

*Daily Devotional Guide to  
the Book of John*

**John Chapter 7**

**Days 70 - 82**

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 70**

**Read John 7:1-5**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:1</p>	<p>Crowds of Jewish people followed Jesus and wanted to make him king, but at the same time other Jewish leaders were trying to end his life. Understanding who Jesus really is, results in either accepting or rejecting Jesus.</p>	<p>Why do some people oppose Jesus?</p>
<p>John 7:2</p>	<p>Jesus was part of an observant Jewish family. They went to Jerusalem to observe special events, as God commanded.</p>	<p>Who in my life is religious but does not know Jesus?</p>
<p>John 7:3</p>	<p>Even those close to Jesus who had seen and experienced Jesus' miracles needed to come to him in faith, believing he is the Son of God. Jesus' brothers were sons of Mary and Joseph (half-brothers to Jesus because Joseph was not Jesus' father). At this point, they evidently did not believe Jesus. Later, James and Jude, sons of Mary and Joseph, became followers of Jesus and fathers of the early church. (In I Corinthians 15:3-8, Paul tells us that after the resurrection Jesus came to James, among many others.) These two brothers each wrote a book in the New Testament because they truly believed Jesus is the Son of God.</p>	<p>Who in my life does not understand the source of the blessings and miracles of life? How could Jesus eventually become real to those people?</p>

**Day 70**

**Read John 7:1-5**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:4          	His brothers did not understand that Jesus' intention was not to become a public figure, but to give his life to save us.	How does believing in Jesus change our perspective?          
John 7:5          	Jesus' brothers misjudged his motives and intentions because they did not believe him. Those closest to us will sometimes misjudge our motives and not understand the importance of our decision to follow Jesus.	What moves a person from unbelief to belief in Jesus?          

What would I like to say to Jesus?

**Day 71**

**Read John 7:6-10**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:6</p>	<p>Jesus knew, perhaps from time in prayer, that he had not yet accomplished what the Father sent him to do. (He had to be careful about aligning himself with people who wanted to make him an earthly king or with those who wanted to kill him.)</p>	<p>As a follower of Jesus, what in my life today do I need to offer up to God, waiting on him for the right time?</p>
<p>John 7:7</p>	<p>Jesus opposed evil and was disliked by those whose hearts were far from God.</p>	<p>How does God ask me to conduct my life in I Peter 3:13-18?</p>
<p>John 7:8</p>	<p>Jesus knew that when the time was right (at a Passover feast rather than a Feast of Tabernacles), he would give up his life for us. Jesus' brothers could openly go to Jerusalem without harm. They were going as anyone else would go, and were not Jesus' disciples yet.</p>	<p>How can James 5:7-11 help me respond to those who do not understand my commitment to Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God?</p>
<p>John 7:9</p>	<p>Jesus had a special purpose to fulfill and ...</p>	<p>As a follower of Jesus, what special purpose do I have according to I Peter 3:8-9?</p>

**Day 71**

**Read John 7:6-10**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:10</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 621" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 162px;"></div>	<p>would go to the feast to deliver God's message of love to the Jewish people before giving his life. His purpose was not to become a king, nor to force people to follow him, but to give up his life in submission to his Father in Heaven for those who would believe.</p>	<p>In Luke 9:23, Jesus asks his followers to daily bear any suffering God allows and to continue to follow Jesus faithfully. What would that look like in my life today?</p> <div data-bbox="789 344 1524 621" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 132px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:11</p>	<p>Almost everyone at the Feast was Jewish, but the Jews mentioned here were the Jewish spiritual and political leaders in Jerusalem. They were on the look-out for Jesus.</p>	<p>Do I ever struggle with spending time with Jesus because he changes my perspective and my life?</p>
<p>John 7:12</p>	<p>The Jewish people were very interested in Jesus for a variety of reasons...</p>	<p>Today, what are some of the variety of reasons people might be interested in Jesus?</p>
<p>John 7:13</p>	<p>but they were afraid to discuss Jesus because of their leaders.</p>	<p>Where and with whom do I feel that I am not free to discuss Jesus? Why?</p>

