

# DIY: THE BOOK OF JOHN



# BOOK OF JOHN STUDY SERIES

This workbook dives into the **book of John** in the bible to provide practical study as well as thought provoking questions for creating a meaningful interaction between you and God. For this workbook we look mostly at the [New Living Translation](#) which provides a relevant and accurate translation of the bible.

This workbook is by no means a theological approach, but is meant to be a guide. It is not the only way to look at the book of John, rather it should be an example and structure that allows you to begin a new adventure towards getting to know the God that loves you, created you, and has a grand purpose for your life ([Jeremiah 29:11-13](#)). We hope you enjoy this journey and that it can be the beginning of a deep, unique, and flourishing relationship with God.



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## HISTORY

“Is Jesus really God? Some religions teach that Jesus is special but not that he is God the Son, who existed from all eternity and who created the universe and died to save you.

John makes sure you won't be confused. All the Gospels Tell you that Jesus is the Son of god. But John emphasizes that Jesus is the God of the Old Testament, the God who loved you enough to come to earth to be with you and to save you from your sins.

John the disciple wrote this book, not John the Baptist.

The key word in this Gospel is 'love.'”

- [NIV Teen Study Bible, Book Intro](#)

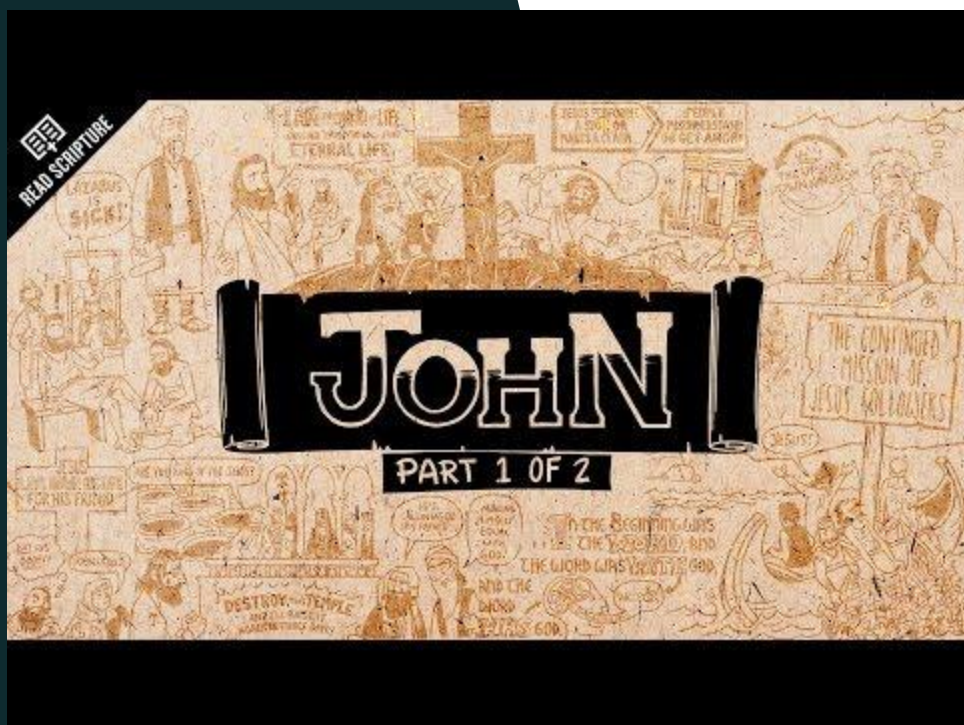




## WATCH THIS

### “Read Scripture: John 1-12” - The Bible Project

This video provides a visual introduction and overview of the Book of John. It should help you look at the first few chapters and its author to think about what God is trying to communicate with this book of the bible.





## KEY QUESTIONS

- Think about: What is the purpose of this book?

