

## A DAILY READING JOURNAL

A Companion Guide for Reading and Reflecting on the Book

## SEEING WITH JESUS: Developing A Worldview Shaped by the Gospel

By Jack Glasgow (2020, Nurturing Faith)
Available at goodfaithmedia.org/bookstore

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All quotes are from Seeing With Jesus by Jack Glasgow.

## Design and Use of this 40-Day Reading Journal

The Daily Reading Journal is a 40-Day guide for use in reading and reflecting on the book, *Seeing with Jesus: Developing A Worldview Shaped by the Gospels*. This journal is designed to provide a method for reading the book in daily segments over a six-week period allowing time to reflect and explore the material presented.

Each of the six chapters is divided into six daily readings. Each day a selection of the book is designated for reading with space for recording personal notes and reflections from the reading. A corresponding scripture is printed followed by a focal quotation from the book. Prompts are offered for your reflection and journaling on the scripture and the quotation.

The six daily readings for each chapter allow for reading one chapter per week. An additional page, titled "Sabbath Day" follows the six daily pages for each chapter. This entry is intended for you to review your personal notes and reflections from your reading of the chapter. If you are participating in a group study, the format is designed for the "Sabbath Day" to coincide with the day of your study group meeting. For example, you would have read the chapter during the week prior to your group meeting to discuss the chapter. Use the "Sabbath Day" page to review prior to attending your group session. Then on the following day you would begin reading with Day 1 of the next week's chapter.

The last four entries in the journal are reserved for use after completing the book. Each of these daily journal pages includes questions to use for further reflection and response to your experience of reading *Seeing with Jesus*.

## A View of Blessing

READ: PAGES 1-4.

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 5:3-11**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

### **Q**UOTE:

"To receive God's blessing is to receive the positive energy of God's Spirit. God is for us. God is with us. God loves us. God is at work on our behalf. God wants the very best for us." (p. 3).

Respond: What are three blessings that you would be most likely to put on a list if you asked? After looking at how Jesus spoke about blessings, how would you restate, or rename, these three items?

## A New View of the Law

**READ: PAGES 5-8** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 5:43-45** 

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous."

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

#### **Q**UOTE:

"Yet, Jesus reminds us that such radical love, grace, and hospitality mirror the actions of God. God 'causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous' (Matt. 5:45). This unmerited love and favor does not mean weakness. It is in keeping with the very character of God. For Jesus to ask this of his followers is a matter of encouraging us to act, think, and love like God. The bar is set high, at the goal of moral completion or perfection. The section concludes with Jesus saying, 'Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'" (p. 7).

Respond: What point do you believe Jesus is trying to make for his hearers through these new ways to view the various laws?

## A View of Religious Practices

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For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 6:7-8 (6:1-14)**

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

### QUOTE:

"Jesis is encouraging his hearers to practice faith, to engage in spiritual disciplines, for a much higher and nobler reason. Give, pray, and fast without regard to being seen and appreciated by others. Do these things and more out of devotion to God, and God will indeed give a gracious reward." (p. 8).

Respond: How do you reconcile the communal aspect of coming together for worship and spiritual formation with the call for practicing these disciplines "in secret"?

## A View of Material Things

READ: PAGES 9-10

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 6:25-34**

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

### **QUOTE:**

"Perhaps it is time to consider if seeing more like Jesus sees might be our best strategy of freeing ourselves from paralyzing anxiety about the future." (p. 10).

Respond: Name 2-3 worries you would like to release?

## A View of Judgment

**READ: PAGES 10-12** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 7:1-5**

"Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye."

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

### QUOTE:

"I do not believe the world needs the moral pronouncements of Christians. Instead, the world needs our proclamation of God's love in Christ and the incarnation of that love, demonstrated by good works we do in the name of Jesus." (p. 10-11).

Respond: Share your thoughts, "If the church were to judge less, and love more, then . . . ."

## A New View of Knowledge

**READ: PAGES 12-14** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 7:13-14 (OR 7:24-27)** 

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Reflect on the passage: In what ways does this passage challenge you? In what ways does the passage inspire you?

### **Q**UOTE:

"But I see this as Jesus speaking to his would-be followers. This is less about our eternal destiny and more about our witness in the here and now. The teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount define the narrow path. To adopt these teachings and live by them is the way to abundant life. These views articulated by Jesus should be the views of the church." (p. 13).