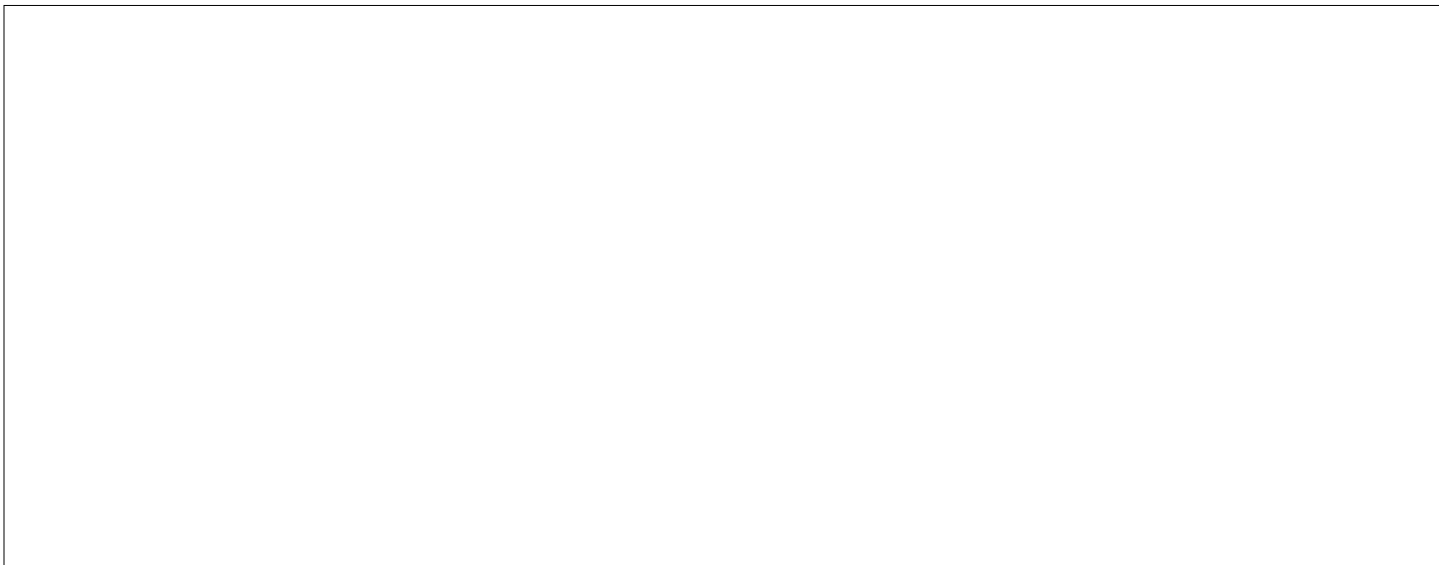


**Day 72**

***Read John 7:11-13***

What is Jesus saying to me?

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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**Day 73**

**Read John 7:14-18**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:14          	Perhaps Jesus wanted to teach to as many people as possible, when they had all arrived. Perhaps he knew that people who were truly seeking to know God would be there and he would be able to meet their needs at that time.	Jesus knows our hearts and wants us to know God and live with him now and after we die. He wants to meet our needs now. What do I need now? Have I asked Jesus about it?          
John 7:15          	The Jewish leaders thought he was just an ordinary man because he had not grown up in their exclusive circles, but he didn't sound like an ordinary man.	To Whom do I, and should I, go to learn about life?          
John 7:16          	Jesus explained that he was telling the people what their Heavenly Father wanted them to know.	What do I need to learn from the infinite wisdom of God today?          
John 7:17          	Those who want to follow God recognize that the things Jesus said are from God.	How have I experienced Jesus' teaching as truth coming from God?          

**Day 73**

**Read John 7:14-18**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:18</p>	<p>Jesus did not come to set himself up as a king on earth. He came to do the Heavenly Father's will, to give up his life in order to accomplish eternal salvation for the Jewish people and for all people.</p>	<p>How do I know Jesus spoke truth?</p> <p>Where do my words come from? For whose honor do I work?</p>

What do I want to say to Jesus?

