



NOVEMBER
2022

JOHN

MONTHLY PRAYER SHEET

“...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” James 5:16

Who I Will Reach	How I Will Do It	How It Went

Other Requests	Date Answered	How It Was Answered

MONTHLY COMMITMENT SHEET

Name: _____

This sheet is designed to help you make personal commitments each month that will **help you grow in your walk with God**. Fill it out by determining

1. What will push you
2. What you think you can achieve

If you need help filling out your commitments, seek out someone you trust who can help you. Share your commitments with those who will help keep you accountable.

Personal Devotions:

How did I do with my commitment last month? _____

I will commit to read the OnTrack Bible passage and devotional thought _____ day(s) each week this month.

Church Attendance:

How did I do last month with my attendance? _____

I will attend church _____ time(s) this month.

I will attend small group _____ time(s) this month.

I will attend _____ time(s) this month.

(List any other activities you will participate in this month—Bible study, church events, etc.)

Bible Memory:

How did I do with Bible memory last month? _____

I will memorize _____ verse(s) this month.

Outreach:

How did I do last month with sharing Jesus? _____

I will share Jesus with _____ this month.

I will serve my local church this month by _____

Who was the person John referred to as the Word in today's reading? It is clear, from verse 1, that John believed that the person was God. He also stated that John the Baptist would proclaim to all who He was. John also tells us that although this man was in the world, the world would not recognize Him, but John the Baptist would. His purpose was to prepare the way for Him. The phrase, in verse 15, "He who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me" provides clear confirmation of who the Word is. There was no indication, up through verse 18, of who this man specifically was. Later, in the chapter, John identified Jesus Christ as the one to whom he referred to as the Word. We can know that Jesus is God. Therefore, we need to respond to Him as God. Have you? Use today's questions to help you evaluate.

SAY WHAT?

List the characteristics of Jesus that John gives in this chapter.

SO WHAT?

How do these characteristics of Jesus impact you?

NOW WHAT?

What is one way you struggle to respond to Jesus as God?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment should you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 1



JOHN 1:43-51

ANGELS

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

In this passage, John gives us some information about angels. It is in the conversation that Jesus had with Nathaniel. Jesus touched the life of Philip, and he ran to let Nathaniel know. At first, Philip was unable to persuade Nathaniel to come. After some effort, he was able to convince Nathaniel to come and meet Jesus. When Nathaniel arrived, Jesus told him things that no one could have known about him. Nathaniel was amazed. He also told him that he would see even greater evidences of who He was. Jesus' next statement to Nathaniel revealed information about angels that had not been previously known by anyone. Jesus said that angels are ascending and descending. The obvious implication is that angels are presently on earth, and they go back and forth between heaven and earth. Their constant presence with us on earth should reassure us. Not only is the Holy Spirit with those that follow Jesus, but there are angels around us as well. What a comfort that should be! We are never alone.

EXTRA READING
JOHN 1

What does it require for someone to realize his need for salvation? We often think that it takes the right words. In this passage, we learn just how someone comes to Jesus. Jesus performed His first miracle by turning water into wine. In verse 11, John stated that Jesus' disciples put their faith in God "because He revealed His glory." People come to Jesus when God reveals to them who He is and what He has done for them. While God often uses conversations, someone is saved only through the power of God. It is the work of God that bring people to Jesus, not the clever words of men. How encouraging to know that salvation is not dependent on us or our words!

SAY WHAT?

List some people in your world that you would want to follow Jesus.

SO WHAT?

What are you doing to help them see who He is?

NOW WHAT?

How can today's reading help you in your efforts to follow Jesus?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 2



JOHN 3:22-36

TRUE HUMILITY

SAY WHAT?

What type of role do you think God wants you to have in your church, workplace, or family?

SO WHAT?

What can you do to begin to fulfill that role more effectively?

NOW WHAT?

How can you avoid being ineffective in that role?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

How do you react when someone receives more attention than you? How do you respond when someone gets recognition for what you have done? Hopefully, you respond like John the Baptist did in this chapter. John demonstrated incredible humility as he watched his own ministry decrease and Jesus' increase. In fact, in today's reading, we see that John's disciples came to him to let him know that Jesus was baptizing people. Their concern was that those who Jesus baptized were following Him rather than John. People were beginning to overlook John's ministry and follow this new guy—Jesus. Notice John's response in verse 27. John's total confidence was in God. He understood that his calling in life was to prepare the way for Jesus and His ministry. John was content and satisfied to do just that. Would you say your attitude is like John's? Do you trust God and allow Him to use you in any way He wants to, even if it is to make others successful? What role does God want you to play? Are you willing to play it?

