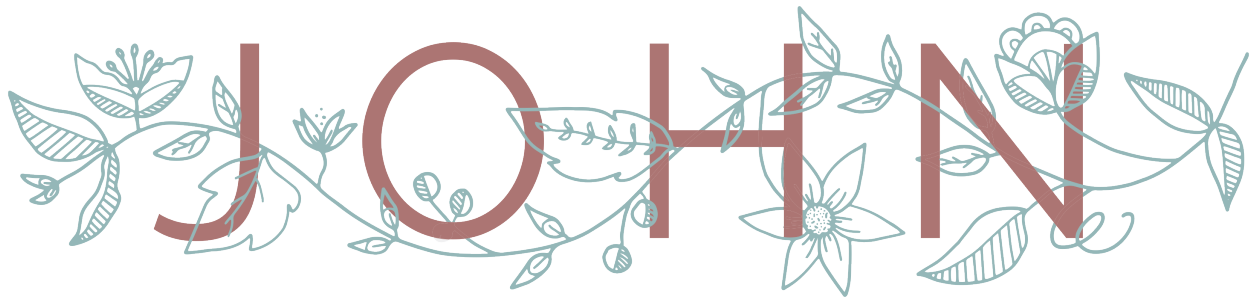


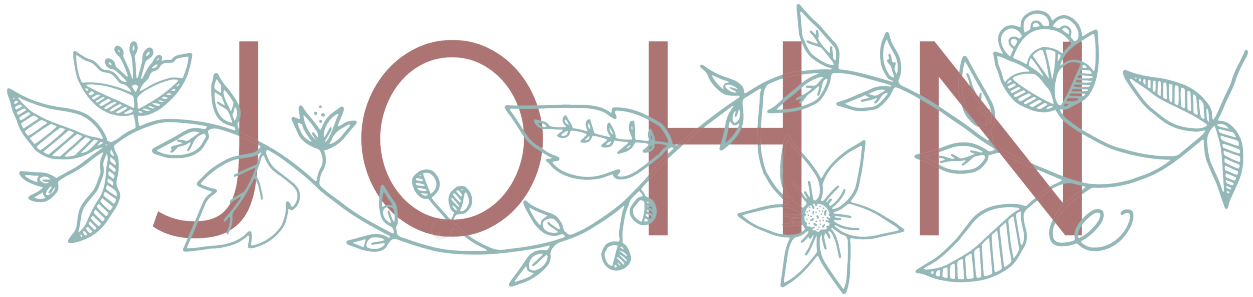
J O H N

The name 'JOHN' is written in a dark red, serif font. The letters are surrounded by delicate, light blue line-art illustrations of various flowers and leaves, creating a decorative and organic feel.

A Life of Purpose

SECTION 1

September 28 - October 12



Jesus is God

JOHN 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

John 1:1-18, ESV

DAY 1

Read John 1:1-3

1. Compare John 1:1 to Genesis 1:1. Why do you think that John chose this particular wording to begin his Gospel account?
2. What do verses 1-2 tell us about who Jesus Christ is? (See also Revelation 1:17-18)
3. What comfort do you receive knowing that Jesus Christ is eternal?
4. Why does John say Jesus is the “Word of God”? (Genesis 1:1-2; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2)
5. Read verse 3. What does this verse say about Jesus’ role at creation?

DAY 2

Read John 1:4-5

1. According to verse 4, what does it mean that Jesus is both “life and light”? (John 5:26, 8:12-9:5, 10:28)
2. Where do you see darkness in our society, and how is “the light” not “overcome” by it? (John 3:19-21, 13:30). What can we do to be a light in the darkness in our world today?

DAY 3

Read John 1:6-13

1. According to the Bible, who was John the Baptist? (Look for Bible references or commentaries)
2. Verse 6 tells us that John was sent by God. What was God's purpose in sending John?
3. What special purpose do you think God has for your life?
4. What was the world's view of Jesus according to verses 9-11? How do people of the world see Jesus today?
5. What gift is given to those who receive Jesus as Savior (vs. 12-13)? Have you received this gift?