## WRITE ABOUT IT

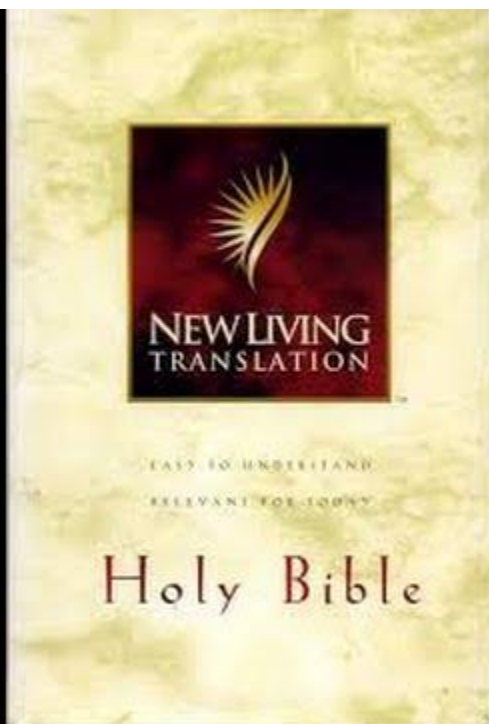
Why might this book help you build a relationship with God?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## LISTEN TO THIS

If you think you would benefit from listening to the bible and your bible app does not have an audio feature for NLT, check out this audiobook version of the book of John in NLT so you can read along.



## CONSIDER THIS

We recommend reading or listening to about 3 chapters a day, but you want to consider what will help you get the most out of your reading. Think about what will be best for your own learning style.



## READ John Chapter 1

In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God,  
and **the Word was God.**

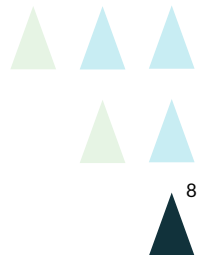
2 He existed in the beginning with God.

3 God created everything through him,  
and nothing was created except through him.

4 The Word gave life to everything that was created,  
and his life brought light to everyone.

5 **The light shines in the darkness,**  
**and the darkness can never extinguish it.**

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

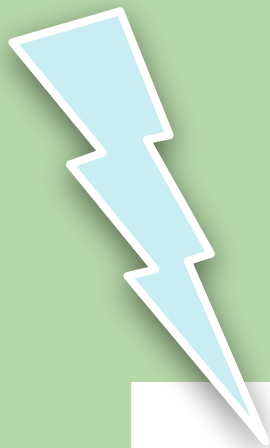




# THINK ABOUT IT

- God sent Jesus to be an example for us and to help us understand God better, we get to see that in the Word.
- The Word is the Bible.
- Jesus is a teacher.





## WRITE ABOUT IT

What qualities of God did you notice in this chapter? What is God like? (Remember, you can learn about God through Jesus.)

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

## KEY QUESTIONS

- What do I learn about God?
- What do I learn about myself?
- What scripture can I obey today?



READ John Chapter 2

The next day there was a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WATCH THIS

### **“Jesus Turns Water into Wine”**

This video provides an idea of what it might have been like for Jesus to first show a miracle to the people in Cana.



## THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus was spending time with his mother, brothers, and disciples
- Jesus' miracle was not only powerful, but challenged the status quo (the response of the bridegroom).
- Jesus was an amazing man. He had passion, purpose, and poise.



*But Jesus didn't trust them, because he knew all about people. [25] No one needed to tell him about human nature, for he knew what was in each person's heart. -- John 2:24-25 NLT*

## WRITE ABOUT IT

What do YOU think about the scripture above? How do you feel knowing Jesus knows your heart?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## READ [John Chapter 3](#)

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. **2** After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. **Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.**”

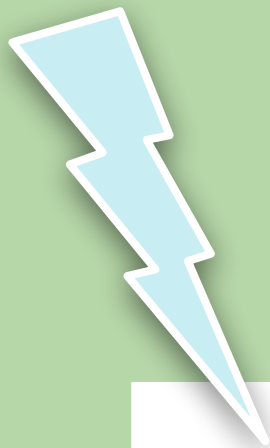
**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

# THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus came, not to judge, but to save people
- How does this compare to your current view of God?
- Judgement will come if you remain hidden and people remain hidden when they are afraid to expose themselves.







## WRITE ABOUT IT

Building a relationship with God is about being yourself. Is that something you are willing to do as you learn more about God? Why or why not?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## REVIEW AND REFLECT

What are some new thoughts, feelings, impressions you have about Jesus/God that you have learned from these chapters?

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

# T.R.U.E. Prayer

T = Thanksgiving

R = Requests/Needs

U = Uncovering Sin

E = Emotions

## Where can you pray?

- Take a walk around your neighborhood
- Pray at the park on a swing
- Journal in a notebook
- Pray in your room out loud



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Write about the sins you see from the day before.