EXTRA READING

JOHN 3

Why do people get tired, sick, or injured? One answer to that question is found in today's reading. Those things happen so that God can accomplish His purpose in our lives and in the lives of others. Notice the illustration of that in today's reading. Jesus was with His disciples, and they were on their way back to Galilee. They had been ministering in Judea. As they left for home, Jesus made a decision to go through Samaria. As they approached Sychar, Jesus sat down by a well to rest because He was tired from His journey. The disciples went into town but Jesus remained behind. A woman came to get water from the very well that Jesus was resting by. They began a conversation, and, by the time they were finished, she knew that everyone in town needed to hear more from Jesus. Ultimately, many in that town trusted Jesus as their Savior. If He had not been tired, He would not have stopped, and their conversation would not have taken place. We may never know when our circumstances might be used of God to provide us an opportunity for a conversation like Jesus had with this woman. When it comes, we must be ready to take advantage of it.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 4

PROVERBS 18

The book of Proverbs was designed to help us in “gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young.” As you read through this chapter, write down the verses that are most significant to you in your present circumstances.

VERSE	WHAT TRUTH IT COMMUNICATES	HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE
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Why did the townspeople all come out to hear Jesus? What did the woman say in order to persuade them to listen? What caused many of them to trust Jesus as Savior? The answer is important. According to verse 39, many of them believed because of the woman's story. She went into town and simply told people what she knew, which was what Jesus had done for her. She had no Bible training. All she knew was that she had met Jesus, and He had changed her life. She wanted them to know what had happened to her so that they could experience the very same thing. We often think we need to have all kinds of Bible knowledge to be able to talk to people about Jesus. However, if we know Jesus and believe He has changed our lives, then all we ever need to do is simply tell people what He has done in our lives. We just need to share our stories. That is the most powerful tool we have. Use today's questions to help you think through how to share your story with others. If you don't have a story yet, what is stopping you from following Jesus?

SAY WHAT?

Who do you know who is different because of Jesus?

SO WHAT?

In what ways are you different because of Jesus?

NOW WHAT?

How should your life be different because of what Jesus has done?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 4



JOHN 5:1-30

CLAIM TO DEITY

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

One of the purposes of this book is to show people that Jesus Christ is God. Today we see another clear example of the deity of Jesus Christ, and His own claim to be God. It was clear to the Jews, in verse 18 of this chapter, that Jesus' statement to them concerning the healing at the pool was His claim of equality with God. In fact, Jesus knew the crowd understood His statements to be a claim to deity. If Jesus were not God, He would have tried to correct what was an obvious misunderstanding. He did not correct what they heard, but restated it with even more proof. In the remaining verses of this chapter, He gave more evidence to demonstrate that He was God. He also told them that in order to gain eternal life, they must believe on Him. How those words must have stung the Jews who refused to accept Jesus as the Messiah. How have you responded to Jesus? Do you believe He is God, sent to die for your sins and raised from the dead to give victory over sin? Do you have family or friends who need to know who Jesus is and what He has done for them? Are you prepared to share with them? When will you get started?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 5

Why did the people in today's reading want to make Jesus Christ their King? It seems obvious from these verses that the reason they wanted Jesus to be king was because He provided food for them that they did not have to work for. They just watched Him take five loaves and two fish and turn it into enough food to feed over 5,000 people. Imagine what life would be like if this miracle worker were the king! He could meet the material needs of all his people, and they would not have to work for it. Farmers would not have to grow as much food. Providing for their families would be almost effortless. Life would be great. What they missed was that Jesus Christ wanted them to desire Him as king for different reasons. He wanted to rule their lives, not their land. They wanted material gain, not spiritual power. People often follow Jesus and include Him in their lives in order to have their physical needs met. What motivates you? Are you a follower of Jesus because you want your spiritual needs met, or simply to have your physical needs taken care of?

SAY WHAT?

What kinds of wrong motivations do people have for following Christ?

