

Man's greatest need to be saved and know Christ as his Saviour, let us strive to bring this message to our fellow man!

**Sunday:** John 3:14-21

Jesus gives a great discourse on salvation to Nicodemus:

(Vs 14) Jesus is giving a greater meaning to an Old Testament event. Just as Moses lifted up a serpent in a time of plague and those who looked unto it were healed so would Christ be a Savior to all who looked to Him. Why was a "serpent" used? A serpent is a picture of sin. Christ became sin for us so we could have His perfection! (See 2 Corinthians 5:22)

(Vs 15-18) This is the greatest invitation. It is an invitation to believe. If we choose not believe we stay in our condemned state (Vs 18)

(Vs 19-21) Why would a person reject Christ? Vs 19-20 have the answer! Some people will not trust Christ because He will reprove their sin. Amazingly some people love their sin so much they will go to hell for it!

Let us be reminded that the god of this world (Satan) has deceived so many. We need to pray and plead with people like Nicodemus to trust Christ!

**Daily devotions**

**Monday:** John 1:1-14

(Vs1-4+14) We see the Creator God, Jesus Christ of Nazareth. This is known as the Trinity, three parts to God yet one (See also 1 John 5:7). We see that Jesus did not begin at Bethlehem's manger, but He became flesh and came to us! He has always been... He created us. (Vs3)

(Vs5) Darkness does not comprehend light on its own. Light needs a witness. Will you witness of the true Light today?

(Vs 6-10) The cousin of Jesus, John the Baptist was sent to bear witness of the True Light in his generation.

(Vs 11-13) Jesus came "unto His own" (the Jewish nation.) They rejected Him as God, but whoever accepts Him as God; can know him as Saviour (Vs 12-13)

**Tuesday:** John 1:15-34

(Vs 15-23) Again in Vs 15 we see Jesus' preexistence, John was about 6 months older than Jesus yet he acknowledged He was before John. Apparently John spent his days telling people that God would soon send the Messiah.

(Vs 24-34) Notice (Vs 29-32) John's awesome announcement; he had preached He was coming and here He was! Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb sent to die for our sins!

John's baptism was from God (Vs 33) Baptizing is an identifying mark.... It links a person to the truth that has come from God. John's baptism was from God and this is why John baptized Jesus. There is only one source of truth This is why there is only "one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5).

### **Wednesday:** John 1:35-51

This is a watershed moment in history! John the Baptist who has been preaching and baptizing is ending his ministry. He has reached and baptized multitudes. Within these multitudes are 12 men whom Jesus would take and form a “church” or “congregation”

*Note: Years later when the apostles were filling a gap left by Judas’ death. One of the requirements was the man had to be baptized by John. (Acts 1:22) (That is: Identify with the truth that came from God) Do we have to trace our baptism back to John? No, but we must be baptized (identify) with truth that came from God = There is one baptism (Eph 4:5) The church Jesus started was identified by its truth that came from God!*

*There are 3 factors to baptism:*

- 1. The right candidate = one who has been saved.*
- 2. The right mode = baptized under the water*
- 3. The right authority = the local New Testament Church.*

Read through this passage and note Jesus’ deliberate choosing out of His church and let us rejoice that Christ has given us Truth and because of this we can have a church.

### **Thursday:** John 2:1-12

Jesus began His ministry on a joyous occasion; a wedding! Many people when reading this story make the mistake of thinking the wine of this wedding is the same wine we see today. Suffice it to say that the Bible word for wine is often used for the “fruit of the vine” (grape juice)

Here at this wedding they had consumed 168 gallons of “wine” and wanted more. When they got more, they could tell it was better than the previous batch. I think its safe to say they could not have made this distinction if they were drinking alcohol.

Let us rather see Jesus’ ministry, He was with the people in their good times and bad times; A friend to the happy couple. Let us seek to be a friend at all times!

### **Friday:** John 2:13-25

(Vs 13-17) Here we see Jesus’ zeal for His Father’s house. The temple had become a place of commerce, but also a place of “unjust commerce.” Notice (Vs15) This was not a fit of anger but a thought out act of righteous indignation. (See also Ephesians 4:26) Anger has a place but only under the Lord’s control. Are you zealous over God’s house?

(Vs 18-23) Jesus gave a prophetic statement concerning His resurrection (Vs 21) Jesus came to die for man, but that death would be useless without the resurrection! The disciples seemed to have a fixation on the physical while Jesus lived in a spiritual realm.

(Vs 24-25) Jesus knew all men, He saw through their temporary following, He knew they were “fickle” They would soon betray Him.

God knows our hearts; He sees what nobody else sees.

### **Saturday:** John 3:1-13

(Vs 1-7) Nicodemus was a member of a distinguished Jewish sect called the “Pharisees.” He came to Jesus “by night” because there would be serious ramifications if his peers knew he was seeing this “rabble rouser” Perhaps this is why he did not follow Christ....

Jesus told Him of his greatest need (Vs3) Jesus had to explain this statement (Vs 4-5) The water birth is the natural birth, but there is a spiritual birth or being “born again” (Vs 3+7) Nobody can ever get to heaven unless they are born again into God’s family.

(Vs 8-13) Nicodemus was a spiritual leader and Jesus was amazed that he did not know this (Vs 10) It seems that Nicodemus did not believe (Vs9-13) Maybe he cared too much what others thought?