DAY 4

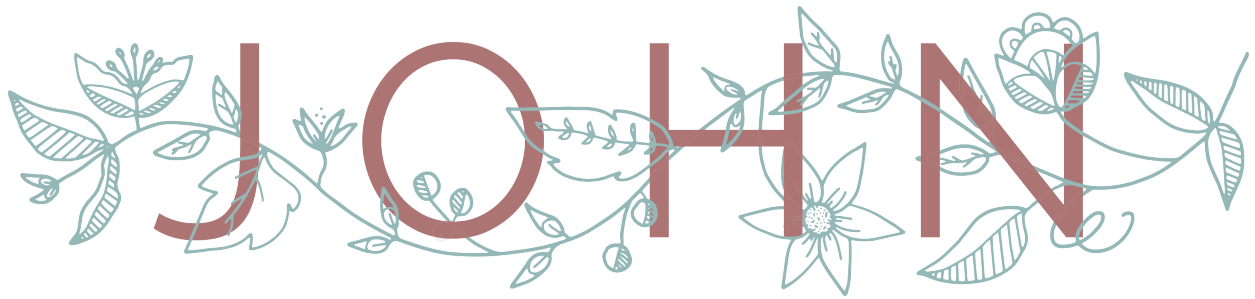
Read John 1:14-18

1. What do you think the phrase “became flesh and dwelt among us” means?
2. How could it be that Jesus came after John (the Baptist) but also was before Him?
3. According to verse 17 what comes through Jesus?
4. Who is the only one that has ever seen God?

DAY 5

Read John 1:1-18

What attribute of Jesus stands out to you from this lesson and why? What hope does this give you for your life?



The Call of Christ

JOHN 1:19-50

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you a prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of the one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

John 1:19-50, ESV

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DAY 1

Read John 1:19-28

1. What did the priests and Levites ask John? How did John respond to their questions? (vs. 23)
2. Who did John say he was? (Read Isaiah 40:3)
3. What was John doing in the desert according to verses 23-25?

DAY 2

Read John 1:29-34

1. What is the significance of Jesus being identified by John the Baptist as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world"? (Read Exodus 12:1-13)
2. How did God confirm that Jesus was His Son? (John 1:32-34, Luke 3:21-22)
3. Why do you think Jesus chose to get baptized?

DAY 3

Read John 1:35-42

1. What did John's disciples do after they heard John announce that Jesus is the Lamb of God? (vs. 37-39)
2. What did Andrew do after he encountered Jesus? (vs. 41)
3. Like Andrew, do you tell others about Jesus? When is the last time you shared Jesus with someone?
4. What attribute of God stands out to you in this lesson?

DAY 4

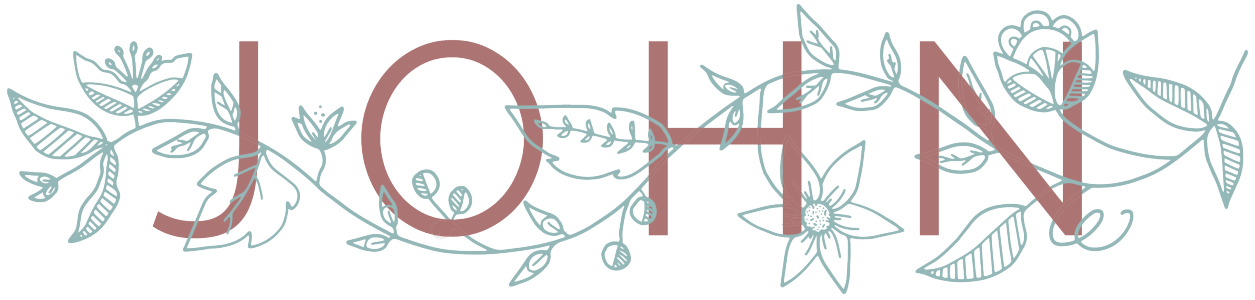
Read John 1:43-51

1. What did Jesus say to Philip? (vs. 43)
2. What did Philip say to Nathanael and why is this significant? (vs. 44-45)
3. Nathanael addressed Jesus as Rabbi (teacher) and declared him to be the "Son of God." Who do you say that He is?
4. Read John 1:51 and Genesis 28:12. Why do you think Jesus referred to this episode in Jacob's life? What do you think He meant in verse 51?

DAY 5

Read John 1:19-50

Have you responded to the challenge to share your faith with others this week?



A Life of Purpose

APPLICATION

1. What is the definition of the word “purpose”, according to the dictionary?

2. How would you describe your life in light of this definition?

3. How often do you think about your purpose in this life?



8. What attribute of God's character has comforted you in the midst of your suffering?

9. How has God used suffering in your life to equip you and enable you to do greater things for Him?

10. What would you need to change in your life to become a woman of purpose for God?