## E = Emotions

Write the top 3 emotions you felt yesterday and why.



## THINK ABOUT IT

- Again, Jesus likes to break the status quo, he talks to a Samaritan woman.
- Jews would not usually associate with Samaritans, let alone men with women.
- This was rare, what does this tell you about who Jesus is?



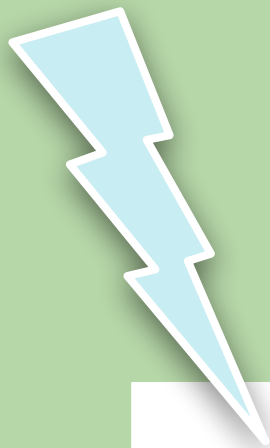
READ

[John Chapter 4](#)

Jesus knew the Pharisees had heard that he was baptizing and making more disciples than John 2 (though Jesus himself didn't baptize them—his disciples did).<sup>3</sup> So he left Judea and returned to Galilee.

**4** He had to go through Samaria on the way. **5** Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WRITE ABOUT IT

The woman was ashamed of her life and afraid of people's opinions of her. Do you feel ashamed or afraid of anything in your life?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## READ John Chapter 5

Afterward Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. 2 Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. 3 Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. 5 One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?”

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

## THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus really emphasizes the fact that he is from God and what he does on earth is to mimic and show who God is.
- Jesus is not trying to get anything from anyone else, he is simply reminding the people that he is here to tell people about the true God.





## THINK ABOUT IT

- (v. 5-6) Jesus sometimes allows us to be tested so that he might see where our faith is really at.
- There are two types of people Jesus was talking to in this passage, people who believed in God and were willing to follow him, and people who just wanted miracles (only good things).
- Which one are you?



READ

John Chapter 6

After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias. **2** A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick. **3** Then Jesus climbed a hill and **sat down with his disciples** around him.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## REVIEW AND REFLECT

Pick out a scripture that makes you think about and appreciate Jesus/God, now write it here.

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

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## THINK ABOUT IT

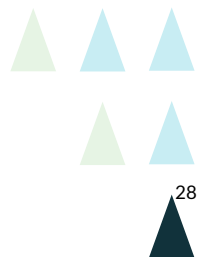
- Jesus is always reminding the disciples and people to look beyond what's right in front of them
- Jesus was a man of depth
- The more you learn about Jesus, the more you can learn about God
- The people were divided about Jesus



## READ [John Chapter 7](#)

After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. **2** But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, **3** and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! **4** You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" **5** For even his brothers didn't believe in him.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**





## LISTEN TO THIS

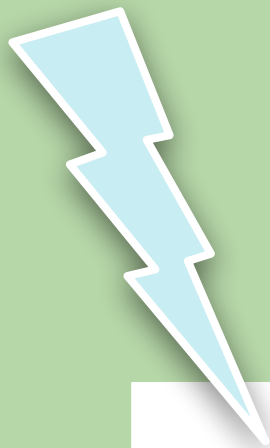
### **“How to Have a Quiet Time: Part One, Creating a Sacred Space” - Deep Spirituality**

In this podcast, people discuss what it means and how to create a “Sacred Space”. In essence, it is a place where you can connect with God that’s unique to you and focuses your mind and heart on God. Listen to the discussion for ideas and insight.

CLICK THE IMAGE  
TO LISTEN



**Deep Spirituality**



## WRITE ABOUT IT

What would it look like for you to create a  
“Sacred Space”?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or  
notes from the reading or bible study.

## KEY QUESTIONS

- We learn about the judgement of sin in this chapter.
- How do the people respond to sin?
- How does God treat sin?