Respond: Who are your best examples of persons who have embraced the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount with seriousness?

# Sabbath Day

Read through the journal notes you have made from the readings for this week. What do you notice? Use these questions to stir your thoughts: Do you have a lingering question from this week's readings? Do you have a discovery that stands out as significant for your life now?		
Sit quietly for 3-5 minutes and listen prayerfully. Listen for a word, or phrase which would affirm or represent what you have experienced this week in the readings.		
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Name one or two things you would include in describing what it means to have a Jesus worldview.		

## The Call to Follow

**READ: PAGES 17-19** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 2:13-14

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

#### **QUOTE:**

"Discipleship is lived through a journey of following – a following that calls for listening and learning and for service and sacrifice. Nothing in the Gospels indicates Jesus ever reduced the life he wanted for those whom he called to simply involve a one-time event of assenting to propositions or making up public professions, or demonstrating outward ritual" (p. 18).

Respond: What are you discovering about what it means to listen to and see with Jesus?

## The Cost of Discipleship

**READ: PAGES 19-22** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 8:34-37

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

### **Q**UOTE:

"We live in a world that rewards success. Media attention and public adulation flow to the rich, the powerful, the famous, and the successful. Jesus absolutely redefines greatness in the kingdom of God. It is a measure of one's willingness to serve others. It is a measure of the degree to which one is willing to sacrifice for the sake of others and for the sake of God's kingdom." (p. 22).

Respond: In what ways have you found discipleship to be truly costly?

## A Call to Ministry

READ: PAGES 22-25

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

### **QUOTE:**

"It is in our scattering into our homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, families, circles of friends and acquaintances and even more, in our willingness to go to people and places that we would not go to were it not for the compelling vision of Jesus, that we live obediently to the one who calls us to the ministry of healing and proclamation in his name." (p. 25).

Respond: What is one area of your life where you would like to increase your faithfulness to the call of Jesus?

### A Call to Freedom

READ: PAGES 25-27

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: LUKE 18:10-14**

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

### **QUOTE:**

"Clearly to Jesus, the essence of discipleship is found not in strict adherence to religious tradition and custom. The heart of the Law is to be respected and fulfilled. But legalism misses the real point of God's giving us laws and commandments. Jesus sees legalism as a way of promoting oneself. . . . Jesus views discipleship more as a liberating and joyful inner desire to please God than as conformity to external expectations of piety." (p. 25-26).

Respond: How can the church change the perception it has in the culture that it is pharisaical, judgmental, and legalistic?

## A Call to Faith

READ: PAGES 27-30

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 17:5-6

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

### QUOTE:

"Ultimately, the power of discipleship is measured by the degree of faith inside the disciple. We are called to simply believe, to trust, to have faith in our innermost being. That faith is what carries us into the world to do the work of and to bear witness to the kingdom of God." (p. 29-30).

Respond: List 2-3 things which help you strengthen your faith and trust in God.

## A Call to Prayer

READ: PAGES 30-31

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 17:25-26** 

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

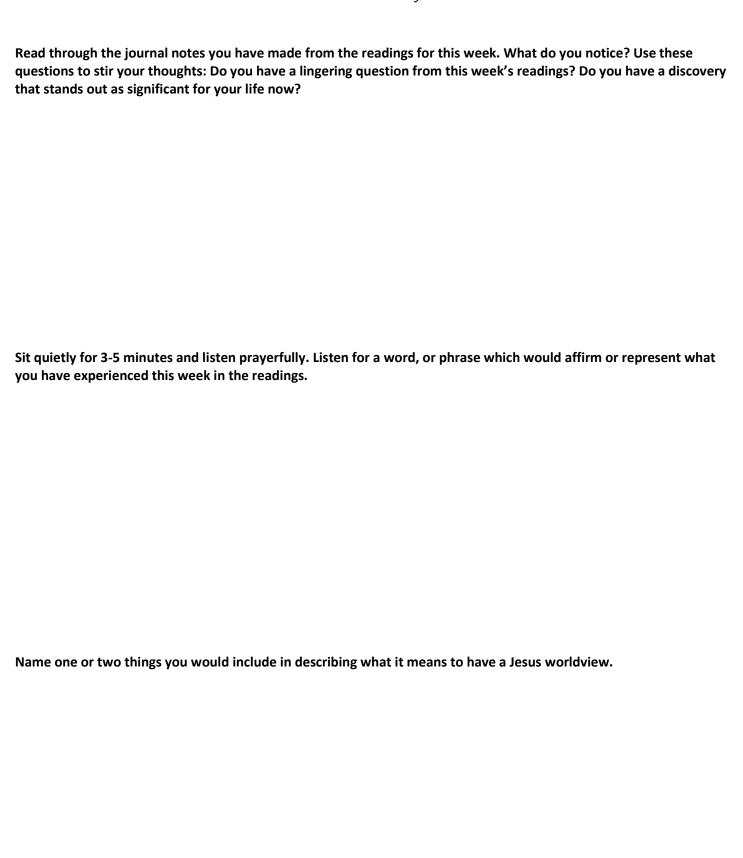
Reflect on the passage: Based on this passage, what is discipleship?