SO WHAT?

How can you tell what your motivation is?

NOW WHAT?

What steps can you take to keep your motivation pure?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 6

JOHN 6:25-59

MISSING IT

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

What causes someone to recognize who Jesus Christ is and what He has done for them? How do they trust Jesus as his Savior? We realize, after reading these verses, it does not depend on seeing something miraculous. If that was all that were required, everyone in today's reading would have followed Jesus. This group of people had just seen Jesus feed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish. They followed Him across the lake in order to be with Him. They appeared to be ready to accept Him as the Messiah when they asked in verse 28, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus told them that all they had to do was believe in the One God sent. Their response was to ask what sign He would give to demonstrate He was the One God sent. He had just fed 5,000 as a sign! What other sign did they need? This illustrates perfectly that salvation is an act of the Holy Spirit on someone's heart. An amazing miracle is not required for someone to trust Jesus. Are you missing what God is doing in your life? If you follow Jesus, who do you need to pray for?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 6

How would it feel to be mocked or ridiculed by the people you love the most? How would it feel to be mocked by not only your brothers and sisters, but also by your parents? How would you feel if you had accomplished something you were proud of, and they laughed at it. How would you feel if, when you made an important decision, they belittled you or doubted your ability to follow through? If any of those situations have happened to you, then you know exactly how Jesus must have felt when those things happened to Him. You should be comforted knowing Jesus understands how you feel. In the beginning of this chapter, we see that Jesus was mocked by His own brothers. Their comment, "You ought to go to Judea so your disciples may see the miracles you do" dripped with sarcasm. That must have hurt Him. Unfortunately, sometimes our families are the last ones to believe what God is doing in our lives. Jesus knows how that feels and He wants to encourage and comfort us when we face opposition from those we love. Like Him, do not allow it to deter you from following through. Why not talk to Him about it right now? He understands how you feel.

SAY WHAT?

In what ways have you faced opposition from family members?

SO WHAT?

How have you responded to it?

NOW WHAT?

What can you learn from Jesus' response to help you when you face this kind of opposition?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 7

JOHN 7:25-44

MISINFORMATION

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

Why is it important to have correct information about the Bible? As today's passage illustrates, it is because incorrect information can cause you to miss God's plan. In these verses, we see the crowd debating whether or not Jesus Christ was the Messiah. They had seen great miracles, and it seemed that there was enough evidence to indicate that He could be the Messiah. Their discussion took a negative turn when they came to a conclusion based on inaccurate information. According to verse 27, they decided that Jesus couldn't be the Messiah because they knew that He was from Galilee, and the Messiah could not be from there. The problem with their statement was that it was incorrect. The Old Testament clearly identified where the Messiah would come from so that they would know Him when He came. God did not want the coming of the Messiah to be missed. They missed Him because they did not carefully read the Bible. They assumed they had the right information and did not bother to check. Could you be doing the same thing? What truth could you miss either because you do not know the truth or understand it correctly?

EXTRA READING

JOHN 7

The book of Proverbs was designed to help us in "gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young." As you read through this chapter, write down the verses that are most significant to you in your present circumstances.

VERSE	WHAT TRUTH IT COMMUNICATES	HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE
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JOHN 8:12-30

TIMING

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

Have you ever faced something that caused you great fear? In this passage, we see Jesus face something that could've made Him afraid. Jesus was in the temple area, near where the offerings were collected, teaching. He made some very strong statements to the crowd. His statements made the Pharisees very angry, and they wanted to seize Him. But they did not. Why? "Because His time had not yet come." It was not because they didn't want to or have an opportunity to, but because the time was not yet right in the plan of God. In other words, the only way that they could carry out their plan was for God to allow it. And, since the time for Jesus' arrest had not arrived, God did not allow the Pharisees to capture Him. People can only do to us what God allows and only when God allows it. Nothing enters our lives without God's permission. We need not fear men, but instead, realize that everything and everyone is under God's control. Remember and take comfort in that today!