READ

[John Chapter 8](#)

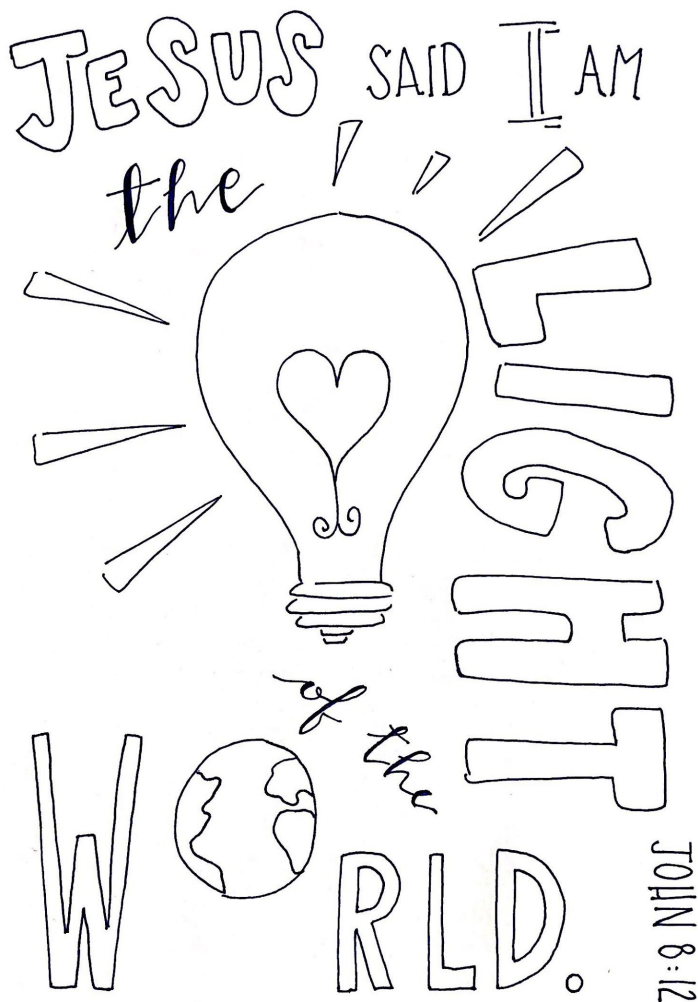
Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, **2** but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. **3** As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## DRAW IT OUT

Sketch, color, or doodle this image or create your own based on what you read!







## READ John Chapter 9

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.<sup>2</sup> “Rabbi,” his disciples asked him, “why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?”

<sup>3</sup> “It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.”

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

# THINK ABOUT IT

- Some challenges in our life simply exist so that when we learn and follow God, we can see his power more clearly.
- The Pharisees did not want to acknowledge Jesus' power so instead they decided to criticize and critique.





## WATCH THIS

### **“God is Powerful - Deep Spirituality”**

This video looks at multiple scriptures that describe God’s power.

What verses do you find most interesting? Why?



God Is  
Powerful

A video thumbnail featuring a close-up of white, turbulent water rapids. The text "God Is Powerful" is overlaid in a large, yellow, stylized font with a dark blue outline. The word "God" is on the top line, "Is" is to its right, and "Powerful" is on the bottom line. The background shows the churning water and some dark foliage at the bottom.



## REVIEW AND REFLECT

What are you going to do differently this week to spend time with God?

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

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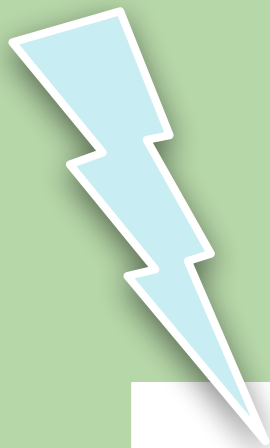




## READ John Chapter 10

"I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! 2 But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WRITE ABOUT IT

God describes himself as a shepherd.  
What might that mean? What qualities do  
shepherds have?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or  
notes from the reading or bible study.



## READ John Chapter 11

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. 2 This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. 3 So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick."

4 But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this."

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus felt so much compassion and empathy for Mary and Martha.
- Jesus shared in the emotions that the people felt, he embraced the sadness, even when he knew he would raise Lazarus from the dead.





## READ [John Chapter 12](#)

Six days before the Passover celebration began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead. 2 A dinner was prepared in Jesus' honor. Martha served, and Lazarus was among those who ate with him. 3 Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance.

