



Week 1 Study Sheet

Follow Me

Consider

The invitation from Jesus to follow him is an invitation from our maker to discover the purpose for which we've been created. As we follow Jesus, we are transformed more and more into the image of the one we are following. We learn his ways. We increasingly reflect his character. Our will begins to take a backseat to his. Our joy grows and our fear shrinks. Life has greater meaning than ever before. The invitation to follow Jesus isn't an invitation to an easy life. Instead, it is an invitation to the life we were meant to live.

Discover

Read [John 1:35-51](#)

- Why do you think these men follow Jesus despite knowing so little about him?
- What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?
- Recall to memory someone who greatly influenced your life — perhaps a parent, boss, or coach. What was it about that leader that made them special? What made it easy for you to follow that person?
- What makes it easy for you to follow Jesus? What makes it difficult for you to follow Jesus?
- What is one thing you can do this week to begin to follow Jesus or to follow him more closely?

Pray

Reflect on your time as a follower of Jesus. Think of all the ways God has transformed you more into the likeness of Jesus. Consider the fruit of his work to sanctify you and rejoice in his transforming grace that has delivered you from countless mistakes and self-inflicted pains. Invite God to replace your desires with his. Ask him to make you a greater reflection of Jesus.

Engage

Engage with God through the reading of his Word. Begin this year with a 21-day challenge to read one chapter a day through the Book of John. It's a simple and powerful way to focus your heart and mind on God in this new year.

Challenge Day 1: [John 1](#)



Week 2 Study Sheet

Qualified

Consider

Religion says, “Change and you can join us.” Jesus says, “Join us and you will change.” There’s a huge difference between religion and Jesus. Jesus doesn’t expect us to be perfect, he only desires for us to follow him. Being sinners doesn’t disqualify us from following him. Being doubters doesn’t disqualify us from following him. In fact, following Jesus always begins with a sinner and unbeliever taking one small step. Everyone is invited to follow Jesus.

Discover

Read [Mark 2:13-17](#)

- Why was Jesus’ decision to call Levi and dine at his house controversial?
- What can we learn about Jesus’ standards by the company he kept?
- In calling and eating with sinners, is Jesus saying their sin doesn’t matter? Explain.
- How can we follow Jesus’ example of associating with people of low reputation?

Pray

Rejoice in the love of God that loved you while you were still a sinner. Praise him for the unconditional love he has shown you. Ask God to reveal any Pharisaical tendencies and then confess and repent of any judgmental attitudes or prideful superiority he shows you. Ask him to help you see yourself and others as he sees you — as sick people in need of a physician.

Engage

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Challenge Days 2-8: [John 2-4](#), [John 5-8](#)



Week 3 Study Sheet

Jesus the Follower

Consider As followers of Jesus, our lives are filled with moments of decision to follow God's will or impose our own. Inevitably, our agendas clash with Jesus' and we must decide whether we'll abandon him or follow his lead. Jesus invites us to live for something greater than ourselves. He describes himself as the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus only did what his Father led him to do. Like Jesus, we must live our lives as an expression of the will of our Heavenly Father.

Discover Read [John 10:10-18](#)

- What is the abundant life Jesus is speaking of in verse 10?
- How does Jesus characterize his leadership in this passage?
- Jesus could have used any example of a leader, why do you think he chose the image of a good shepherd?
- What does the good shepherd do for the sheep?
- How do you see relationship emphasized in this passage? How does Jesus describe our relationship with him and his relationship with the Father?
- Why is it easy to confuse religious behavior with being a follower of Jesus? What is the difference?

Pray Rejoice over the fact that you have a relationship with God. Express your gratitude for the grace that was shown to you in Jesus that allows you to be accepted into God's presence. Worship Jesus, your good shepherd. Surrender your plans and hopes to him and ask him to replace them with his plans for you.

Engage Engage with God through the reading of his Word. Begin this year with a 21-day challenge to read one chapter a day through the Book of John. It's a simple and powerful way to focus your heart and mind on God in this new year.

Challenge Days 9-15: [John 9-11](#), [John 12-15](#)



Week 4 Study Sheet

What Will It Cost?

Consider

There's something we need to know about following Jesus. It will cost us something eventually. Jesus wasn't shy about letting us know that following him meant we must forfeit the rights to our lives.

Timothy Keller explains it like this, "If I was saved by my good works — then there would be a limit to what God could ask of me or put me through. I would be like a taxpayer with rights. I would have done my duty and now I would deserve a certain quality of life. But if it is really true that I am a sinner saved by sheer grace — at God's infinite cost — then there's nothing he cannot ask of me."

One day, we'll look back on the price we each had to pay, the things we had to give up, and we'll be glad we chose to follow Jesus.

