

Journey to The Cross 2025



A DISCIPLE'S WALK THROUGH
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



A 7-week Lenten Devotional Guide



Incarnation, Atonement, Resurrection!

Light and Life in Christ

John's Gospel is treasured by followers of Jesus for its simple and intimate portrayal of His life, death, and Resurrection, and also for the deep layers of meaning that still speak to our hearts today. In the weeks leading to Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday, we will **Journey to the Cross** (*and the empty Tomb!*) together, along with Jesus' disciples, seeking to know our Lord more intimately, and to be inspired individually and as a community of faith. May the Lord illuminate us with His Light, and renew us with His Life!

This devotional guide has three sections:

1. That You May Believe: An disciple's walk through John's Gospel to inspire a deeper understanding of Jesus as Son of God, Messiah, and giver of the Holy Spirit

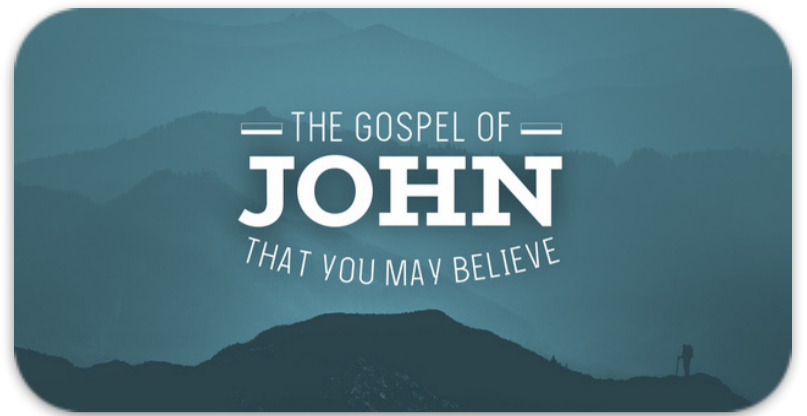
2. Journey to the Cross: Daily Readings and prayers for individual reflection through Lent to Easter Sunday (March 9 - April 20)

3. United in Prayer: Guided EagleNaz Community Prayers for LIFE Group gatherings and individual devotions beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 6 through Holy Week based on the sermon series on *"How to Pray"*



That You May Believe

John concludes his Gospel in **20:29-31** by revealing his purpose for writing: Jesus said, *“Because you have seen me, you have believed; **blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**”* Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. **But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**” In this season that leads to Holy Week, let us reflect on and deepen our belief in Jesus, and receive life in His name - eternal life to come, and the abundant life He promised in this world!



Journey to The Cross

The season of Lent, Good Friday and Resurrection is about Christ creating an entirely new order of things. Even the season of Spring is a time of welcoming new life and new beginnings. As a congregation, God is leading EagleNaz into a new things as well! Let the words of John’s Gospel form us in this time of reflection and celebration of Jesus!

United in Prayer

As we engage with the Word in groups and individuals, we will also put into practice the teachings on prayer from our sermon series.



That You May Believe

John's narrative is a unique and intimate portrait written by "the disciple whom Jesus loved." At the time of its writing, John was ministering in the multicultural city of Ephesus, proclaiming Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah to curious

Jews, and the powerful Son of God to Gentiles who were familiar with the many Hellenistic deities worshipped at local temples. John wants his readers to know that Jesus is more powerful than these false gods!



Some of the most well-known were:

- **Zeus, Poseidon, Hades** - 'The Big 3' Greek gods. Zeus controlled everything on the surface of the earth up to the heavens, Poseidon controlled the sea (including affecting storms), and Hades controlled the underworld and the realm of death.
- **Asclepius** - Son of Apollo, Greek god of healing. Adherents would travel to his temples to pray for physical healing, leaving behind a clay figure of the body part they hoped would be healed. Remains of his temples have been found in many areas, including in Jerusalem!
- **Dionysius** - Popular god of wine, revelry and fertility
- **Pan** - god of shepherds, flocks
- **Ceres/Demeter** - goddess of grain, agriculture, fertile fields

John's readers raised in the Jewish tradition were very familiar with the Old Testament stories, including the incredible passage where God introduces Himself by name to Moses in **Exodus 3:13-14**: *Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" God said to Moses, "**I am** who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: '**I am** has sent me to you.'"* John wants these readers to know that Jesus is the "I am" made flesh to dwell among us!

Journey to the Cross - Daily Devotions

Readings For Week 1 (March 9-15)

March 9 - Verse: John 1:1-5

Prayer: *Lord, help me to understand Your life and light in a new way this season*

March 10 - Verse: John 1:9-13

Prayer: *Lord, help me to receive You fully and embrace living as a Child of God*

March 11 - Verse: John 1:14-17

Prayer: *Lord, I want to behold Your glory, grace, and truth through eyes of faith!*

March 12 - Verse: John 1:43-51

Prayer: *Lord, grant me faith to believe as Philip and Nathanael did*

March 13 - Verse: John 2:1-11 (1st miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, open my eyes to see Your glory in a new way this season*

March 14 - Verse: John 3:1-8

Prayer: *Lord, help me to understand my new birth in the Spirit*

March 15 - Verse: John 3:16-18

Prayer: *Lord, help me to believe in You and live in You*

Readings For Week 2 (March 16-22)

March 16 - Verse: John 4:3-24

Prayer: *Lord, I desire to receive You as my living water*

March 17 - Verse: John 4:27-42

Prayer: *Lord, help me to share You just as the Samaritan woman did*

March 18 - Verse: John 4:46-54 (2nd miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, help me to believe in Your power in my life*



March 19 - Verse: John 5:1-9 (3rd miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, I want to be made well in You - give me faith to believe!*