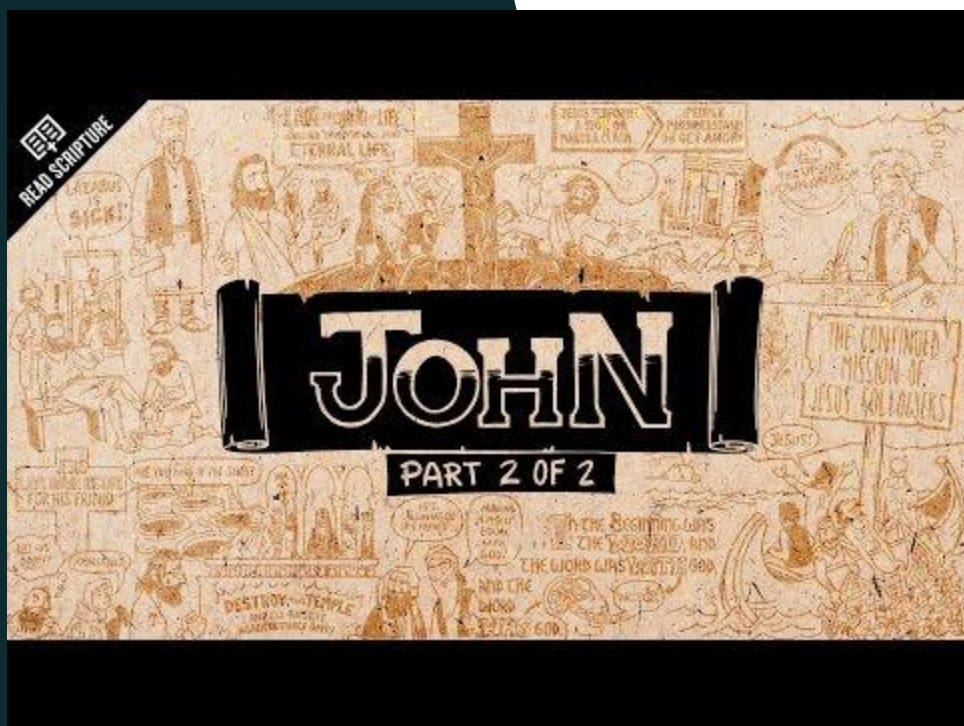
**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WATCH THIS

### “Read Scripture: John 13-21 - The Bible Project”

This video provides a visual introduction and overview of the Book of John. It should help you look at the second half of the book and its author to think about what God is trying to communicate with this book of the bible.



*I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark. 47 I will not judge those who hear me but don't obey me, for I have come to save the world and not to judge it. 48 But all who reject me and my message will be judged on the day of judgment by the truth I have spoken. -- John 12: 46-48 NLT*

## WRITE ABOUT IT

Jesus is light, meaning that the bible will expose truths about yourself. What sins and emotions are on your mind that you need to put into the light (be honest about)?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## REVIEW AND REFLECT

What have you learned about Jesus so far that has surprised you? Are there still doubts you have? Decide to share these with someone today.

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

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Write about the sins you see from the day before.

## E = Emotions

Write the top 3 emotions you felt yesterday and why.



## KEY QUESTIONS

- Jesus knows that he will not live much longer.
- How does he spend his time on Earth?
- What does Jesus instruct his disciples to do when he's gone?



READ [John Chapter 13](#)

Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WATCH THIS

### **“What is Greatness? - Deep Spirituality”**

This video discusses what Jesus is trying to show his disciples in chapter 13. Jesus washes their feet because he wants to remind them that what God values as great is not what the world values as great. How do you try to be great? How does this change your view of greatness?

**What is Greatness?**

A video thumbnail showing two men with beards in a room with bookshelves. One man is on the left, looking towards the other man on the right, who is gesturing with his hand. A white speech bubble with the text 'What is Greatness?' is overlaid on the image.





READ

[John Chapter 14](#)

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.”

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

# THINK ABOUT IT

- This is a great reminder that what you are reading about in the bible is about Jesus, and when you learn about Jesus, you are learning about God.
- When you obey the bible, you are actually showing God that you love him and that you trust him.
- There are so many promises that God has for you (remember the “God is Powerful” video from chapter 9)!