EXTRA READING
JOHN 8

What does it take to be able to share Jesus? What do we need to do in order to be able to talk about Him to those around us? We have seen it already in this book, and we see it again today. We need to have a story and be able and willing to tell it. In today's reading, Jesus healed a man who was born blind. His blindness was given to him for this very occasion. Through his blindness, God was going to point people to Jesus. He healed him which enraged the Pharisees. They sent for his parents who, due to great fear of the religious leaders, were unwilling to say anything. What did the blind man do? He simply told his story. He said, "One thing I do know. I was blind but now I can see!" He didn't give a gospel presentation. He also didn't debate them or try to persuade them with clever arguments. He simply explained what God had done for him. For those who follow Jesus, we must be willing to simply share what He has done for us. We must let people know that our lives are different because of Jesus. Are you ready to tell your story? What's keeping you from sharing it? Pray for opportunities!

SAY WHAT?

What has God done in your life since you trusted Christ?

SO WHAT?

What has God done in your life so far this Fall?

NOW WHAT?

How can you tell others what God has done and continues to do in your life?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 9

JOHN 10:22-42

SECURE

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

How secure is salvation? Is it possible for someone to lose their salvation? This chapter gives us a great illustration of how secure salvation is in God's mind. It certainly demonstrates that someone can never lose their salvation. This entire chapter is devoted to communicating how much Jesus loves us. He knows our names. He never abandons us, even during the most difficult times. He always goes before us. All this illustrates His great love. In verses 25-30, He concludes by demonstrating the security of salvation. Jesus tells us that if we have salvation, we are safe in His hands. They are wrapped around us, and no one can ever take us out of the safety of His hands. But, He does not stop there. He then tells us that God has His hands wrapped around Jesus' hands to give us even more security. For those that follow Jesus, no one can touch them and nothing can ever take them out of those hands. Followers of Jesus cannot lose their salvation. It is secure. They are safe within the hands of God the Father and His Son, Jesus. Allow that truth to comfort you today.

EXTRA READING
JOHN 10

We often hear the disciple Thomas referred to as Doubting Thomas. Do his comments in today's reading seem to confirm that title? A close look at this dialog would seem to indicate he had grown in this area. Jesus told the disciples that He was going to His friend Lazarus, who had died. The problem with this decision was that Lazarus lived in Bethany and the disciples felt it was too close to Jerusalem to be safe for them. The Jews of Jerusalem were the ones who threatened Jesus and wanted to kill Him. To the disciples, that meant certain death for all of them, and, most importantly, for Jesus. In the midst of this discussion, Thomas spoke out, in verse 16, and said something remarkable for someone who was supposed to be a doubter. He told the disciples that they should all go together so they could all die with Him. He felt that if Jesus was going to die, he would rather die with Him than be left alone. Thomas could not bear the thought of losing Jesus in death. His doubt was not from a lack of faith, but from a fear that Jesus would leave him alone. Do you struggle with doubt? Could you, like Thomas, doubt because of fear? Use today's questions to help you determine next steps.

SAY WHAT?

What fears could cause someone to doubt what Jesus has said?

SO WHAT?

How would those doubts cause us to act? What would those doubts cause us to believe?

NOW WHAT?

How can this passage help you with any doubt that is rooted in fear?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 11

JOHN 12:1-11

OPPOSITION

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

Are there ever negative consequences when God does a miracle in our lives? Jesus had performed the greatest miracle possible in raising Lazarus from the dead. As a result, many people believed in Jesus Christ. Word about what had happened to Lazarus spread throughout the country side, and people came from all over to see this man who had been raised from the dead. What an extraordinary opportunity Lazarus had to share his story with others. But, in verse 10, we see that not everyone was excited. This miracle put Jesus' critics in a very complicated position because it demonstrated that Jesus was the Messiah. The chief priests hated Lazarus for the problems he caused them and wanted to kill him. Even today, we can face opposition when God does a great work in our hearts. Opposition often comes from those who are in sin and do not want to repent. We must tell our story even though not everyone will rejoice with the evidence of God's work. Even the opposition is an opportunity for growth and influence!

EXTRA READING
JOHN 12

WASHING FEET

JOHN 13:1-17

If we asked people in your world how much you loved them, what would they say? How have you demonstrated your love to them? In today's reading, there is a phrase that ought to cause everyone of us to examine our love for others. Jesus gathered His disciples together for one final time before His crucifixion. The time had come for God to allow Him to be captured and crucified. Jesus loved these men. In humility, He served them and met their needs. His love for them was so great that He desired to help them any way He could. If that meant washing their dirty feet, then that's what He did. I'm sure they would never forget the events of that evening and how much Jesus loved them. How do you demonstrate your love to those in your world? Do you demonstrate in tangible ways your love for them? Do you serve them so they know you love them? Can you think of a recent demonstration of love on your part? Use the questions to help you take your next step.

