

*Daily Devotional Guide to
the Book of John*

John Chapter 2

Days 13 - 18

Gaile Thulson

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A Daily Devotional Study Of The Gospel Of John

You will need a Bible of your own to do this devotional study. Reading the Bible with an open heart and mind brings us into God's presence, and getting to know God is accomplished by spending time with him on a daily basis. This study is designed to develop or maintain the habit of meeting daily with God, sometimes referred to as a devotional time with God. It doesn't have to take a large chunk of time, but it needs to be focused on the Scriptures (the Bible). It doesn't have to cover a lot of material or content every day, it just needs to be understood and applied to our lives.

The study days are numbered so that you can do them any day of the week, preferably one each day. However, if you miss a day, it won't matter because the days are not assigned a date or day of the week.

My approach to the study is a verse by verse exploration and application of God's Word to our lives. This is an *inductive* study, which means that we derive meaning from the Biblical text itself rather than from outside sources. The passages for each day are short, to enable you to focus more in depth on a few verses at a time. I frequently bring additional Scripture into the discussion in an effort to ensure accurate interpretation of the day's topics.

How This Devotional Study Works

1. In your Bible, look up and read the verses for the day.
2. Write the first verse for the day in the top left space under *What it Says* (Row 1, Column 1).
3. Working left to right, read the comments in the *Meanings/Principles* space (Row 1, Column 2).
4. Then, write your answers to the questions to clarify *What it Means to Me* (Row 1, Column 3).
5. Continue by writing the next verse in Row 2, Column 1, reading Row 2 Column 2, and writing answers to questions in Row 2, Column 3.
6. Continue working left to right as you go down the page.

To summarize, first read through the verses in John for the day. Then write exactly what the first verse says in the first column. (*Write each verse word for word, exactly as it appears in the Bible in column one.*) After you write out each verse, read the second column that clarifies the important information given in that verse and then answer the questions in column three related to the verse. (*Work left to right. It is important to answer each question based on the verse and its meaning in column two.*)

You may choose to either 1) print pages and write in the spaces provided or 2) enter your responses on your computer. If you use your computer you can save your work, then come back and print at any time. If your response exceeds the space allowed you can scroll the text area to see the complete text; but if you print, some of the text may be hidden.