*I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. -- John 14:27*

## WRITE ABOUT IT

Knowing that a relationship brings gifts from God, in this case peace, how does that make you feel? How would your life look different if you had daily peace?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

## THINK ABOUT IT

- A relationship with God is about remaining, or abiding, in him.
- Definition of abide: (of a feeling or a memory) continue without fading or being lost; live, dwell



## READ John Chapter 15

"I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit **so they will produce even more**. 3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. 4 **Remain in me**, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**





## WATCH THIS

### **“Push Ups and Suicides - Coach Carter”**

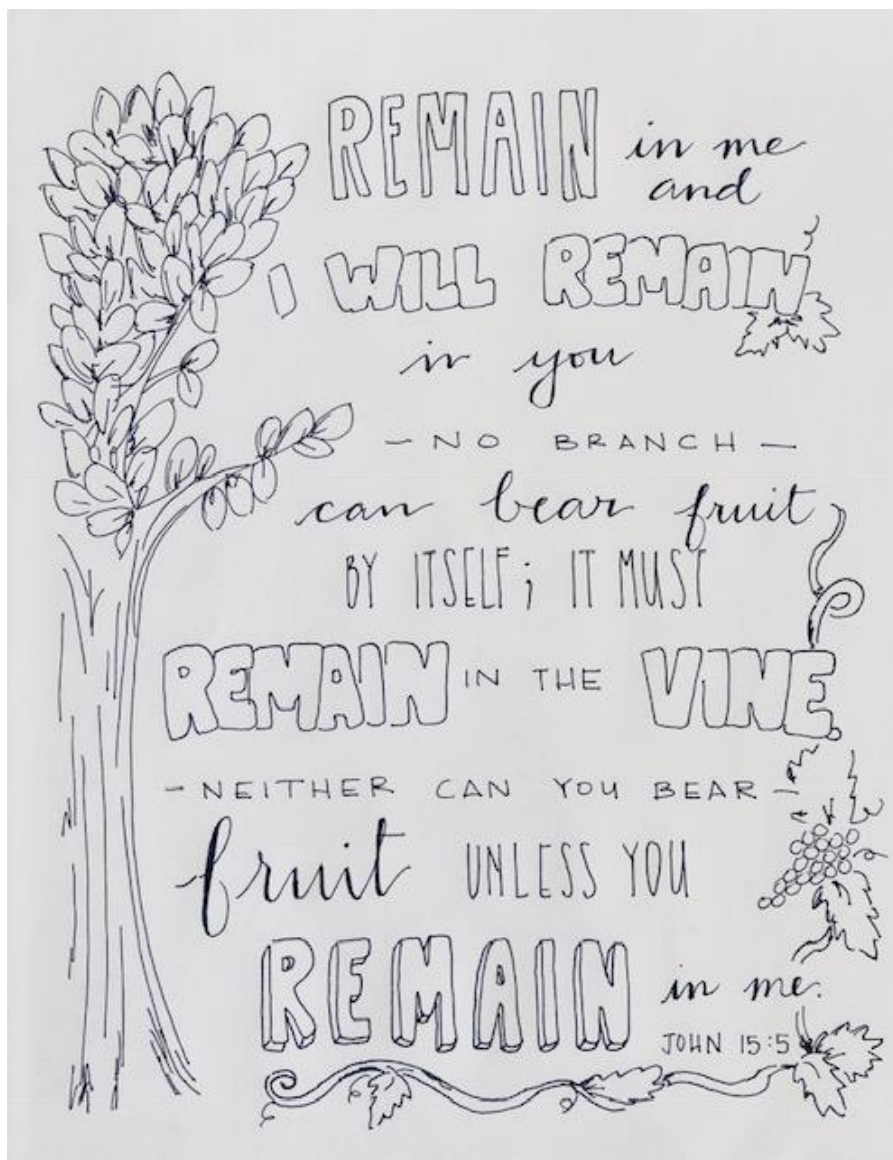
In the movie *Coach Carter*, Coach puts the team on a strict athletic and academic regimen. One player quits only to decide later he wants to rejoin the team. In this scene, on his own he does not have the ability to continue, but his teammates show him that together they might be able to do more. **Think about verses 1-5 about remaining in God and how this might apply.**





## DRAW IT OUT

Sketch, color, or doodle this image or create your own based on what you read!



