, though, when Jesus hung from a cross to take the punishment for our sins. Death was crushed, though, and now we have access to the greatest gift of all! So, next time you need something, bring your request to the only One who knows exactly what you need and when you need it. There's no greater gift than His love that He abundantly gives to us!

(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.”

- 1) When Jesus said, “No one comes to the Father except through me,” did you learn anything new about Him?**
- 2) How does knowing that Jesus is “the way, the truth, and the life” make you feel?**
- 3) Jesus says that “whoever has seen me has seen the Father,” so how does that change the way you look at the times you’ve seen Him work and move in your life, situations, and circumstances?**

Day #15 (John 15)

The Vine and the Branches

Have you ever been to an apple orchard, pumpkin patch, berry farm or any place like that? If so, I’m sure you remember taking your time when it came to searching for the perfect fruit or vegetable... You probably remember walking up and down the rows looking for the fruit that had the perfect color and amount of ripeness. And also, you probably ignored the fruit or vegetables that had either fallen from the tree or separated from their vine or branch before you got there... Why? The fruits or vegetables that weren’t connected to their source anymore lost their ripeness and eventually ended up dying. Without being connected to their roots, they weren’t pleasant to look at and weren’t desirable to eat or use. In the same way, we are like those branches that are connected to the vine. We are actually the branches connected to the “true vine,” which is Jesus Christ. Since we’re connected to Him, we bear fruit that is attractive to those watching. If you were to cut yourself off from the source, which is Him, your fruit wouldn’t be good anymore. We need to realize that all good things come from Him, so when we do good things, we must give

Him all the glory! Once we do that, He'll let us produce more and more fruit through Him divine power and strength. Just like the passage says, if you abide in Him, you will bear much fruit! Without Him, we can do nothing... So, what're you waiting for?! Seek Him more than ever, dive into His word, and see the fruit that comes out of spending your time with Him!

(John 15:1-13)

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. 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."*

- 1) When Jesus called Himself the "true vine," did you learn anything new about Him? And if so, what does this figure of speech mean to you personally?**
- 2) How does knowing that you are a branch of the "true vine," which is Jesus Christ, make you feel?**
- 3) Moving forward, what are you going to do to make sure that your branch is producing good fruit while it is on the "true vine," which is Jesus Christ?**

Day #16 (John 16)

I Have Overcome the World

We all have trials that we go through from time to time... And sometimes, it feels like there's something each and every day that gets in our way. The key is to not let those things flood your

mind, though... If you let your thoughts determine your situation, the outcome will not be the one you're searching for. It's natural to have feelings come from what we're going through, but if we rely on Him to keep our paths straight, we won't have those feelings overwhelm us! Think about the last time you felt like something was impossible... Maybe it was getting your grades up before the school year ended, maybe it was saving up enough money for a new gadget, or maybe it was even deciding on which fast food restaurant you and your friends wanted to chow down at! In that moment, it probably would've been and maybe even was really easy to just give it all up because you thought it was impossible. One of the many amazing things about being on God's team, though, is that nothing is impossible with Him! It may seem like you're fighting battle after battle, but the truth is that you're not alone. We all go through hard times, but more importantly, we go through those times with someone by our side who won't ever let us down. And that someone had already overcome the world! This is proved to us in John chapter 16 when Jesus says that Himself. If you stop for just a moment to realize that your battle is actually extremely little compared to the ginormous battle that Jesus already won for us when He rose from the grave, you'll instantly have a new perspective. Life will throw things our way, but we never have to worry about not having Jesus there to fight with us! He already conquered the biggest battle of all, so anything else for Him is a piece of cake. All we need to do is believe in Him and the fact that He'll be there with us each and every step of the way, no matter what!

(John 16:25-33)

25 *"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. 26 In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. 28 I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."* **29** *His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! 30 Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God."* **31** *Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

- 1) Did you learn anything new about Jesus when He talked to His disciples about using figures of speech and how He was going to stop doing that with them?**

- 2) **How does knowing that Jesus has already overcome the world make you feel about what you are going through right now in this world He has already beat?**
- 3) **Although you're moving forward in your relationship with Jesus Christ while diving into His Word, hard times may still come your way... When those hard times come your way, how will you remind yourself that Jesus has already overcome the world?**

Day #17 (John 17)

Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

Think about a time when you felt super accomplished... Maybe you nailed that final test before school got out, maybe you hit the winning homerun in your baseball game, or maybe you hit all the choreography in your most recent dance concert! Didn't that moment feel good? God helps us do some pretty fun things in life, but He had to go through something that wasn't fun at all. It was more than worth it, though, because now, nothing can stop us from being with Him for all of eternity! When Jesus came to earth, He had many things to do... He was born of a virgin, He lived a sinless life, and He died a death that He did not deserve to die at all. He fulfilled everything He needed to, and the price for our souls was paid when He took His final breath on the cross. It got even better, though, when He rose from the dead! Not only was the price for our sin paid, but now, we can be in relationship with Him for all eternity. He accomplished everything He needed to, and now, it's our responsibility to accomplish the work He left for us to do! In His Word, it says that we are to go and tell people about Him. Many people refer to that call as the "Great Commission." As we walk with Him, we need to take the proper and necessary steps to live like Him and fulfill the calling He's placed on all of us. No matter what we're doing, it should bring Him praise! No matter whether you want to be a doctor, a teacher, or a pastor, your main goal should be to make Him famous. As you love Him and love His people, you will be accomplishing the work He set out for us to do. And ultimately, that'll just give Him more glory! Isn't it amazing that He entrusted us with the opportunity to tell those around us more about Him? We have the most exciting news *EVER*, and that is the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ! Who're you going to share it with? Whoever comes to your mind first, get on it. Let God guide you! There's no greater accomplishment than living out what He has called you to do, and He has called us all to get more people to know Him. In what ways are you going to do that?

(John 17:1-5)

1 “When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.”

- 1) Did you learn anything new about the relationship between God the Father and God the Son while reading this passage of Scripture?**
- 2) Does knowing that Jesus “accomplished the work” that God gave him to do on this earth give you a sense of confidence in Christ?**
- 3) What are you going to do moving forward when it comes to applying your confidence in Jesus Christ when things get tough?**

Day #18 (John 18)

Kingdom Not of this World

Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do? For example, growing up with siblings can be really fun and also really entertaining... Stories can be twisted, and suddenly, you're being blamed for something you didn't even know happened! That all may sound like fun and games, but in all honesty, being blamed for something when you're innocent isn't fun at all. Jesus had to go through this type of situation in the harshest way when He took the blame and punishment for *all* of our sin. He was the furthest thing from guilty, but He loved us enough to pay the price we all deserved to pay. In John chapter 18, we read about Jesus being questioned by Pilate. Jesus replies with answers that may seem indirect; however, He was being entirely direct because He knew what He had to do. What He had to do was extremely hard and entirely unfathomable for us, but by His obedience and strength, He did it successfully. And thanks to His ultimate sacrifice, we no longer have to worry about the guilt or shame that's felt when sin enters our lives. Since He paid the price, we don't have to play the “blame game” anymore! Now, we can experience His grace and forgiveness like never before. Gone are the days of being bound by our sin. We have been set free, and all we need to do is ask Him for His help to resist temptation and any tactic from the enemy. So, next time you feel guilty or shameful, just

remember that Jesus already experienced that pain when He took *all* of our sin upon Himself and paid the ultimate price so that we wouldn't have to. His love for us goes on and on!

(John 18:33-40)

33 "So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" **34** Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" **35** Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" **36** Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." **37** Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." **38** Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. **39** But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" **40** They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber."

- 1) Did Jesus' humble replies to Pilate's questions teach you anything new about Him?
- 2) Why do you think Jesus answered Pilate's questions the way He did, and how does that make you feel about Him?
- 3) As you move forward and become more like Him, how are you going to respond to people when they falsely accuse you of things you didn't do?

Day #19 (John 19)

The Death of Jesus Christ

There's no power like the power of God. And that power was strong enough to raise Jesus from the dead! Some people may question why Jesus didn't use that power to help Him get through His death easier, but they're actually missing the point. Jesus went through everything He went through because He had to. If He didn't go through what He did, we would've had to. And He's so good that He did that for us without taking *any* easy way out... In a split second, He could've stopped everything from happening, but He didn't. He literally took everything thrown His way so

that we wouldn't have to! That just proves how much we're worth to Him. No one can fully grasp everything He had to go through, but He was still okay with it. If He would've made it easier on Himself, it wouldn't have been right. And in order to fulfill what He came to do, He had to do exactly what He did. And what He did wasn't easy, but He definitely let us know that it was worth it because *WE* are worth it. *YOU* were worth it. We were created in His image, so next time you're feeling down on yourself, just look up! Remember that you're a child of the only true King who did everything He had to do so that you could experience the life and relationship with Him that He wants everyone to experience. So, no matter what you're going through, remember the price He paid and the reason why He paid it... We can't thank Him enough, but we can accept Him for accepting us. We can thank Him for doing what no one else could do for us. He made a way where there was no way. Praise God!