**Day 74**

**Read John 7:19-24**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:19</p>	<p>Some Jewish people at that time were very proud of keeping the Law even though no one can keep it perfectly. Some wanted to kill Jesus, often for healing people on the Sabbath or for claiming to be God's Son.</p>	<p>Am I self-righteous about anything? Do I think I am perfect in some way that allows me to judge others?</p>
<p>John 7:20</p>	<p>The crowd of people who had come to Jerusalem may not have known that the Jewish leaders were trying to get rid of Jesus. The ones present who wanted to kill Jesus, hid the evil in their hearts and ridiculed him.</p>	<p>Do I oppose Jesus in my own heart in any way?</p>
<p>John 7:21</p>	<p>Jesus had healed the lame man (John 5:1-9) on the Sabbath. The Jewish leaders were astonished and upset that Jesus had the power to heal people. God can do as he pleases, and his desire is to heal and save people, especially on occasions set apart for worshipping him!</p>	<p>Do I ever find myself opposed to people being helped?</p> <p>Do I object to God forgiving others and healing them?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:22</p>	<p>The Jewish leaders worked out many intricate laws related to God's laws. They rationalized that it was okay to circumcise on the Sabbath since they reasoned that the order to circumcise came from the Law-giver, Moses. They decided it was not lawful to do many other things on the Sabbath.</p>	<p>What in my life do I rationalize is okay, but if I look at it objectively or from God's view it is not okay or God-mandated?</p>
<p>John 7:23</p>	<p>Their hearts were far from God, as revealed by the response that it would be against the Law of Moses to heal on the Sabbath. It was God's Law, not Moses' Law. God is for people, not against them. He would want people to be healed on the Sabbath, as would Moses. Most of all, God would want people's hearts to be cleansed and for them to become new creatures before him (spiritual healing), even on the Sabbath, especially on the Sabbath.</p>	<p>Does any response of mine reveal my heart being far from God's?</p> <p>Am I working toward something different than what God in his love is working toward for all people?</p>

**Day 74**

**Read John 7:19-24**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:24</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 842" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 267px;"></div>	<p>Their judgment was skewed because of their control and positions of power over the people.</p>	<p>In what area is it hard for me to make a right judgment?</p> <div data-bbox="789 281 1524 527" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 117px;"></div> <p>Who is the only one who can make a right judgment about people? (1 Samuel 16:7, John 5:22-23)</p> <div data-bbox="789 596 1524 842" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 117px;"></div>

What do I want to say to God?

**Day 75**

**Read John 7:25-27**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:25 <div data-bbox="100 279 428 690"></div>	The Jewish people of Jerusalem knew that the Jewish authorities wanted to do away with Jesus because he was claiming to be the Messiah. Those from out of town may have been ignorant of the plot.	According to Luke 6:27-36, how should I treat those who oppose Jesus? <div data-bbox="795 310 1507 690"></div>
John 7:26 <div data-bbox="100 741 428 1398"></div>	Since Jesus was openly teaching, people thought that perhaps he had the sanction of the Jewish authorities in Jerusalem. Jesus was determined to get the message of salvation to the people because he had his Father's approval.	Do I think that I need the approval of someone in religious authority to acknowledge who Jesus is? <div data-bbox="795 779 1507 1058"></div> Is there someone waiting for me to tell him or her about Jesus, while I am waiting for approval? <div data-bbox="795 1129 1507 1398"></div>

**Day 75**

**Read John 7:25-27**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:27	<p>Micah 5:2 said that the ruler of Israel (the Messiah) would come out of Bethlehem but have eternally ancient origins (in other words, from God). People who knew the Old Testament Scriptures knew it told the origin of the Messiah (John 7:42), but others did not. They also assumed Jesus was Joseph's son. They assumed Jesus was from Nazareth and always had been from Nazareth. Actually, they were ignorant of Jesus' heavenly origin and they were ignorant of the circumstances of his birth and early childhood in Bethlehem thirty years earlier, of the magi, of Herod's response, and of Jesus' time in Egypt as a young child. (Matthew chapters 1-3)</p>	<p>Do I know the Old Testament Scriptures about the Messiah? Am I aware of how Jesus fit those Scriptures about the Messiah? (Read Psalm 22:16-18 and Matthew 27:27-35.)</p>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

