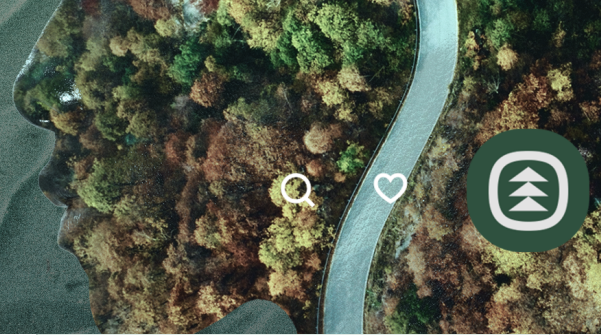




THE WAY

SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



STUDY GUIDE OVERVIEW

We're excited that you've downloaded the study guide for "The Way Season 2 – A Study Through John." Whether you're using this guide on your own, with your family, or leading a small group, our hope is that this companion to the message series helps you as you study God's word.

At the top of each page there is a Bible passage on which the corresponding message on Sunday was based. In the main section of each page, you'll find five questions that will help you process God's Word, listen to His voice, and apply the truth of His word in your life.

You, your family, or your group should read through the entire passage and tackle one of the questions each day. Write down answers, thoughts, questions, and doubts in the space provided, and if you're meeting with a group, discuss what you heard as you listened to God's word, what prayers and conversation it sparked with God, and what it looks like to obey what God is saying to you. Below are the five questions you'll find on each page, along with some additional clarification that should help as you go.

What does this passage tell us about God?

- What does the text tell me about the nature and character of God and specifically His work through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

What does this passage tell me about man?

- What does the text tell me about humanity? Bryan Chappell refers to this as the "fallen condition focus" of the text. What does the text reveal about sin and humankind's need for the gospel?

What does this passage demand of me?

- If I am to be rooted in scripture as the Truth of God's Word, what changes in my life does the text require? How do I apply this in my life?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

- How does the text alter or improve my current relationship with God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

- How do I apply this in my relationships with others? Discuss how the text shapes how I should relate to other believers and how I live on mission in the world.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *Feel free to use the questions from the "additional discussion" section to help spark additional thoughts and conversation among your family, your group, or maybe just as you study on your own. There are no right or wrong thoughts or questions to ask, and these may provide a different perspective than what has been discussed. Do your best to avoid these questions until after you've completed the study portion in the main section. These questions are here simply to help, so feel free not use them; it's totally up to you.*



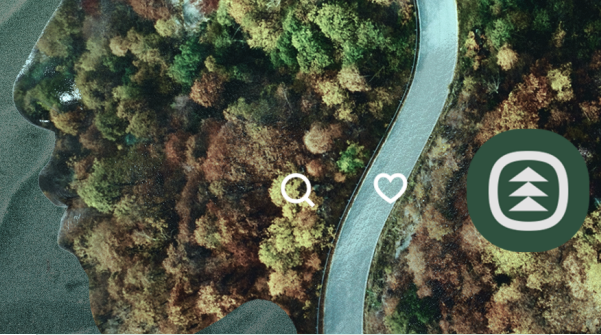
DEEPER DIVE:

The "Deeper Dive" section contains other passages in the bible which may provide additional light on the week's passage, help provide context, or point to additional support for what the author has written. These should be helpful for you as you work to study and answer the five questions in the main section.



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 1 | APRIL 9, 2023 READ JOHN 8:1-11

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What does it mean to "go and sin no more"? How can we apply this principle in our own lives, especially when we struggle with persistent sins or addictions?*
- *In what ways do we struggle with self-righteousness or a sense of superiority over others? How can we cultivate humility and recognize our own need for grace and forgiveness?*
- *What steps can we take to seek accountability and support in our walk with God and our struggles with sin? How can we build relationships with others who can encourage, challenge, and help us grow in our faith?*



DEEPER DIVE:

John 3:17

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.

John 5:14

Afterward, Jesus found the man at the temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Stop sinning, or something worse may happen to you."