March 20 - Verse: John 6:1-14 (4th miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, help me to trust You for my daily bread*

March 21 - Verse: John 6:16-21 (5th miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, help me to trust You fully and not be afraid*

March 22 - Verse: John 6:28-40

Prayer: *Lord, I receive You as the Bread of Life*

Readings For Week 3 (March 23-29)

March 23 - Verse: John 7:14-18

Prayer: *Lord, help me to speak boldly for Your glory*

March 24 - Verse: John 7:37-39

Prayer: *Lord, help me to receive You as my Living Water*

March 25 - Verse: John 8:1-11

Prayer: *Lord, help me to not condemn and to receive Your forgiveness*

March 26 - Verse: John 8:12

Prayer: *Lord, enlighten me in You as the Light of the World*

March 27 - Verse: John 8:31-32

Prayer: *Lord, help me to abide in You and know Your truth*

March 28 - Verse: John 8:51-58

Prayer: *Lord, help me to trust You and not fear death*

March 29 - Verse: John chapter 9 (6th miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, in You I now can see, even though I once was blind*

Readings For Week 4 (March 30 - April 5)

March 30 - Verse: John 10:1-10

Prayer: *Lord, help me to hear and know Your voice*

March 31 - Verse: John 10:11-18

Prayer: *Lord, help me to trust You as my Good Shepherd*

April 1 - Verse: John 11:1-26

Prayer: *Lord, I want to know You as the Resurrection and the Life*

April 2 - Verse: John 11:27-44 (7th miracle)

Prayer: *Lord, I believe You alone are the One who brings new life*

April 3 - Verse: John 12:1-8

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to worship You just as Mary did*

April 4 - Verse: John 12:12-22

Prayer: *Lord, help me to sing Your praises with all my heart*

April 5 - Verse: John 12:23-26

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to die to the world and live in You*

Readings For Week 5 (April 6-12)

April 6 - Verse: John 13:1-10

Prayer: *Lord, teach me how to lay down my pride and let You wash my feet*

April 7 - Verse: John 13:31-35

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to love other believers as You have loved me*

April 8 - Verse: John 14:1-6

Prayer: *Lord, help me to trust You as the Way, Truth and Life*

April 9 - Verse: John 14:16-20

Prayer: *Lord, help me to receive the Helper, the Holy Spirit*



April 10 - Verse: John 14:26-27

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to receive Your peace*

April 11 - Verse: John 15:1-11

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to abide in You and fully know Your joy*

April 12 - Verse: John 15:12-17

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to love as You loved*

Readings For Week 6 (April 13-19)

April 13 / Palm Sunday - Verse: John 16:7-11

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to know Your righteousness in me*

April 14 - Verse: John 16:28-33

Prayer: *Lord, teach me to trust You when it isn't easy*

April 15 - Verse: John 17:20-26

Prayer: *Lord, thank You for praying for our unity*

April 16 - Verse: John 18:1-11

Prayer: *Lord, help me to respond to anger with peace*

April 17 - Verse: John 18:12-40

Prayer: *Lord, give me the courage to speak Your name*

April 18 / Good Friday - Verse: John 19:1-37

Prayer: *Lord, thank You for dying so that I am set free from sin and death!*

April 19 - Verse: John 19:38-42

Prayer: *Lord, prepare me for receiving Your New Life!*

Reading For Week 7

April 20 / Resurrection Sunday! - Verse: John chapter 20

Prayer: *Lord, help me to believe and have Life in Your Name!*



United in Prayer!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19 -

“Rejoice always rejoice, constantly pray, in everything give thanks. For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. And do not extinguish the Spirit.”

These prompts can guide our Group and individual prayer times. Write any inspiration or insights the Spirit leads you to...

Week 1 (March 9-15) -

Prayer: Lord, grant us Your guidance and wisdom as a congregation as we embrace the future You have for us!

Week 2 (March 16-22)

Prayer: Lord, give us Your heart for lost people as a congregation as we pray for people who will find new life in You!

Week 3 (March 23-29)

Prayer: Lord, You are the Light of the World. Enlighten our hearts as we bring Your Light into dark places in our community!

Week 4 (March 30 - April 5)

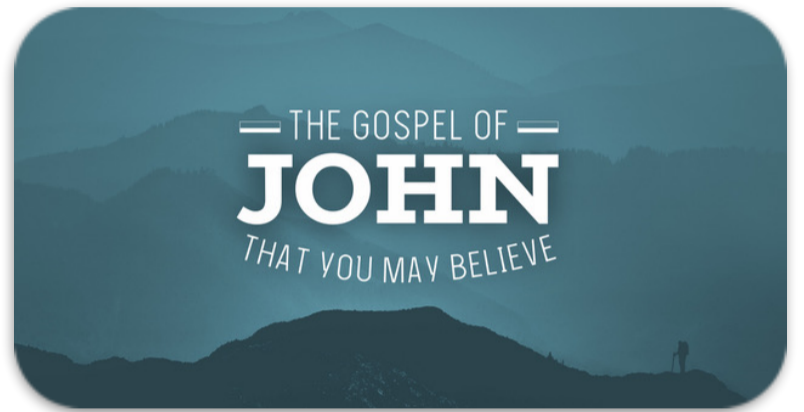
Prayer: Lord, You bring new life, even as You raised Lazarus from the dead. Guide our congregation as we bring Your new life to people around us!

Week 5 (April 6-12)

Prayer: Lord, fill us as believers and as a congregation with the promised Holy Spirit as we serve You together!

Week 6 (April 13-19)

Prayer: Lord, we believe You will draw people and families to Yourself this week as we prepare to remember Your death and celebrate Your Resurrection. Inspire us by Your Spirit as we lift up the name of our crucified and risen Lord!



united
in prayer!