Discover

Read [Mark 8:34-38](#)

- How do the words of Jesus challenge you? In what ways do they give you comfort?
- What are the challenges to living the kind of life Jesus calls his followers to live?
- When has following Jesus been inconvenient, embarrassing, or costly for you? What did you do?

Read [Mark 10:17-31](#)

- Have you ever seen someone pay a price for their decision to follow Jesus? How has their experience influenced your own faith?
- Have you ever given something up — a hobby, a passion, a habit, a job, a relationship — in order to follow Jesus? If so, how has paying that cost changed your relationship with God?
- Are you currently being nudged to do something, say something, quit something, start something, or give up something? Who can provide biblical encouragement to support you?

Pray

Prayerfully acknowledge an area in your life that you're struggling to hand over to God. Confess any hesitation or fear and ask him to give you the courage and faith to relinquish full control to him.

Engage

Engage with God through the reading of his Word. Begin this year with a 21-day challenge to read one chapter a day through the Book of John. It's a simple and powerful way to focus your heart and mind on God in this new year.

Challenge Days 16-21: [John 16-21](#)



Week 5 Study Sheet

Spiritual Practices

Consider Spiritual practices are doing what Jesus did, so we become who Jesus was. They are practices rooted in love and expressed through Bible engagement and prayer. Engaging in spiritual practices opens the opportunity for us to gain a fresh perspective from God’s vantage point. Following Jesus requires our willingness to hear from God and speak to him. We are better prepared to hear Jesus, and nurture a relationship with God, when we devote time to prayer.

Discover Read [Acts 17:10-15](#)

- How were the Bereans different from the Thessalonians?
- How did the Bereans interact with Paul’s message?
- How does this passage reveal the different ways we can respond to God’s Word? If someone were to write a description of your receptiveness and commitment to the Scriptures what would they say?
- Is it okay to question what you hear from teachers or preachers? Why or Why not?

Read [1 Timothy 4:7-8](#)

- According to these verses, why should you “train spiritually?”
- Why is it easier to recognize the benefits of physical training? Why is it more difficult to develop spiritual training habits?
- What practices or habits do you use to “train yourself for godliness?”

Pray Praise God for being a personal God who has pursued relationship with you. Thank him for revealing himself through his Word and for being accessible to us in prayer. Express your desire to know God in increasing measure this year, and ask for his help to develop a new, or renew an old, spiritual practice.

Engage Fill your hearts and minds with the Word of God to discern what is right and true. Read the additional Scripture passages this week to be fully equipped to follow Jesus moment by moment.

YouVersion Days 1-7: Read all online [here](#).

1 Timothy 4:7-8	Philippians 2:12-13	1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	Ezekiel 36:26-27
2 Timothy 3:16-17	Matthew 11:28-30	Joshua 1:5-9	Romans 12:12
Hebrews 4:12-16	Psalms 1:1-3	Psalms 139:23-24	1 Chronicles 7:14
Matthew 6:5-15	Philippians 4:4-9	Psalms 37:4	Ephesians 6:18

Read all online [here](#).

- Psalm 119:1-40
- Psalm 119:41-80
- Psalm 119:81-120
- Psalm 119:121-176



Week 6 Study Sheet

Biblical Community

Consider God created us to be in relationship with him and with one another. Knowing God more fully occurs as we see and hear how God is at work in the lives of others within our community. Being conformed to the image of Christ occurs in relationship with one another. In a society that's riddled with broken homes, loneliness, and isolation, Jesus, through his death, invites us into a brand-new family. When we connect in biblical community, we not only grow our faith, we also grow life-long friendships.

Discover Read [Acts 2:42-47](#)

- Where/when have you experienced a vibrant spiritual community like the one described in this passage?
- What made the early church so appealing to outsiders?
- This passage describes a balanced approach to gathering in the “temple courts” and in “homes.” What is the purpose and benefit of this rhythm?
- How did having great awe for God change how they treated one another?
- What can we learn from this passage about God’s design for Christian community - what we devote ourselves to, how we share and meet each other’s needs, and the results of this kind of community?

Read [Romans 12:10-16](#)

- What can we do to encourage one another to use our spiritual gifts as God intends?
- What stands out to you from this description of biblical community? How does this picture of community differ from the world’s approach to friendship and socializing?
- Identify a few practical ways you can

... Cling to what is good. (v. 9)	... Practice hospitality. (v. 13)
... Honor others above yourself. (v. 10)	... Bless those who persecute you. (v. 14)
... Be joyful in hope. (v. 12)	... Rejoice with those who rejoice. (v. 15)
... Patient in affliction. (v. 12)	... Morn with those who morn. (v. 15)
... Faithful in prayer. (v. 12)	... Associate with people of a low position. (v. 16)
... Share with those in need. (v. 13)	

Pray Thank God for adopting you into his family. Praise him for the church and the relationships in your life that encourage your faith. Ask him to show you who he wants you to encourage, forgive, or care for this week.