Day 13

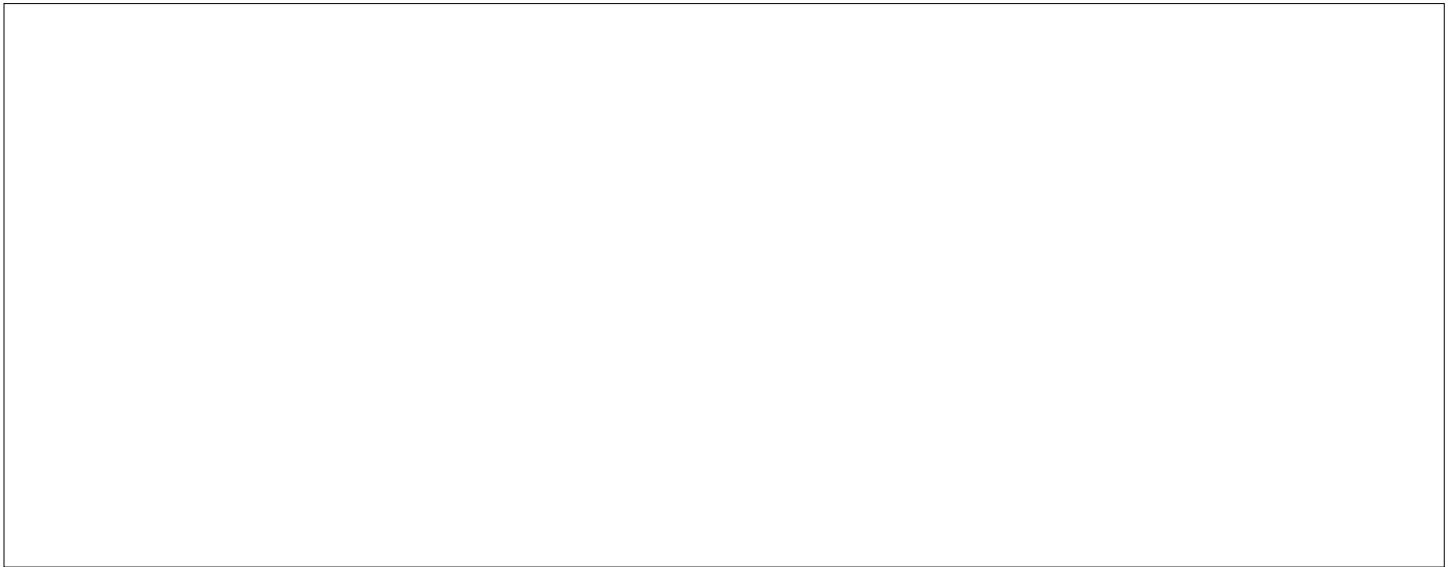
Read John 2:1-5

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:1-2</p>	<p>Jesus now had disciples, or followers, who believed he was the Messiah. They went with him wherever he went, even when Jesus attended family and social events.</p>	<p>Do I want to follow Jesus, wherever he wants me to go? Do I have fears about that?</p>
<p>John 2:3</p>	<p>Jesus' mother sought him out when there was a problem she wanted to fix.</p>	<p>To whom do I go with problems no one else can solve?</p>
<p>John 2:4</p>	<p>They both knew that it wasn't time yet for Jesus to begin revealing who he was by doing miraculous signs for the people.</p>	<p>Even when a problem involves people who don't know who Jesus is, how can I trust Jesus with the problem?</p>
<p>John 2:5</p>	<p>Jesus' mother knew he could and would help the newlyweds with this situation which was considered very embarrassing in their culture, so much so that it might have placed a stigma on the family.</p>	<p>Can Jesus help me with today's problem?</p> <p>Will Jesus help me with my problem if I ask him?</p> <p>Will I do whatever he tells me to do?</p>

Day 13

Read John 2:1-5

What would I like to ask Jesus?

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Day 14

Read John 2:6-11

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 2:6 	Jesus met a big need with a big response.	What is nearby that Jesus might use to meet my big need today?
John 2:7 	The servants had nothing to lose at this point. The wine was gone. They did what Jesus said.	When am I happy to do what Jesus says?
John 2:8 	They had agreed to do what Jesus said, but this must have made them worried. Perhaps it wasn't until they obeyed that they saw it had become wine. They could have been in trouble for serving the guests water at such a special occasion, but Jesus knew what he was doing!	What do I do when Jesus asks something of me that doesn't make sense to me?

Day 14

Read John 2:6-11

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:9</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 770" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 233px;"></div>	<p>Jesus does miracles for us. Sometimes the most profound miracles are the most private, the ones in our hearts, because of his love for us.</p>	<p>What miracles has Jesus done in me that no one else knows? How do I know?</p> <div data-bbox="786 310 1524 554" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 116px;"></div> <p>Why does he do it?</p> <div data-bbox="786 590 1524 770" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 86px;"></div>
<p>John 2:10</p> <div data-bbox="100 823 428 1276" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 216px;"></div>	<p>What Jesus does is the best and it causes praise.</p>	<p>Have I thanked Jesus for what he has done in me and for me?</p> <div data-bbox="786 854 1524 1276" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 201px;"></div>
<p>John 2:11</p> <div data-bbox="100 1329 428 1749" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 200px;"></div>	<p>The miracles Jesus does in life cause us to put our faith in him.</p>	<p>What does it mean to put my faith in Jesus?</p> <div data-bbox="786 1329 1524 1488" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 76px;"></div> <p>What has Jesus done according to the Bible that should cause me to put my faith in him?</p> <div data-bbox="786 1556 1524 1749" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 92px;"></div>

Day 14 **Read John 2:6-11**

What would I say to Jesus today?