### **Q**UOTE:

"This final section on discipleship is meant to be a helpful warning against trying to follow Jesus through constant activism. . . . True discipleship understands the wisdom of Christ and balances prayer and worship with ministry and service." (p. 31).

Respond: In seeking a balance between the prayer and worship and the active elements of ministry and service what do you want to increase? What do you want to decrease?

## Sabbath Day



## Seeing Jesus with His Family

READ: PAGES 33-37

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:48-51

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### **QUOTE:**

"In striving to adopt a Jesus worldview consistent with the gospel, we need not diminish the importance of family relationships. But a worldview consistent with the Jesus revealed in the Gospels will be careful about elevating home and family to a priority far greater than Jesus did." (p. 36).

Respond: How does Jesus' view of family challenge you?

## Seeing Jesus with Satan

READ: PAGES 37-39

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 4:1-4 (1-11)**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### **QUOTE:**

"To live with a Jesus worldview, our faith will inform our political and social preferences and understandings. But these views cannot become so central to us that our allegiance to God and to following Jesus is in any way compromised." (p. 39).

Respond: List 2-3 temptations that you have experienced most recently. If you were to respond as Jesus did, with scripture, what would say?

## Seeing Jesus with Children

**READ: PAGES 39-41** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 10:14-15

But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."

Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### **Q**UOTE:

"A Jesus worldview will have a heart for children – a welcoming, loving, and appreciative heart. Children will be cared for and noticed. Their needs will be met. They will be loved." (p. 40).

Respond: What do you believe Jesus meant by saying that entrance into the kingdom of heaven requires that we must first become as children?

## Seeing Jesus with Women

**READ: PAGES 41-46** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: LUKE 8:1-3**

Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### **Q**UOTE:

"The Gospels do not cast Jesus as a twenty-first century feminist. The culture of his day and age was different from ours. But the evidence in his encounters with women is heavily weighted to depict Jesus as a friend of women and a rare man willing to welcome women into his inner circle and to accept their partnership in ministry." (p. 45).

Respond: What do you appreciate about the ways Jesus interacted with women?

## Seeing Jesus with Persons Who Sought Him

**READ: PAGES 46-50** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 1:40-41

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!"

Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### QUOTE:

"Jesus invariably notices the one whom others ignore; he invariably includes the one whom others exclude. He opens himself up to receive hospitality from those considered unclean and unworthy." (p. 47).

Respond: Has someone you didn't know, or didn't expect, shown you hospitality recently? How did this make you feel? How did you respond?

## Seeing Jesus with His Opponents

READ: PAGES 50-53

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 23:2-3**

"The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach.