SAY WHAT?

List the people in your life you love most.

SO WHAT?

What have you done recently to show them how much you love them?

NOW WHAT?

What can you do this week to demonstrate the "full extent" of your love for them?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 13



PROVERBS 20

The book of Proverbs was designed to help us in "gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young." As you read through this chapter, write down the verses that are most significant to you in your present circumstances.

VERSE	WHAT TRUTH IT COMMUNICATES	HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE
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Have you ever felt totally alone? Have you ever felt as if there isn't anyone who really understands how you feel or that no one can help? This must be the way the disciples felt. By this time, they had walked with Jesus for almost three years. One of their great fears had been that He would leave them, and they would have to manage on their own. He sat them down to further explain what would happen, and they realized that He would, in fact, be leaving them. They would be alone just as they feared. They did not understand where He was going or how He would get there. Jesus, sensing their hearts, let them know they would never be alone. He would send the Holy Spirit who would ALWAYS be with them. He would always be there to guide, protect, and meet any needs they would have. You see, if we know Jesus as our Savior, we are never truly alone. Although people may walk away, He never will. Even if our friends and family are not there to help or understand, He is always there. He is waiting and always available. Take your struggle to Him.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 14

JOHN 15:1-17

FRUITFULNESS

SAY WHAT?

How can you evaluate how fruitful you are?

SO WHAT?

In what ways has God "picked you up" to make you more fruitful?

NOW WHAT?

In what ways has God "pruned you" to make you more fruitful?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

In today's reading, we find a passage that is often used to illustrate that someone can lose their salvation. However, if you examine the passage closely, you should come to a different conclusion. This passage is about fruitfulness. Jesus was explaining what God does to help someone become more fruitful. First, someone who bears no fruit God cuts off. The word cuts off here is better translated picks up. That is also more consistent with the analogy Jesus used here. When a vine is not bearing fruit, the first thing a gardener does is pick it up off the ground so it can bear fruit more easily. Second, when someone bears some fruit, God prunes them so they can bear more fruit. Finally, if someone wants to bear much fruit, then they must remain in Jesus to stay consistent in relationship with Him. Verse 6 tells us that if, after all God has done, someone still remains unfruitful, then they may be picked up, thrown out, and burned. According to 1 Corinthians 3:15, it is their works that will be burned up, but they will be saved. The point of this passage? God does everything needed for us to bear fruit, so there is no reason why we shouldn't. Are you? Use today's questions to help you examine yourself.

EXTRA READING

JOHN 15

Have you ever had an experience that was difficult and very painful? You hated the situation at first and may have even tried to change it. Then you began to see the good it was accomplishing, and your whole attitude about it changed? Today we find a similar example in the lives of the disciples. They were in the upper room with Jesus, and He was spending His final moments with them. As we mentioned earlier, He was preparing them for the events that were about to unfold. They were discouraged and filled with grief. He told them, though, that these events were really for their good. The events of His future must take place so that something better would happen. They had Jesus with them, which was the best possible scenario. They did not realize that His death would result in the arrival of the Holy Spirit. The events about to unfold would be very painful, but the disciples would be stronger because of them. God often brings difficult events into our lives to strengthen us. Are you facing a painful situation right now? Let Jesus' words today encourage you. There is a plan!

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 16

JOHN 17:6-19

SHARING

SAY WHAT?

Write down the names of people in your world who need Jesus.

SO WHAT?

What have you done to share Jesus with them?

NOW WHAT?

How can you do a better job of sharing Jesus?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

As you read today's passage, what phrases caught your attention? Did you notice what He said in verse 6? He made an amazing statement. Jesus spent His final hours in prayer with His heavenly Father. It was an emotional time for Him. He knew the guards were coming soon to lead Him away to be crucified. He began His prayer by telling the Father, "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world." What a statement! Could you make a statement like that? God has placed you in your family, school, neighborhood, and work place with people who need Jesus. Have you shared Jesus with them? Use today's questions to help you get started.