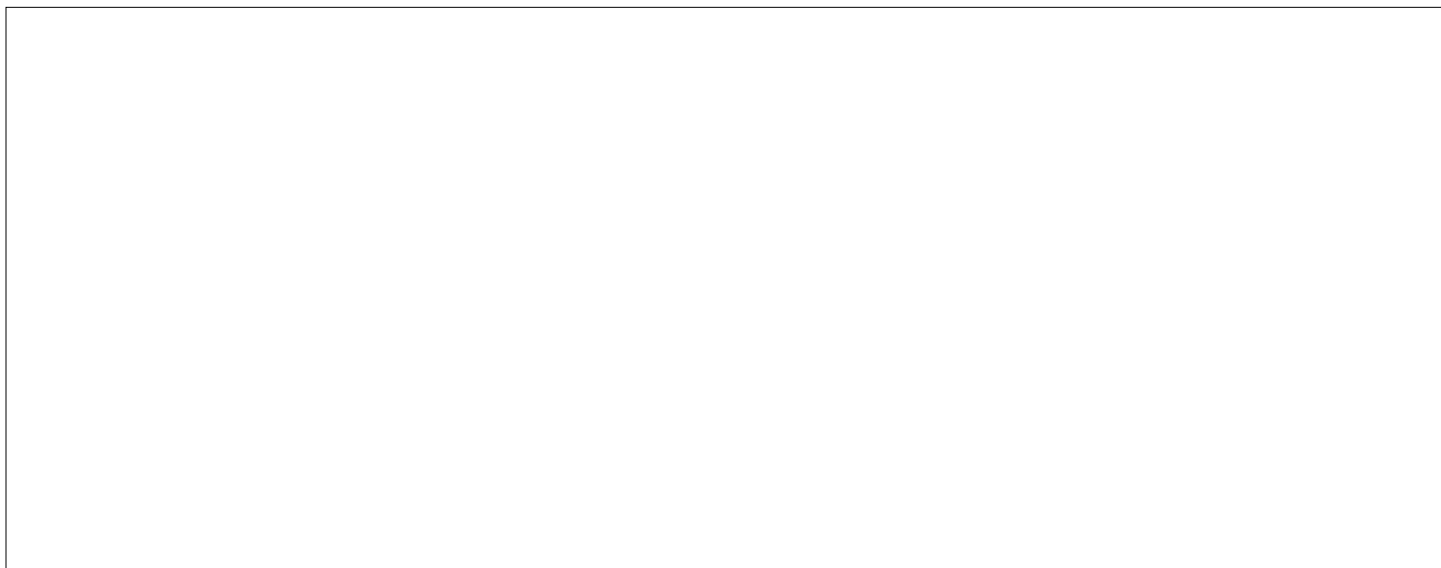
What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:12</p>	<p>His disciples went wherever Jesus went. Jesus was always subject to his parents as a child and cared for his mother (We assume Joseph had died as he is never mentioned.) as an adult.</p>	<p>Do I want to follow Jesus, or try to lead, to be God?</p> <p>How can I be more sensitive to God's leading?</p>
<p>John 2:13</p>	<p>Jesus considered the Passover important. He went to Jerusalem to celebrate it as God required of all the Jewish men. God had said it was to be remembered annually as their deliverance from slavery in Egypt, accomplished by his judgment on the Egyptians while sparing his own people. Jesus also knew that on one Passover in the future he, the lamb without defect, would be offered by the people as a sacrifice so that God could spare us all. Read Exodus Chapter 12.</p>	<p>What does the Passover mean to me after reading Exodus 12? Why?</p>
<p>John 2:14</p>	<p>We turn what is sacred and belongs to God into profit for ourselves if left to our own devices. This court area was the only place Gentiles were allowed within the temple. At the time, it was the one place in the entire world where you could go to pray to God and observe his laws if you were not Jewish.</p>	<p>Have I ever felt that hypocrites or ungodly behavior of "God's people" keep me from God? Why?</p> <p>What am I doing that I say is for God, but is for my own advancement or profit?</p> <p>Could any of my behavior keep others away from God by giving them the excuse that people who call themselves God's people are really just hypocrites?</p>

Day 15

Read John 2:12-14

What do I need to say to Jesus?

Did Jesus answer anything back to me?

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Day 16

Read John 2:15-17

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:15</p>	<p>Jesus took drastic measures to reinstate holiness and to provide access to God for all people groups, for all nations, for <i>anyone</i> seeking God. Read Psalm 117.</p>	<p>What is Jesus doing in <i>my</i> life to bring holiness into my relationship and dealings with God?</p>
<p>John 2:16</p>	<p>What belonged to God had become a business place. Their priorities were not the same as God's.</p>	<p>What does God want to use my life and my resources for?</p>
<p>John 2:17</p>	<p>The disciples must have been alarmed by Jesus' behavior, but they knew the Scriptures so they were able to explain to themselves what was happening.</p>	<p>What Scriptures do I know by memory so that I can understand and remind myself what God is doing in my life to make it fit for him? Record one or two references here with the topics (choose one verse from what has been covered in John if you don't know other Scriptures):</p>

Day 16

Read John 2:15-17

What would you like to say to God?