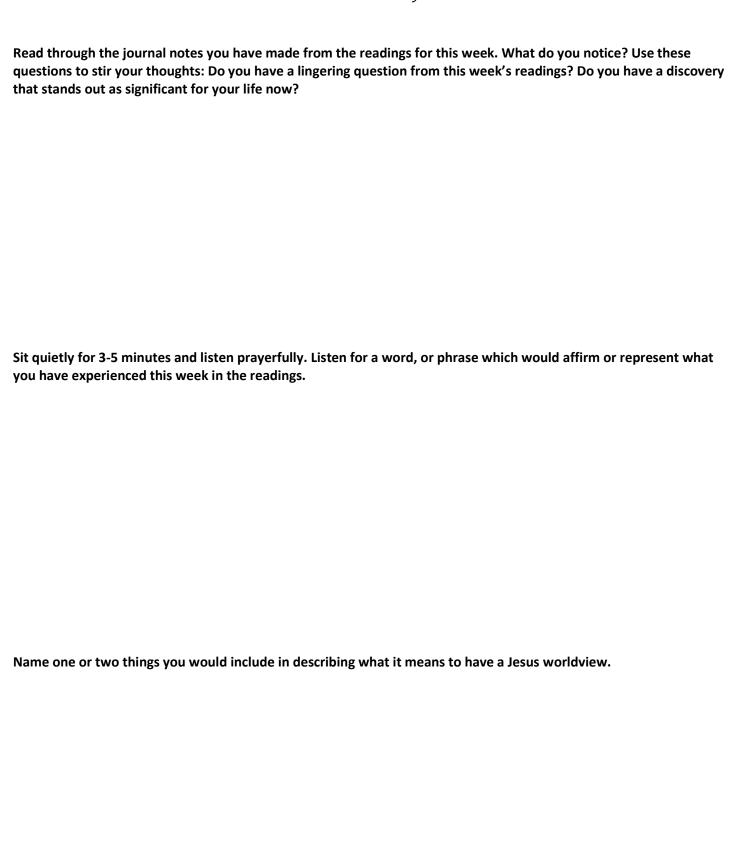
Reflect on the passage: If you had been a witness to this encounter, what would you ask Jesus; and why?

### QUOTE:

"Part of developing a Jesus worldview is to take seriously what Jesus opposed. . . . But the Pharisees and scribes, the religious legalists, were the focus of his oppositions. They had distorted God's intent and were blind to God's will. . . . They were enemies of grace. And, Jesus opposed them. It is important for us to have eyes to see and hearts to understand." (p. 53).

Respond: How well have you done in aligning yourself to oppose what Jesus opposed?

## Sabbath Day



## Seeing in His Priorities, Part 1

READ: PAGES 55-57

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: LUKE 4:18-21

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### QUOTE:

"Any unwillingness to embrace concern for the very people Jesus cared for and ministered to is a rejection of his teaching. A Jesus worldview embraces concerns for the poor, oppressed, sick, and wounded." (p. 56).

Respond: How are you challenged by this description of a Jesus worldview?

## Seeing in His Priorities, Part 2

READ: PAGES 58-60

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 22:35-40

And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### **Q**UOTE:

"A Jesus worldview embraces the challenge to love God above all other loves and to love God with all of our being. And, a Jesus worldview commits to the challenge to love neighbor as self, with a love that is broad and inclusive, sacrificial and compassionate. A Jesus worldview must not neglect or even dimmish the importance of his clear answer to the question, "What is the greatest commandment?" (p. 59).

Respond: Who are people in your community that are in need of the neighborly love that Jesus encourages?

## Seeing in His Parables, Part 1

**READ: PAGES 60-62** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 4:33-34

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### QUOTE:

"A Jesus worldview needs to take seriously his succinct summary after telling the parable of the shrewd servant, 'You cannot serve both God and money.'" (p. 62).

Respond: How do the parables of Jesus influence your view of the world?

## Seeing in His Parables, Part 2

READ: PAGES 63-65

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 13:35-37

Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### QUOTE:

"A true Jesus worldview has a sense of being present in the kingdom of God, fully aware, fully prepared. An invitation to live in God's kingdom is urgent. It cannot be delayed or postponed. It calls us to live obediently now." (p. 63).

Respond: What are you sensing you need to change in your life when you hear the call to be prepared, and to keep awake?

## Seeing in His Sayings

**READ: PAGES 65-67** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 7:14-15

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### QUOTE:

"A strict, outward conformity to law and custom is not the goal of discipleship. The greater concern is what comes out of us – our words and actions. This is where Jesus clearly places his emphasis." (p. 66).

Respond: In what ways is this emphasis helpful and freeing for you?