EXTRA READING
JOHN 17

What is your motivation for living the way you do? Hopefully your motivation is not like the Pharisees in today's reading. In the midst of the crucifixion story, we find an unbelievable comment that demonstrates just how wicked these people were. They were trying to have Jesus crucified, and they were in a big hurry. Why? According to verse 28, it was so they could get home quickly to eat the Passover meal. It was not because they strongly believed in seeing justice served. It wasn't because they, out of pure devotion, were seeking to follow the laws of God. It was not out of love for those who may follow Him. They just didn't want it to interfere with their plans. Too often, we are just like these people. We make decisions based on our own selfish desires, not on what we really believe God wants. We say we are committed, but in reality, we just want something for ourselves, like comfort or a good reputation. Could that be your motivation? Examine yourself to see!

SAY WHAT?

How can you tell what someone's motivation is?

SO WHAT?

What motivations do you see in your own life?

NOW WHAT?

What can you do to keep your motives pure?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 18

JOHN 19:17-30

LOVE

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

This book was written to illustrate to its readers that Jesus Christ is, in fact, God. We have seen many examples to prove the deity of Jesus. Today we read about His love for people in the midst of His own pain. He was on the cross with nails in His hands and feet and had already been beaten, tortured and betrayed. Yet, in spite of His own pain, He looked down at His mother and passed the responsibility of her care to John. He was thinking of others while He was in pain. Then He died. His death was not according to the Pharisees' schedule or as a result of their torture. He died by surrendering His spirit up to the Father. He died according to God's plan. Every detail of this chapter reveals that Jesus Christ was no ordinary man. He was God, and He illustrated who He was even in the midst of His greatest pain and suffering. He did all this so that we might have the forgiveness of sins. Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior? If not, what is stopping you? If you are following Jesus, who in your world needs to hear about Him?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 19

The book of Proverbs was designed to help us in "gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young." As you read through this chapter, write down the verses that are most significant to you in your present circumstances.

VERSE	WHAT TRUTH IT COMMUNICATES	HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE
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As you looked at today's passage, you may have thought there was a typo since this is the same passage we read yesterday. It is not, however, a mistake. This chapter is the account of what Jesus went through for you. What amazing love Jesus Christ has for us! It is too important of a passage to just read quickly and move on. Instead of taking time to read a devotional thought, or write out answers to questions on the side of this page, go back to the passage and at the end of every verse think to yourself, "for me." Example: "Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged, for me." How should you respond to such love? In what way can you show Him today how thankful you are for what He has done for you?

EXTRA READING

JOHN 19

Who are the people that Jesus was referring to when He spoke to Thomas in verse 29? Thomas was not present when Jesus had appeared earlier to the disciples. As a result, he allowed the pain of losing Jesus to prevent him from believing that He might really be alive. Jesus came to Thomas and clearly showed him that He had, in fact, risen from the dead. Jesus also told him to touch His side and hands to prove that He was really Jesus. Only when Thomas saw Him personally did he believe. Jesus told Thomas that he believed only because he saw Him, but blessed are those who believe even though they have not seen Him. Jesus commends the faith of those who follow Jesus even when they have never seen Him. Faith is being sure of what we cannot see physically. Do you have faith that Jesus is alive? If not, who can you talk to about it?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
JOHN 20

JOHN 21:1-14

153 FISH

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

Why does John tell us exactly how many fish they caught in today's reading? Does it really make any difference? It does if the author wants to remind us again that Jesus is the Son of God. John emphasized that what happened that morning was not due to good fortune. It was not because of Peter's expertise in fishing. It was a miracle. It could not be explained in any other way except as a great work of God. Jesus told them to put down their nets. They did and caught 153 fish. It's also interesting to see what John said as he closed this book (vs25). Jesus, in the presence of the disciples, had done many other miraculous signs not recorded in John's account. In fact, if John would have tried to record everything that had taken place, there would not be enough space in all the world to store the books. It is so incredible to read this book and realize we do not even scratch the surface of all Jesus did. After concluding this book, who do you believe Jesus Christ is? How have you responded to that knowledge? Ask God to reveal to your heart who He is and the depth of His love.