Day 17

Read John 2:18-22

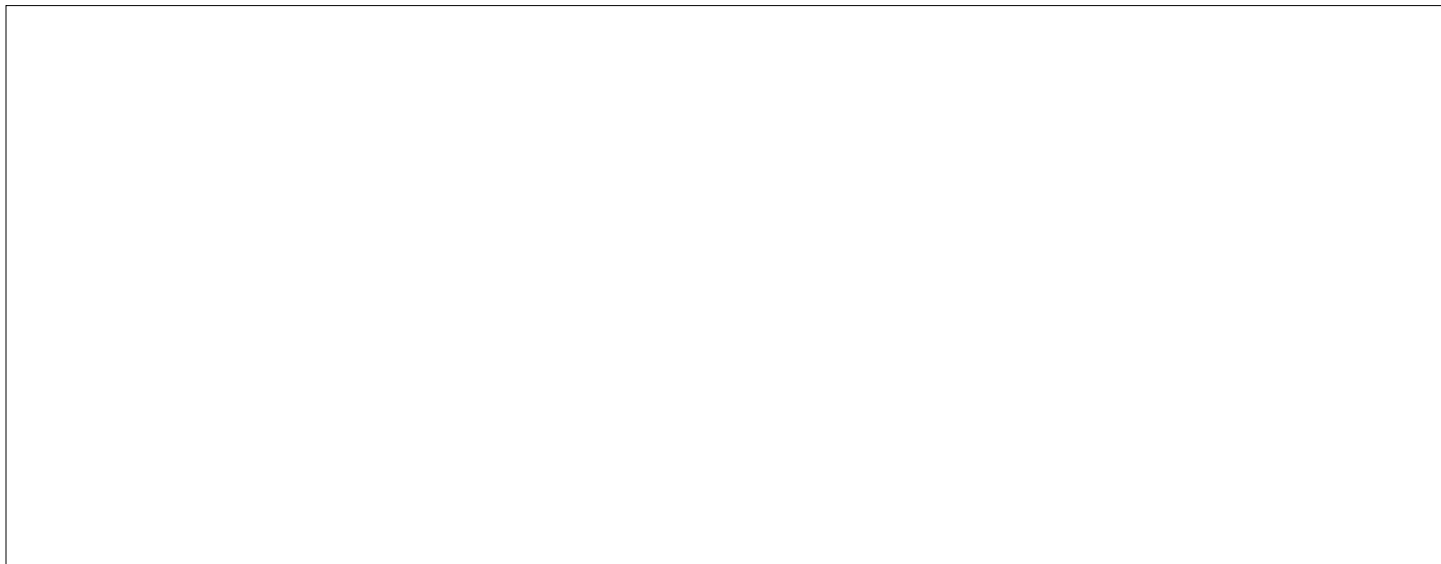
What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:18</p>	<p>Our human nature challenges God's right to work in our lives. We should make sure it truly is God speaking, but we fool ourselves into thinking that if we really, truly knew that it was God, of course we would fall in line and cooperate.</p>	<p>What do I know I need to do to make me clean before God and useful to him, but am delaying to do, by telling myself that it might not be actually required by God?</p>
<p>John 2:19</p>	<p>Jesus knew the greatest sign of God working in all of history would be his own resurrection.</p>	<p>What is so significant about Jesus' resurrection?</p>
<p>John 2:20</p>	<p>They could not have understood that he was speaking of his own body. They thought Jesus was speaking about the huge stone temple King Herod had built for the Jewish people. God's perspective is that things we consider so stable and solid are not as enduring or as important as spiritual events and beings. The things we can't see are more important than the things we can see.</p>	<p>What do I consider solid and stable and real around me?</p> <p>What does God consider more important in my life?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 2:21</p>	<p>Read I Kings 8:6-13 about the temple Solomon built for God, as a place for God to dwell.</p> <p>When Jesus died, a very special curtain in the temple was torn from top to bottom. In other words, it was torn by God, not by any human means. Read Mark 15:37-39 and Luke 23:44-49. This curtain was thick and heavy and was intended to keep people out of the most holy part of the temple (the Holy of Holies or Most Holy place). This is the part of the temple where God consented to come and actually dwell among his people. The problem was that God is so holy that no one could live in his presence, so people had to be kept away or they would die. When Jesus died, God removed that curtain or obstacle between himself and his people.</p>	<p>Why did Jesus call his body a temple?</p> <p>What did the sacrifice of Jesus' body provide for us?</p> <p>According to I Corinthians 6:19-20, followers of Jesus today have bodies that have become a temple for God. Why does it matter what we do with our bodies?</p>
<p>John 2:22</p>	<p>The author of this Book of John or Gospel of John, was one of those disciples who remembered and wrote down the things Jesus said. Later, when John and the other disciples remembered the things Jesus said, they understood more.</p>	<p>What do I understand now, looking back, about how God was working in my life that I didn't understand at the time?</p>