## Seeing in His Passages of Judgment

READ: PAGES 68-71

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 24:11-14

And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

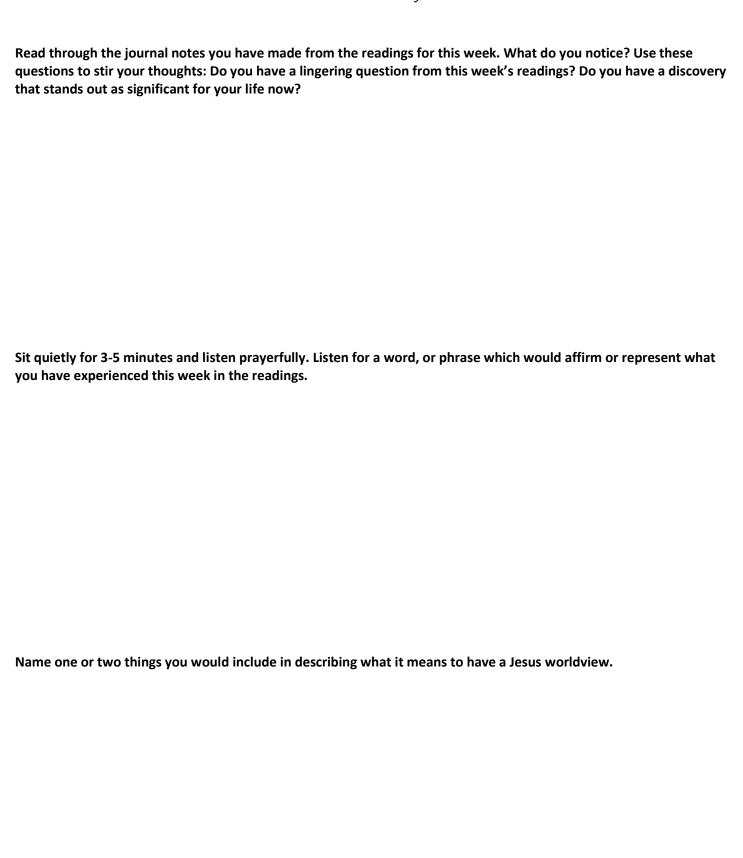
Reflect on the passage: What is this passage saying to you?

### **QUOTE:**

"While I would insist that we understand these texts best when we take seriously their first-century context, Jesus' teachings on judgment are relevant in constructing a Jesus worldview. . . . For those who seek to be true to God and to follow Jesus, they are not exempt from the suffering the day of judgment may bring. They are called to endure, but they are also given hope. Keep looking up. Redemption is on the way: The Son of Man will appear." (p. 71).

Respond: Describe your thoughts and feelings on how Jesus spoke of judgment?

## Sabbath Day



## The Towel and Basin

**READ: PAGES 73-74** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: JOHN 13:12-17**

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

#### **QUOTE:**

"Ministry is about service. Followers of Jesus serve one another. The picture of Jesus washing feet in the upper room says so much. It should inform the way we view ministry and the way we view the world." (p. 74).

Respond: If you have experienced foot-washing, what impression did it make upon you? If you haven't ever participated in a foot-washing service or experience, how have you experienced this concept of servant leadership?

## The New Commandment

**READ: PAGES 74-76** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 13:34-35** 

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

### **QUOTE:**

"The degree to which we obey the new command to love one another is the degree to which we are recognized as disciples of Jesus." (p. 75).

Respond: Name 2-3 people you know who exemplify living out this commandment to love one another. Ask God to strengthen them and bless them today.

### The Father's House

**READ: PAGES 76-79** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: JOHN 14:1-4**

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

#### **QUOTE:**

"A Jesus worldview on eternal matters is important, even necessary. Reducing Christian faith to praying the prayer, or walking the aisle, or being baptized in order to go to heaven while all others go to hell misses out on so much of the teaching of Jesus. Our views of salvation must be focused on following Jesus, on proclaiming and living the kingdom of God, on obeying Jesus' teaching and following his example. We need to gladly leave questions of judgment up to God. We need to trust that God will judge rightly." (p. 79).

Respond: What role does the hope of being with God forever play in your own faith journey?

## The Demonstration of Obedient Love

**READ: PAGES 79-81** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### SCRIPTURE: JOHN 15:9-12

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

## **Q**UOTE:

"A Jesus worldview sees the church as a community of Jesus-loving, Jesus-obeying followers who will love humanity as Jesus loved the human family. They will know his voice and obey it. Their love will know no boundaries. As friends of Jesus, they will love like Jesus loved." (p. 80).