Luke 5:32

I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

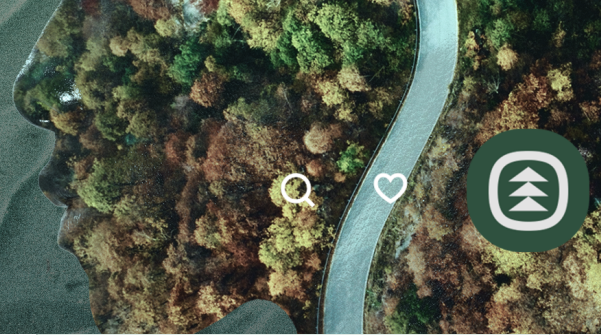
Proverbs 28:13

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 2 | APRIL 16, 2023
READ JOHN 8:12-30

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world." This is the second of the seven "I Am" statements Jesus made in the book of John to identify His Deity ("I am the Bread of Life", John 6:35). Define the ways that Jesus is the Light of the world. In Matthew 5:14, Jesus said that you are the light of the world. What does it mean for you to be the light of the world? How can you be the light in today's society?*
- *In John 8:13, the Pharisees once again did not believe Jesus when He claimed that the Father bears witness that He is the Light of the world. The scriptures written by the old testament prophets, those healed by Jesus' miraculous works, and John the Baptist also bear witness to His Deity. What witness(es) caused you to believe in His Deity and follow Him? Are you an active witness that would lead others to follow Christ? (Deeper Dive: 1 John 5:6-12)*
- *Read John 8:30. Because Jesus consistently spoke the truth to the people, many of them believed. How can you demonstrate the love of Jesus to someone without agreeing to the religious or societal beliefs that are different from those of following Jesus Christ? How can you balance both showing grace and standing on the truth?*



DEEPER DIVE:

Genesis 1:3-5

Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

John 1:6-9

God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

Revelations 21:23-24

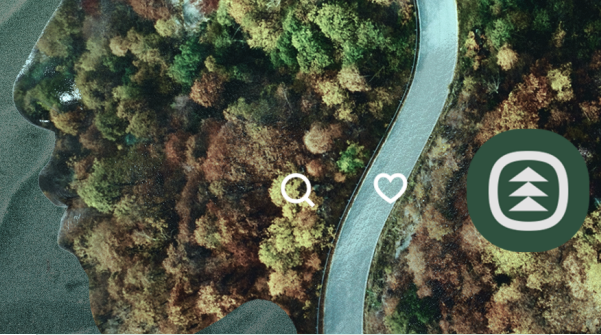
And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light. The nations will walk in its light, and the kings of the world will enter the city in all their glory.

1 John 5:6-12



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WEEK 3 | APRIL 23, 2023
READ JOHN 8:31–38

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What did the Jews mean when they answered, “We are descendants” of Abraham? What were they implying?*
- *What would the practical difference be between a son and a slave in the 1st century home? Why do you think Jesus used this analogy?*
- *What does “the truth” do?*



DEEPER DIVE:

John 3:16–18

Imagery comes from Jewish concept of Shaliach (messenger). Those originally receiving the words from John would understand this concept.

The **Sent One** relays the message of the **Sender**. The message is actually the message of the Sender in the manner they would give it.

Being “Sent” has three parts:

- Commission (what to do)
- Charge (where to go)
- Message (what to say)

John 3:34–36

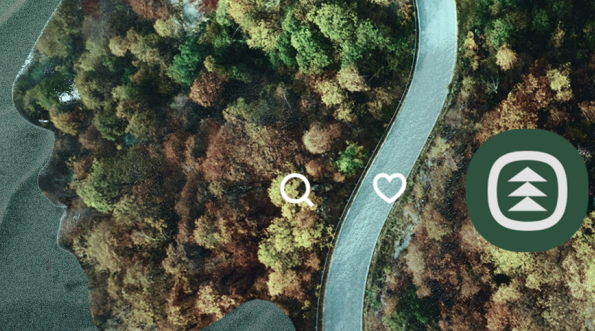
Read **Matthew 5:18–20**, and answer the questions below.

- Who is the sender?
- Who is the sent one?
- What is the Commission, Charge, and message?



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WEEK 4 | APRIL 30, 2023
READ JOHN 8:39–59

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What does Jesus mean when he says that Satan is the father of lies and that the religious leaders are his children? (v. 44)*
- *The religious leaders are claiming their decadence from Abraham to show validation in their relationship with God (v. 39). According to Jesus, how do their actions contradict their claims? If you follow Jesus, how might some of your actions or attitudes contradict your claim?*
- *We see another “I am” statement in verse 58 from Jesus. Why does His statement in this verse lead to the religious leaders’ actions in verse 59?*



DEEPER DIVE:

Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

1 John 3:8

Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

Mark 9:24

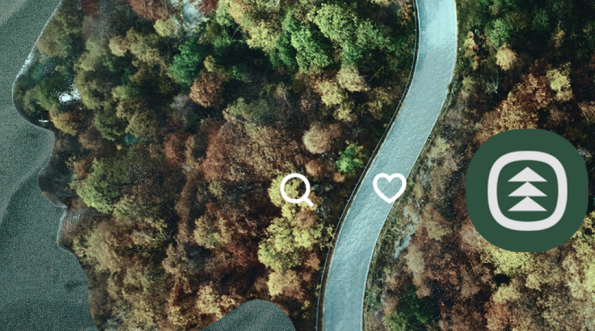
... “I believe; help my unbelief!”