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## READ [John Chapter 16](#)

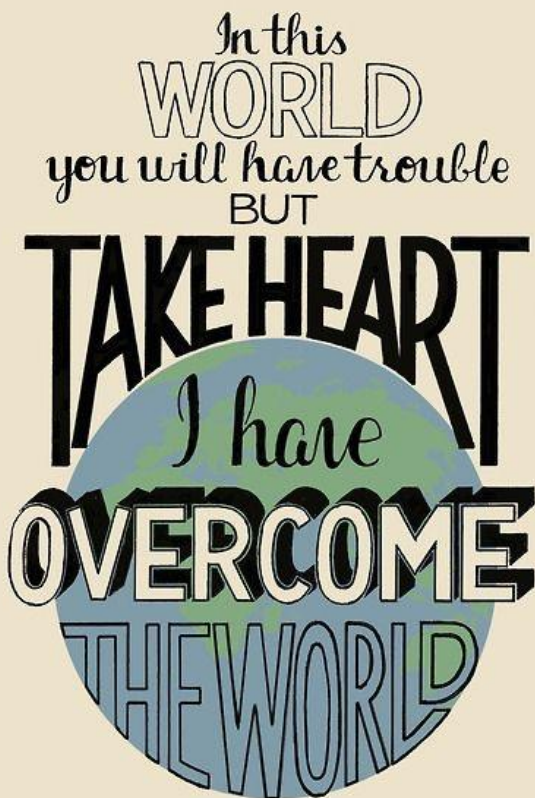
“I have told you these things **so that you won’t abandon your faith.** 2 For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God. 3 This is because they have never known the Father or me.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## THINK ABOUT IT

- The disciples were Jesus' closest friends.
- He is constantly encouraging them because he knows that there will be difficult times ahead.
- These scriptures can encourage you to know that he knew then that you too, would go through hard times.



JOHN 16:33

## THINK ABOUT IT

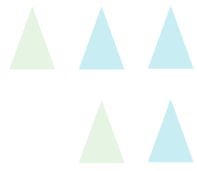
- We know that here Jesus is praying to God before he knows he will be betrayed and led to the cross.
- How does he feel about the disciples?



## READ John Chapter 17

After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son **so he can give glory back to you.** 2 For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. 3 And this is the way to have eternal life—**to know you,** the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. 4 **I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.** 5 Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**





## LOOK FURTHER

If we look at other gospels as they tell the story of Jesus, we know that he is wrestling at this point with having to go to the cross. Read the passage below.

*Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”*

*39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”*

*40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. 41 “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

-- [Matthew 26:38-41 NIV](#)



## WATCH THIS

### **“Sadness Saves Riley - From Inside Out”**

Riley has experienced some hard times, moving across the states to a new home, new school, and new friends. She can't take the pressure anymore, but she has suppressed the feelings of sadness thinking if she shoves them away, things will get better, instead she realizes it's okay to feel sad because that's how she will feel the love she's looking for. **How can you relate that to what you feel and sharing that with God?**



## THINK ABOUT IT

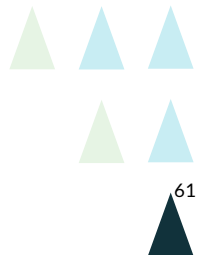
- What might Peter have felt seeing his best friend go through such cruelty?
- Peter was wrestling with losing a friend and on the brink of losing his faith.



## READ John Chapter 18

After saying these things, Jesus crossed the Kidron Valley with his disciples and entered a grove of olive trees. 2 Judas, the betrayer, knew this place, because Jesus had often gone there with his disciples. 3 The leading priests and Pharisees had given Judas a contingent of Roman soldiers and Temple guards to accompany him. Now with blazing torches, lanterns, and weapons, they arrived at the olive grove.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**





## WATCH THIS

### **“A.D. The Bible Continues: Character - Peter”**

In this cinematic look at Peter, we see that Peter struggles with who Jesus calls him to be and when he falls short of those expectations.





## REVIEW AND REFLECT

Have you ever been through anything difficult or hard? How did Jesus respond to difficulties in these chapters?

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

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## KEY QUESTIONS

- Why do you think Jesus didn't say anything?
- What do you think Jesus felt during this time?

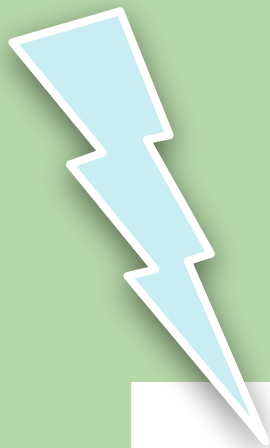


READ

[John Chapter 19](#)

Then Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. 2 The soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they put a purple robe on him. 3 “Hail! King of the Jews!” they mocked, as they slapped him across the face.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**



## WRITE ABOUT IT

How do you feel as you think about what Jesus went through knowing that he was going to the cross for everyone's sins, including yours?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.