Respond: What is one way, or one step you could take, to expand your boundary of showing love to others?

## The Gift of the Spirit

**READ: PAGES 81-84** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 14:25-26** 

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

### **QUOTE:**

"Jesus interpreted scripture in a new light. He did not refine it but revealed a deeper meaning and understanding to what it truly meant to fulfill God's intent in those Scriptures. Now, from the upper room, Jesus says that this continuing revelation will take place, mediated by the Spirit." (p. 82).

Respond: What are ways in which you see the Spirit actively teaching us and leading us today that come from the heart of Christ?

# The Prayer of Jesus & The Other Gospels

**READ: PAGES 84-86** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 17:25-26** 

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

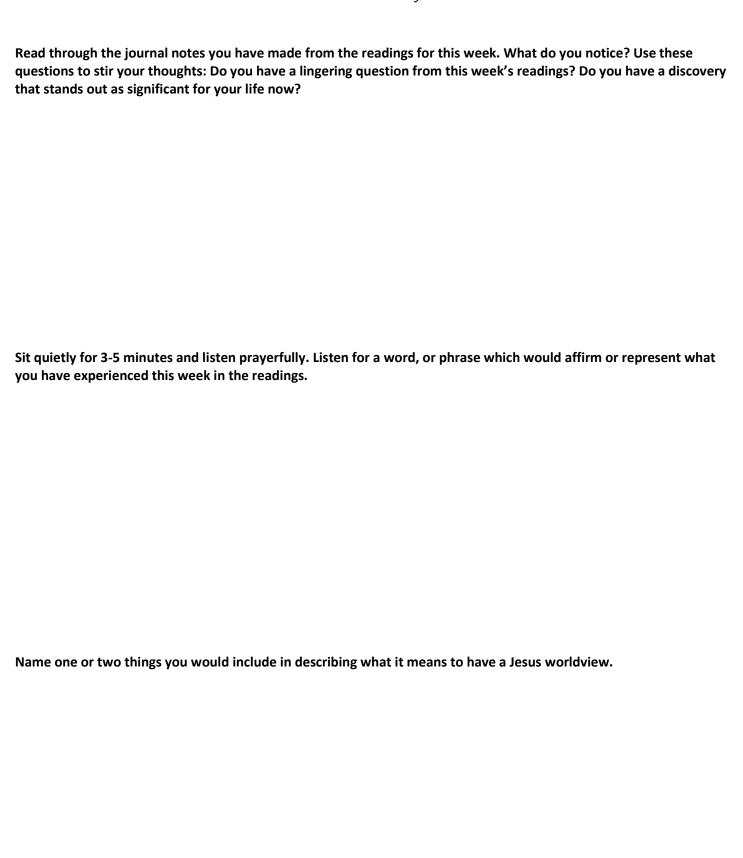
Reflect on the passage: What is Jesus speaking to you with these words?

### **Q**UOTE:

"Christ's large vision is for the world to know the love and goodness of God. His mission is to share that love with those who would believe, obey, and follow. . . . Jesus is willing to die for the world to know what it does not yet know: the deep love of God. His mission is to see God's love in us through him." (p. 85).

Respond: What does Christ's large vision for the world mean to you?

# Sabbath Day



### The Garden of Gethsemane, Part 1

**READ: PAGES 89-90** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: LUKE 22: 42, 45-46** 

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." . . . When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

#### **QUOTE:**

"With a Jesus worldview, we will avoid complaining about minor slights and inconveniences Christians may experience and resist a sense of entitlement that gives Christians favored status over others. This is not the way of Jesus. We will, however, be willing to put our lives on the line for Christ when the situation demands it." (p. 90).

Respond: What inspires you about the prayer Jesus offered in Gethsemane?

### The Garden of Gethsemane, Part 2

**READ: PAGES 91-92** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

### SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 26:52-54

Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"

Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

#### **QUOTE:**

"At Gethsemane we encounter the peacemaking way of Jesus. There is no willingness to resort to violence in him." (p. 91).

Respond: How do you view the example and teaching of Jesus with regard to violence?