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas of your life that don’t align with God.



THE WAY

SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 5 | MAY 7, 2023

READ JOHN 9:1–41

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *God can use our sufferings to display His glory. For the man who was born blind, Jesus says that the works of God can be displayed in Him. How should we respond to suffering when it comes in our lives?*
- *In order for this man to experience healing, he had to obey Jesus' instruction. Is there any healing in your life that is being prevented because of an unwillingness to obey? Is there a step of obedience you can take to move towards healing?*
- *Read verse 25 again. This is the blind man's testimony—he was blind and then he could see, all because of Jesus. Who in your life needs to hear your testimony of what Jesus has done for you?*



DEEPER DIVE:

Isaiah 61:1–3

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful head-dress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

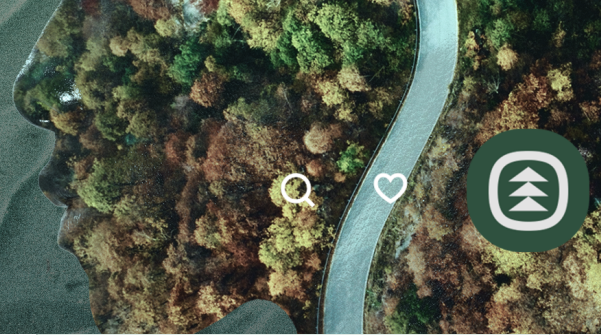
Luke 18:35–43

Luke 4:16–21



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WEEK 6 | MAY 14, 2023
READ JOHN 10:1-21

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What does Jesus mean when he says that the one who enters by the door is the shepherd, a gatekeeper opens, and then the shepherd leads them out (verse 2-3)?*
- *What does it mean to hear the voice of Jesus (verse 3)? How can we learn to discern His voice amidst the many competing voices in our world today?*
- *How does Jesus describe the unity between himself and His Father in this passage (verses 14-15)? How can we learn to cultivate a deeper sense of unity with God in our own lives?*



DEEPER DIVE:

Numbers 27:16-17

May the Lord, the God who gives breath to all living things, appoint someone over this community to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the Lord's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd.

Jeremiah 23:1-2

"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the Lord. Therefore this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the Lord.

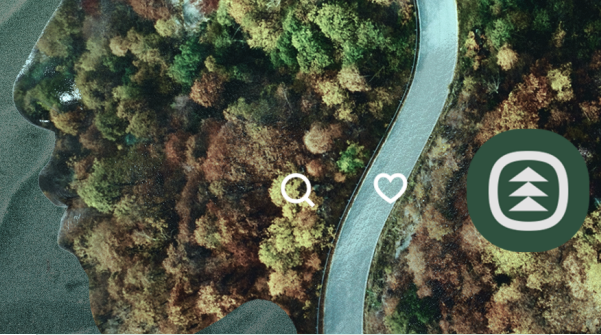
Romans 5:17

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!



THE WAY

SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 7 | MAY 21, 2023
READ JOHN 10:22–42

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

Psalms 23:1

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

Psalms 100:3

John 10:11

Luke 15:4–7

“If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won’t he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.’ In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven’t strayed away!

Galatians 3:26–28

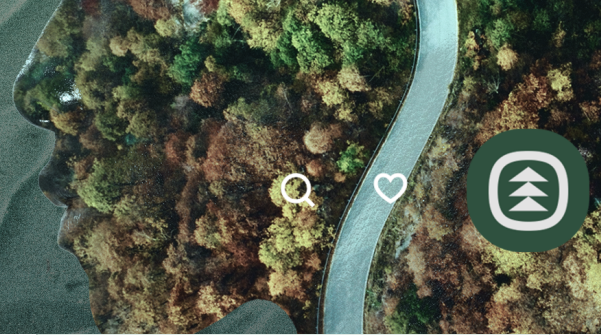
ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *Jesus said that His sheep will know His voice. How do you know when Jesus is speaking to you? What steps did you take in the past and are continuously taking to hear His voice?*
- *In John 10:31, people in the crowd were at the verge of throwing stones at Jesus. Although they witnessed Jesus performing miraculous works, they believed He was only a mere man and not the Son of God. In what ways do we throw stones at Jesus by mentally diminishing the powerful works and miracles of the Holy Spirit down to being mere coincidental incidences?*
- *In John 10:40–42, Jesus went across the Jordan near where John had been baptizing, and many people who had seen Jesus’ miraculous works believed all that John had said about Jesus to be true. Based on appearances, are we able to identify who His sheep are and determine when His sheep will hear His voice? Why is it essential to show the love of Jesus to everyone and not judge someone based on appearances?*