## WATCH THIS

If you have **Netflix**, check out “**A.D. The Bible Continues - Episode 1**”. The episode looks at the cross and creates a visual of Jesus’ experience and his disciples’ journey. Although cinematic liberties have been taken, the story follows as much to the truth as it can for creating a realistic and relatable image for viewers regarding the crucifixion of Jesus.

\*Note: Some images are graphic and should be watched with discretion.



## THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus comes back!
- He encourages the disciples to continue God's purpose!
- God fulfilled his promise.

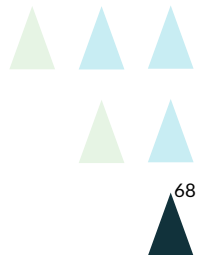


## READ John Chapter 20

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. 2 She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

3 Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**





## LISTEN TO THIS

### **“You Say - Lauren Daigle”**

This song is a beautiful reminder that no matter what we think of ourselves or what people think of us, the only opinion that matters is God's.

God's thoughts about us are good thoughts and Jesus' death and resurrection was so that we might be forgiven of all our sins and mess ups, and instead have hope.

**Listen to this song and think about how God feels about you.** (I also recommend watching this version [in sign language](#), it's pretty cool.)





## READ John Chapter 21

Later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. 2 Several of the disciples were there—Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples.

3 Simon Peter said, “I’m going fishing.”

“We’ll come, too,” they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night.

4 At dawn Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples couldn’t see who he was. 5 He called out, “Fellows, have you caught any fish?”

“No,” they replied.

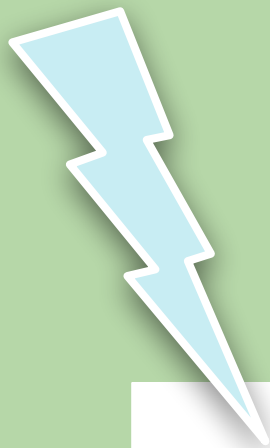
6 Then he said, “Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you’ll get some!” So they did, and they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.

**...NOW keep reading online or in your paper bible.**

# THINK ABOUT IT

- Jesus asks Peter three times if he will feed his sheep. He does this to let Peter know that even through his guilt, Jesus looks past it.
- The disciples will have hard times ahead of them, but Jesus reminds them that their time with him has prepared them and God is with them.





## WRITE ABOUT IT

What do you think God's purpose is for you? What qualities do you know about God now that make you excited about building a friendship with him?

Here is where you can write in your thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.





## REVIEW AND REFLECT

What are some next steps for you in your relationship with God? Ask a friend what they think.

Here is where teens can write in their thoughts or notes from the reading or bible study.

# T.R.U.E. Prayer

## T = Thanksgiving

Write here the things you are grateful for so that you can pray about them.

## R = Requests/Needs

Write about things you need help with.

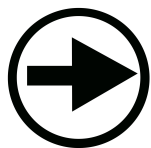
## U = Uncovering Sin

Write about the sins you see from the day before.

## E = Emotions

Write the top 3 emotions you felt yesterday and why.





## DO IT YOURSELF

To look at a deeper study of the bible, check out these resources.

### Podcasts

- [Deep Spirituality Podcasts](#)

### Visuals

- [Deep Spirituality on YouTube](#)
- [The Bible Project on YouTube](#)
- [The Book of John \(Word for Word Film\)](#)
- “The Bible A.D.” on Netflix - The cinematic recreation of the Book of Acts

### Music

- Search “Defeat My Goliath” Playlist on Spotify



## DIY BIBLE SOURCES

- Photo Credit: [unsplash.com](https://unsplash.com)
    - [Guilherme Stecanella](#)
    - [Ricardo Annandale](#)
    - [Jamie Street](#)
  - NIV Teen Study Bible
  - Googleslides
  - The Bible Project Videos
  - The Book of John Film
  - The Bible A.D. on Netflix
  - [Biblegateway.com](https://Biblegateway.com)
  - [TecartaBible.com](https://TecartaBible.com)
  - YouTube
  - [DeepSpirituality.net](https://DeepSpirituality.net)
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