EXTRA READING
JOHN 21



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THIS HOPE WE HAVE AS AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL, A HOPE BOTH SURE AND STEADFAST AND ONE WHICH ENTERS WITHIN THE VEIL, WHERE JESUS HAS ENTERED AS A FORERUNNER FOR US...
HEBREWS 6:19-20

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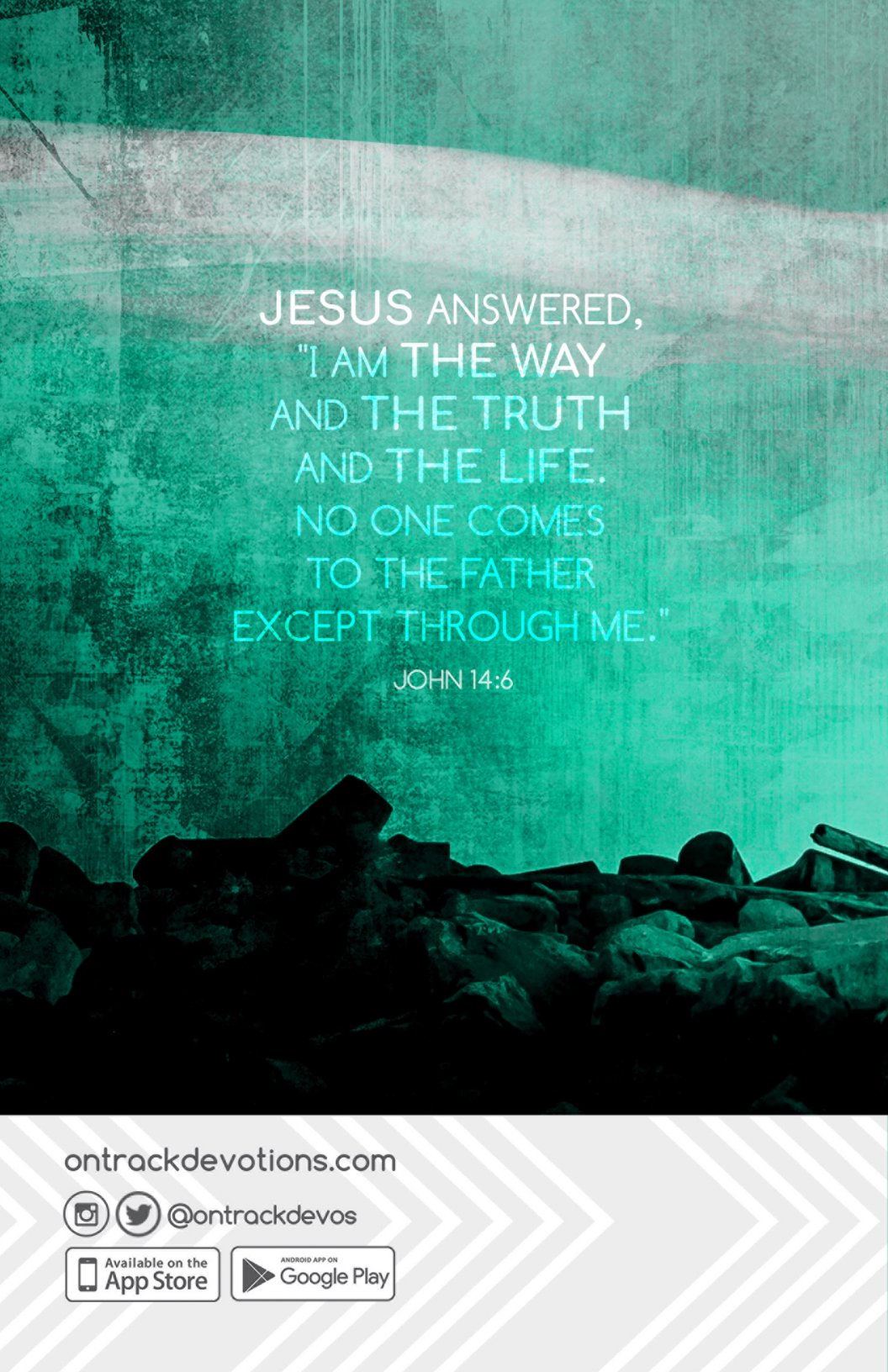


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JESUS ANSWERED,
"I AM THE WAY
AND THE TRUTH
AND THE LIFE.
NO ONE COMES
TO THE FATHER
EXCEPT THROUGH ME."

JOHN 14:6

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