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 8 | MAY 28, 2023
READ JOHN 11:1–27

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *Why do you think John wrote “Lazarus had been in the grave for 4 days?”*
- *What does knowing Jesus’ power to overcome death mean to you?*
- *Read and compare Martha’s statements in John 11:27 and John 11:39.*
- *Martha acknowledges Jesus’ power but does not think he could bring her brother back to life. Are there any truths about Jesus that you have trouble believing? (Refer to “I AM” statements in “Deeper Dive.”*



DEEPER DIVE:

John 11:25

Exodus 3:14–16

Jesus intentionally uses the phrase “I am” in John 11:25. This was a trigger statement to the audience he was talking to because he was clearly placing himself on the same level as the God of the Patriarchs in the Old Testament of the Bible.

Q: Why do you think some Jewish people were able to hear his words and believe while others heard his words and wanted to kill him?

Look up these other “I AM” statements of Jesus from the book of John:

Jn. 4:26, I am the Messiah

Jn. 6:35, I am the Bread of Life

Jn. 9:5, I am the Light of the World

Jn. 10:7–9, I am the Gate

Jn. 10:11–14, I am the Good Shepherd

Jn. 11:25, I am the Resurrection

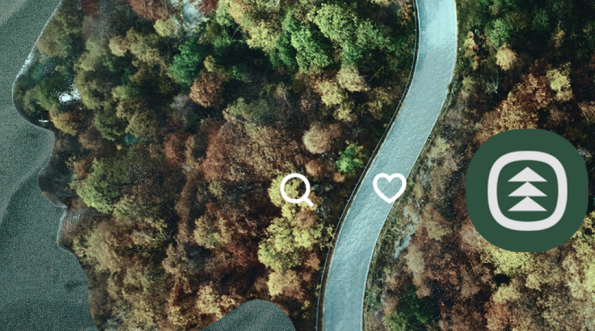
Jn 14:6, I am the Way, Truth, the Life

Q: Which one of these I AM statements means the most to you right now?



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WEEK 9 | JUNE 4, 2023
READ JOHN 11:28–44

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Romans 8:31–39

2 Corinthians 1:3–7

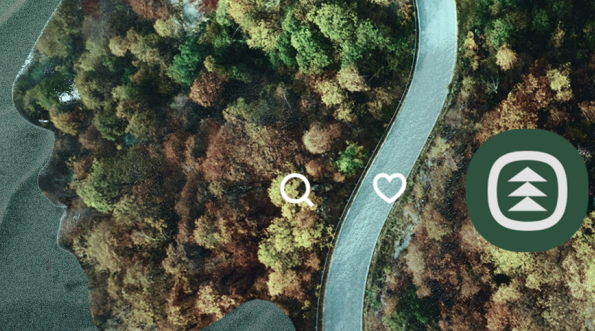
ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What is the significance of the miracle in verses 43–44, where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead?*
- *What does Jesus' response towards Lazarus's death reveal about how he feels for you?*
- *Why do you think Jesus delayed his arrival until after Lazarus had died?*
- *What areas in your life do you need to surrender to God's timing and plan, even when it doesn't align with our desires or expectations?*



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WEEK 10 | JUNE 11, 2023
READ JOHN 11:45–57

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

Psalms 56:3–4

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Matthew 23

Philippians 2:1–11

Psalms 34

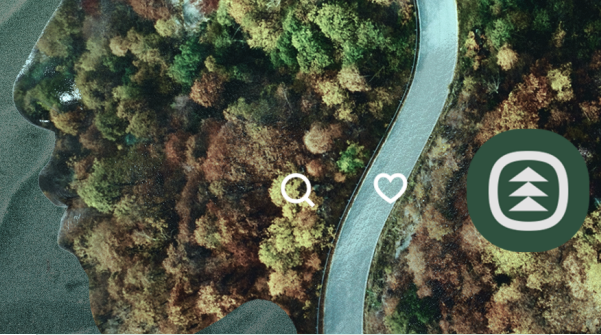
ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *The Pharisees were guided by fear of the Romans coming to take over their place in their nation. Their fear kept them from experiencing the goodness of what God was doing. In what ways is fear impacting your life right now?*
- *The Pharisees' lives were also guided by pride—they focused on their own position, power, and authority. What does striving for position, power, and authority look like in our culture today? How do you see it in your own life?*
- *What is one step you could take to combat the fear and/or pride in your life right now?*



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 11 | JUNE 18, 2023
READ JOHN 12:1–8

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

Read through **Exodus 12** to understand the history and importance of Passover.