(John 19:28-37)

28 *"After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. 31 Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. 32 So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. 35 He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. 36 For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."*

- 1) Did reading about how Jesus fulfilled everything Scripture said teach you anything new about Jesus?**
- 2) How do you think the people involved in the crucifixion felt when they finally realized that they killed the Son of God?**
- 3) Jesus did everything He said He would... Knowing that, how can you learn to rely on His promises more and more as you continue to forward your relationship with Him?**

Day #20 (John 20)

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

Imagine if you were Mary at the gravesite of Jesus Christ... What would you have done in a situation like that? John chapter 20 tells us about the heartbreak and the worry she felt when she thought she lost her Savior. Without Him, we'd all experience that same heartbreak and worry for all eternity. He's so good and faithful, though, that we don't have to! He loves us so much that He went through what He went through so that we wouldn't have to. Now, for this next part, you don't have to imagine anything... You actually live it out! Jesus told Mary to go tell the disciples who she saw and what He told her. Now, for us, we must do something very similar... We must go out and tell people about the one who saved us and how He's changed our lives! We have the best news ever, and there are many people just waiting to hear it. We all started looking for something in this world, and luckily, we found it when He found us! Now, we have the huge responsibility to share that hope with the world. It may not always be easy to share the love of Jesus or the good news of what He did for us to your friends at school or even your family, but it will always be worth it. People may not always respond in the way you're expecting, either, but just remember that you're doing your part. God *will* allow you to plant seeds in the lives of the people around you... You may water those same seeds someday and see the fruit of a saved life, but there are other times when you'll just be a part of the process! And that's honestly an amazing process to be a part of. Never take the responsibility of sharing Jesus' love with others for granted. It isn't always easy, but it's worth it. And it's not a task, but it's our precious lifelong duty! Who will be the next person you share God's love with?

(John 20:11-18)

11 *"But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to*

my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.”

- 1) Did Jesus’ questions or requests to Mary surprise you or teach you anything new about Jesus?**
- 2) Why do you think it was that Mary originally didn’t know she was right next to where Jesus was standing? And also, why do you think it may have been easy for her to doubt that He would rise from the dead even though He said He was going to?**
- 3) Moving forward, how can you respond with the same urgency Mary did when Jesus urges you to do something in your own life?**

Day #21 (John 21)

Jesus Reinstates Peter

Think of your favorite social media platform real quick... Got it? Perfect! Now, try to think of how many followers you have on that account. Most people your age know that number pretty well! Followers are fun, but what’s even more fun in following. You get to pick and choose what you want to see and who or what you want to be involved with at the touch of your fingertips! And you know what? When it comes to following Jesus Christ, it goes way beyond liking or commenting on an epic picture or entertaining video clip... Following Jesus changes your life! In the final chapter of John, Jesus asks Simon Peter three different times in a row if he loves Him. In response to the third “Yes,” Jesus instructs him to, “Follow me.” And that’s exactly what we must do if we love Jesus! He loves us more than words can say, and what He wants from us is to seek and find a relationship with Him. Once He have that relationship with Him, our lives are forever changed. And after this life is over, we’ll be with him for all eternity! That should be our main focus, too... After all, we can’t take our social media profiles to Heaven! Our social media accounts, our cell phones, our Fidget Spinners, our favorite pair of Nikes, and all of that won’t go with us. What *WILL* go with us, though, are other followers of Jesus! So, instead of investing all of our time and effort into temporary things, it’s time to focus on the people around us who we *can* take with us to Heaven. As you move forward and continue walking with Jesus Christ, share Him with those around you. You have the best friend everyone’s looking for! And everything you need to know about Him and everything you need to share with others is in His Word. Never stop learning about Him, never stop craving His presence, and never stop moving

forward! Through His strength and His power, you'll do all of these things and more. And one more thing... You're a child of God whose identity is in Him! Identify with Christ, and never look back. He loves Y-O-U!

(John 21:15-25)

15 "When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." **16** He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." **17** He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. **18** Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." **19** (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me." **20** Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" **21** When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" **22** Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" **23** So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" **24** This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. **25** Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written."

- 1) Did you learn anything new about Jesus while reading this final passage of John?**
- 2) Why do you think it was that Jesus asked Simon Peter if he loved Him three different times in a row?**
- 3) Isn't it crazy that Jesus did so many things after this that the "world itself could not contain the books that would be written," such as verse 25 says? Knowing that Jesus is powerful enough to do countless miracles, how can you change the way you look at situations that seem impossible as you move forward in life?**