WEEK 6/DAY 3

### The Trial

READ: PAGES 92-94

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

#### **SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 53:7-8**

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

### **QUOTE:**

"The world sees greatness in a different light. Greatness is associated with power and popularity. Greatness is measured by success, often material success. Attractive traits and qualities accompany greatness. Jesus rejected these cultural notions of greatness. Great love, great obedience, and great sacrifice – these are the virtues Jesus taught, and in the passion narratives, these are now the virtues Jesus exhibits, no matter what the cost to himself." (p. 94).

Respond: What do you think Jesus was trying to show you and teach you by the way he handled his trial?

### The Cross

**READ: PAGES 94-97** 

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 23:42-43

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

### QUOTE:

"It is tempting to confine the worldview of Jesus to a survey of the essence of his teachings. But I believe that seeing with Jesus also includes a close look at the death of Jesus. At the heart of the Christian faith lies a great mystery, often recited in communion liturgy: 'Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.' Seeing Jesus on the cross, to appreciate the enormity of his suffering and the inexhaustible capacity he had for both loving and forgiving, is an integral part of the development of a Jesus worldview." (p. 96).

Respond: Of the lessons Jesus taught from the cross, which one is the most challenging for you to embrace?

### The Resurrection, Part 1

READ: PAGES 97-TOP OF 100

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

SCRIPTURE: MARK 16:6-7

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

### **QUOTE:**

"The realization that Jesus is loose from the grave and alive produces a certain fearful reverence that makes one a bit more careful about making Jesus pronouncements." (p. 97).

Respond: How does the resurrection of Jesus help to shape your Jesus worldview?

### The Resurrection, Part 2

READ: PAGES TOP OF 100 - 101

For Reflection: What question, thought, or discovery do you have from reading this section?

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20:19** 

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

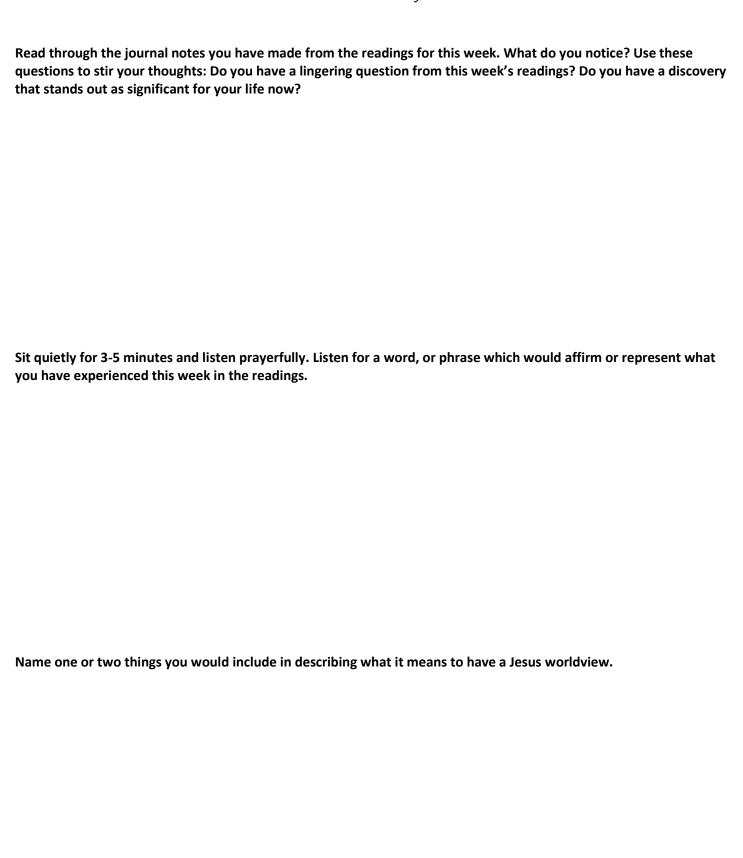
Reflect on the passage: As you picture this scene, what are you feeling? What are you thinking?

### **QUOTE:**

"True followers of Jesus move from fear and anxiety to trust and confidence. They see the world from a place of peace, not a place of fear. Christian voices that seem consumed by fear and anxiety and who stir up those fears in others are inconsistent with the voice of the risen Christ." (p. 100).

Respond: How can you participate in being a Christian voice that articulates peace, trust, and confidence?