Q: What parallels do you see between the first Passover, and the time surrounding Jesus' crucifixion?

Matthew 25:31–46

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Romans 12:1–2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

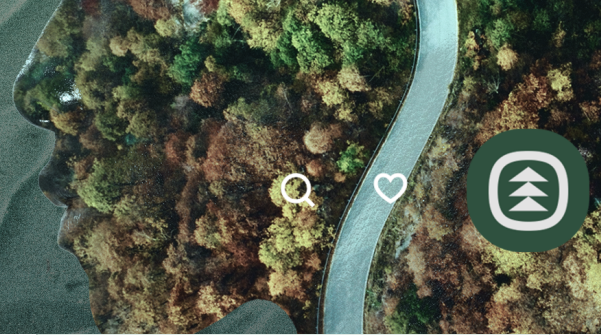
ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *The way Mary anointed Jesus with expensive perfume is like a brand-new believer, excited and exploring their new faith. How do we keep that newness in our relationship with Jesus?*
- *How can we offer our best gifts and resources to God?*
- *How can we resist the temptation to conform to societal expectations and instead prioritize our love for Jesus?*
- *How can we be more attentive to the needs of those around us, as Jesus was to the poor and marginalized in His ministry?*



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 12 | JUNE 25, 2023
READ JOHN 12:12–36

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

Zechariah 9:9–10

Philippians 1:21

Philippians 2:1–8

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

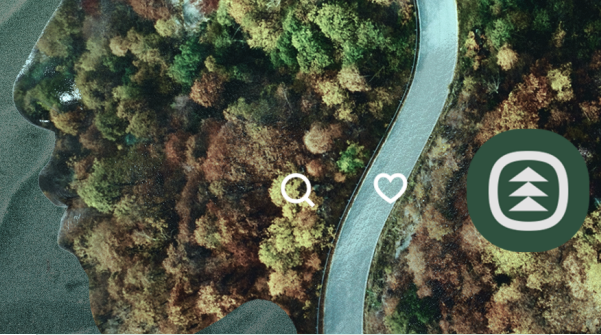
ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *In John 12:16, the scene of Jesus riding a donkey and being honored as a King fulfilled the scriptures written by the prophets of the Old Testament. However, the disciples did not recognize that this prophecy came true until after the resurrection of Jesus. Can you think of ways that Jesus showed up for you in your past, but you did not recognize it until after Jesus had become the King of your life? Because of this, are you more vigilant to identifying the ways Jesus shows up in your life and in those around you? If so, do you praise God for them and share your story with others?*
- *John 12:24 describes how Jesus is like a grain of wheat that must first die before it can produce many seeds. How does this relate to John 12:25 in that before you can gain eternal life you must first hate your life? Why does this all seem paradoxical and often difficult to understand? In the past, what things about your life did you love and enjoy before receiving eternal life? What is more valuable now after receiving eternal life?*
- *John 12:26 states that we are to be servants that follow after Jesus. Due to the negative connotations associated with servitude throughout history, we often prefer to be called children of the Most High King and not His servants. Paul in Romans 1:1 introduced himself as a servant of Jesus Christ. What feelings stir up when you associate yourself with being a servant of God? Do you feel loved and honored like Paul did, and if so, why? Or do you feel oppressed and devalued; if so, why? Are there steps you can take to change this? (Deeper Dive: Philippians 2:1–8)*



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SEASON 2 – A STUDY THROUGH JOHN



WEEK 13 | JULY 2, 2023
READ JOHN 12:36–50

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about man?

What does this passage demand of me?

How does this passage change the way I relate to God?

How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



DEEPER DIVE:

John 12:36

This was a “drop the mic” moment! Jesus talks to them about the light and then is gone.

Q: What do you think happened when they realized He was gone?

John 1:18

Jesus came to reveal God to us!

Q: What does this mean to you?

John 12:36

We currently hear people around us and, in the media, referring to our current culture as “living in dark days.”

Q: Do you agree or disagree? Why?

According to John 12:36, who are we when we believe in Jesus?

What ways can we be light today?

How are you giving light to those around you?

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

- *What is hindering me from seeing God’s work around me?*
- *Is there anything I do not believe about God because of the opinions of others?*
- *What do I sense God asking me to do that I have not been doing because of peer pressure?*