Day 17

Read John 2:18-22

What would you like to say to God?

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Day 18

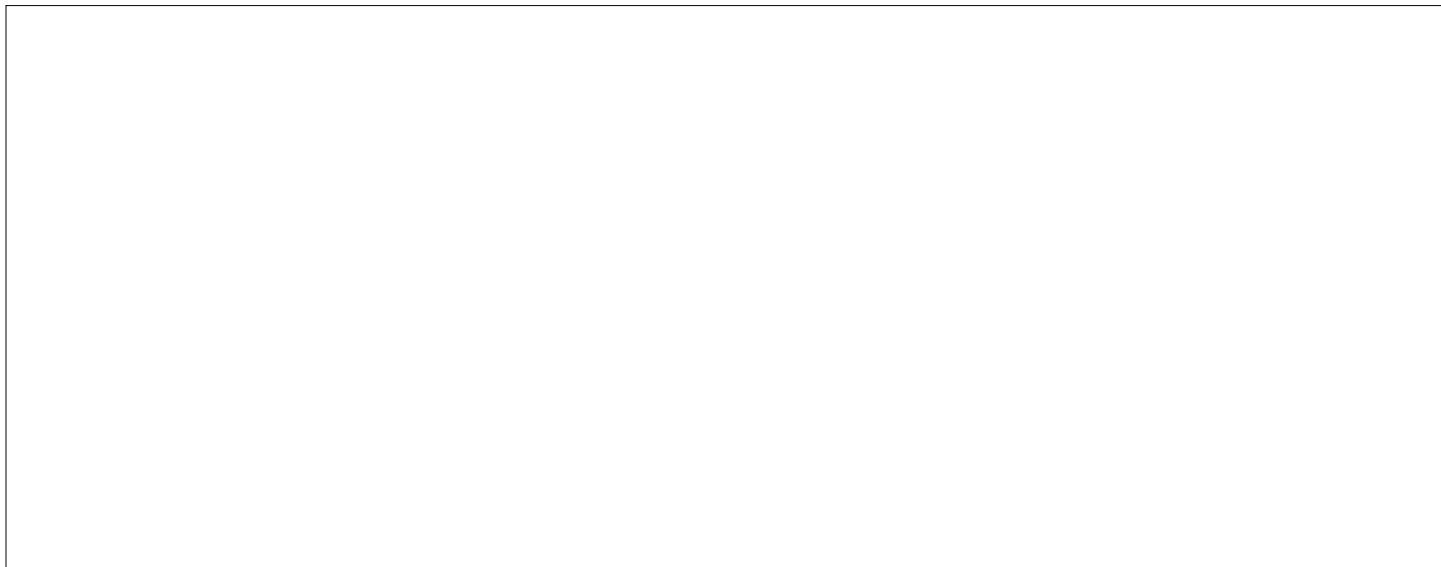
Read John 2:23-25

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 2:23 	When we see God work in amazing ways it is easy to believe he is there and he cares for us.	Have I ever seen God work in a miraculous way? What did I think about God then? Why?
John 2:24 	We humans are quick to turn against God if we do not feel things are going our way.	What things cause me to doubt God and want to go my own way?
John 2:25 	God knows we are fickle and selfish. Jesus is God and knows everything about us.	How is my attitude toward God today: faithful, fickle or selfish?

Day 18

Read John 2:23-25

What do I need to say to Jesus?

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