## Sabbath Day



## **Epilogue**

**READ: PAGES 103-107** 

For Reflection: Who are prominent, or well-known individuals who have provided you with a strong example of someone who embodied a Jesus worldview well?

What have you gained from their example, their life, or their writings?

**SCRIPTURE: MARK 4:23** 

Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

Reflect on the passage: What are you hearing?

### QUOTE:

"Followers of Jesus should care little for using Christian faith to help attain power in our worldly, cultural kingdoms. Instead, we should model a life committed to following Jesus. We should declare a vision of the world consistent with the worldview of Jesus." (p. 104).

Respond: What is one thing you would include in a vision of the world that is consistent with the worldview of Jesus?

**DAY 38** 

### Personal Discoveries

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As a result of your experience with Seeing with Jesus, how has your view of Jesus expanded?

What is one thing you discovered about Jesus, as presented in the Gospels, that you had not noticed, or known, previously?

#### **SCRIPTURE: JOHN 21:25**

But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Reflect on the passage: Read this verse two more times. What is rising up within you as you absorb this message?

# Salt & Light

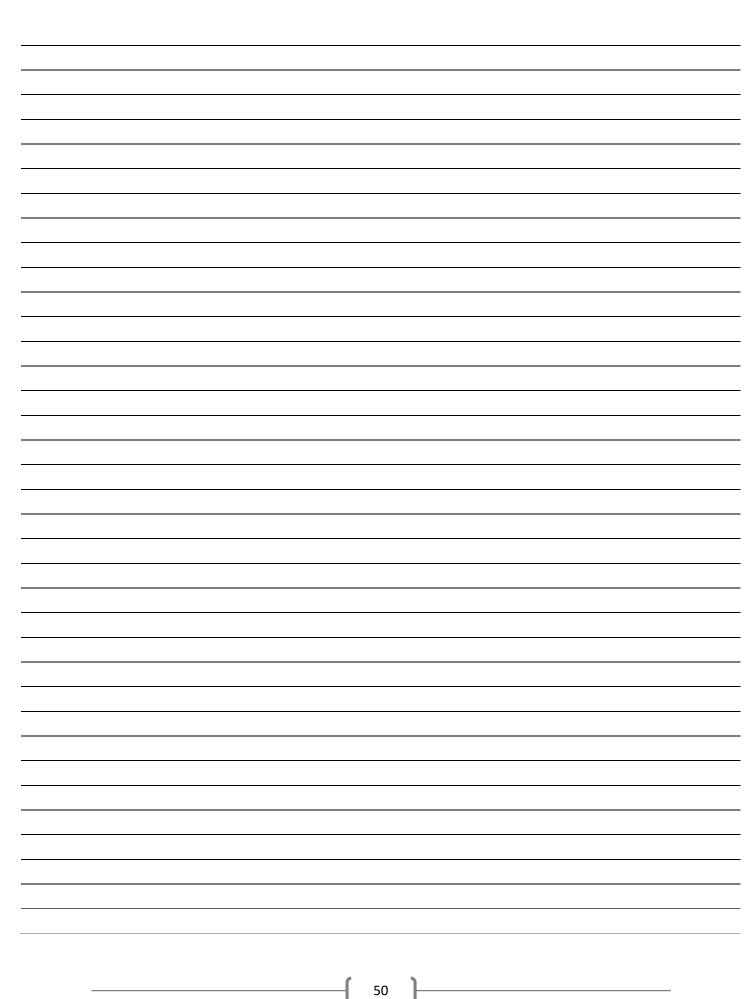
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"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven.
Where are the places of darkness among the people you know in your life, or in your community?
If light were to shine upon the darkness they experience, what kind of light, or lights, would be most helpful?
In what ways can you be an instrument of light in this situation?

Day 40
What's Next
REFLECTION:
Having reached the end of this 40-day experience, what new questions do you have about Jesus and the Gospels?
Having reached the end of this 40-day experience, what new questions do you have about the implications for the church?
How will you continue to deepen your understanding of a Jesus Worldview?
SCRIPTURE: JOHN 1:39A
Jesus said to them, "Come and see."







# The Jesus Worldview Initiative

(jesusworldview.org) seeks to advance the call to follow Jesus as the highest Christian priority above all other ideologies and allegiances.