Engage Fill your hearts and minds with the Word of God to discern what is right and true. Read the additional Scripture passages this week to be fully equipped to follow Jesus moment by moment.

YouVersion Days 8-14: Read all online [here](#).

Acts 2:42-47	Hebrews 3:12-13	John 17:20-23	Philippians 2:1-5
Hebrews 10:24-25	Romans 12:1-21	Romans 15:4-8	Psalms 133:1
John 13:34-35	Colossians 3:12-17	John 17:20-23	



Week 7 Study Sheet

Living On Mission

Consider

As followers of Jesus we each have a God-given purpose to fulfill. God has prepared good works for each of us and we express that purpose as we live on mission. What does living on mission look like? While it will look a little different based on the needs around us, it will always look like love. Living on mission is loving others as Jesus loved us. Genuine faith will evidence itself in very practical ways: in righteous living, godly speaking, and compassionate care. For all people to have the opportunity to follow Jesus, someone must guide them to Jesus. With the love of Christ as our example, we seek to share that love everywhere we go.

Discover

Read [James 1:19-27](#)

- What connection does James make between speaking, listening, and anger?
- How do careless words and displays of anger hinder the witness of a Christian?
- What promise did James give to the person whose life is consistent with their understanding of God's Word?
- What is so significant about having a desire to care for orphans and widows? Why would James highlight it as a mark of genuine faith?

Read [James 2:14-26](#)

- What does James teach about the relationship between faith and deeds?
- What might be the effects in the life of a person who reads the Bible week after week but never puts any of the truths into practice?
- James offers Abraham and Rahab as two examples of genuine faith. Recall those stories ([Genesis 22](#), [Joshua 6](#)). Why do you think James chose to highlight the stories of Abraham and Rahab? How are they similar and how are they different?

Pray

Thank God for his Word and the ways he has revealed himself to you. Express your desire to grow in wisdom and understand through his Word. Ask God to give you eyes to see and courage to act where he is calling you to love others through deeds of generosity, forgiveness, affirmation, and service.

Engage

Fill your hearts and minds with the Word of God to discern what is right and true. Read the additional Scripture passages this week to be fully equipped to follow Jesus moment by moment.

YouVersion Days 15-21: Read all online [here](#).

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Acts 1:8

Micah 6:8

Ephesians 2:10

Matthew 4:19-20

Matthew 25:31-46

Mark 10:45

James 1:19-27

Matthew 28:18-20

Matthew 9:35-38

Luke 10:1-37

James 2:14-26



Week 8 Study Sheet

Collective Identity

Consider

As followers of Jesus we are participating in an all-in, life-or-death, collective venture facing great evils and overwhelming opposition. Only the fool believes he can embark on this mission alone. The body of Christ is the church universal, but the church also has a local expression. As a local church we are purposefully united by God as his people called together to accomplish his purposes, by the power of his Spirit at work in us. This practice of gathering with other Christ followers interrupts our preoccupation with self and directs our attention toward the only one worthy of our worship - Jesus our Redeemer. When we come together as a body and worship our sovereign king all of life's troubles are put into right perspective and our affections grow for the one who rescued us from the power of sin and death. Gathering as a body is God's recipe for growing us into the measure of the fullness of Christ.

Discover

Read [Ephesians 4:1-6](#)

- What does it mean to live a life worthy of your calling? What does such a life look like in the world we live in today?
- How do Paul's seven "ones" contribute to your understanding of unity?
- Describe the paradox of unity being something the Spirit gives us, but also something we must diligently work to maintain.

Read [Ephesians 4:11-16](#)

- What happens if some members of the church choose to ignore their gifts and not use them?
- According to this passage (v. 13), how do we grow from infancy to the place of strength and maturity?

Read [Ephesians 4:25-32](#)

- All the actions listed in this passage have to do with relationships. Why is it important to Paul that we understand how to treat one another?
- What does Paul say is our motivation for forgiving others? Does this cause you to think differently about forgiveness?

Pray

Praise God for the power of his Spirit and the beauty of his Word. Offer your heart and mind to God. Ask him to renew your thoughts and confirm your desires to his. Prayerfully explore the relationships in your life and ask God to show you where you need to grow in humility, gentleness, patience, and peace.

Engage

Fill your hearts and minds with the Word of God to discern what is right and true. Read the additional Scripture passages this week to be fully equipped to follow Jesus moment by moment.

YouVersion Days 22-28: Read all online [here](#).

1 Peter 2:1-12

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Colossians 1:15-29

Ephesians 4:1-31

1 Peter 4:10

Galatians 5:6

Ephesians 1:15-23