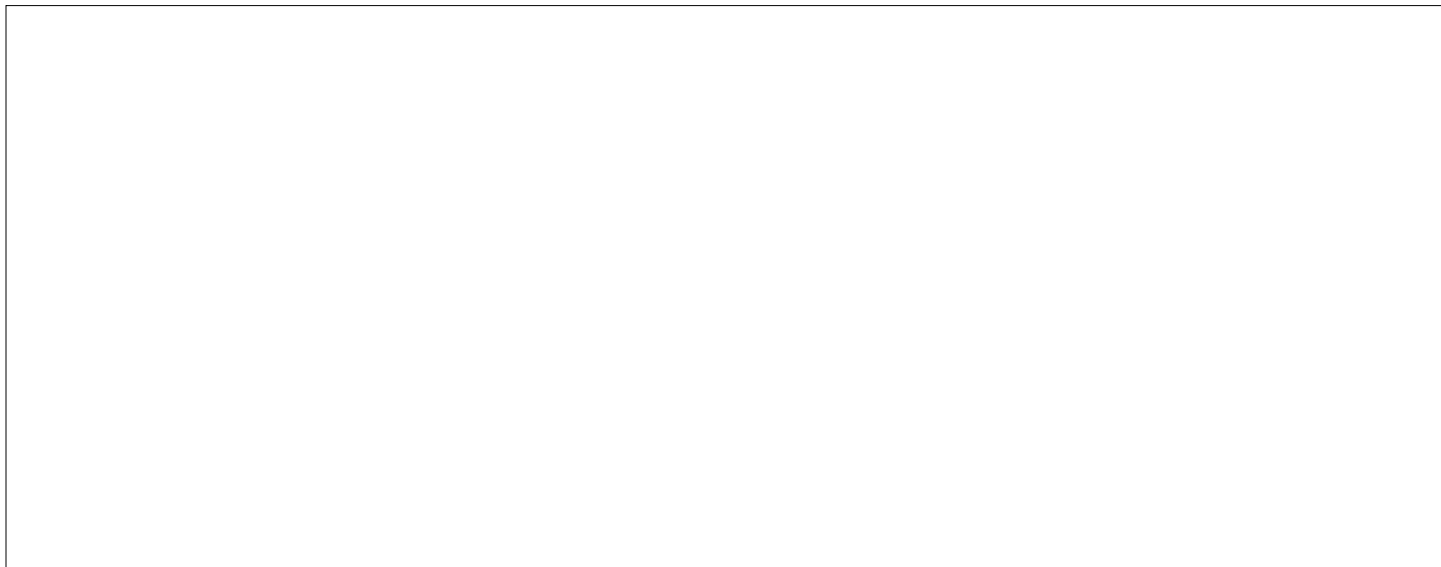


What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:28</p>	<p>Jesus knows that there is controversy about who he is and that people don't understand that he is God's one and only begotten Son. If people truly know God, they know that Jesus is His Son.</p> <p>God is the source of truth and he acts in truth.</p>	<p>How can I rest in God when those who claim to know him do not recognize his Son, Jesus?</p>
<p>John 7:29</p>	<p>Jesus knew our Heavenly Father and he knew why he had been sent by him to earth.</p>	<p>How can Jesus help me to know God the Father?</p>
<p>John 7:30</p>	<p>People don't like to be told that they don't know God. If they really know God, they recognize that Jesus is God.</p> <p>Jesus' death on the cross was designed by God for our benefit, and any other form of death would not have fulfilled God's plans for the world.</p> <p>God works to accomplish his will and no evil can come against us or against his will being accomplished in us without his permission.</p>	<p>Is it reassuring to me that God has plans for the world and that he accomplishes those plans regardless of opposition?</p> <p>How can I remember that God is in control of the world and of my life?</p>

**Day 76**

***Read John 7:28-30***

What should my response be to God?

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What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:31</p>	<p>If a person was or is looking for signs to prove that Jesus is God, Jesus did enough to reveal the truth. Who can feed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish? Who can make the blind and lame see and walk by command? Who can deliver people from the demons of sin and guilt? Who can forgive sins? Only God can do these things.</p>	<p>Is there someone who has recently put his or her trust in Jesus, with whom I can rejoice today?</p> <p>Jesus has the power and authority to do anything. What are my real needs today?</p>
<p>John 7:32</p>	<p>Those who oppose Jesus try to keep others from coming to him.</p>	<p>How does it make me feel when I am opposed by others? Am I surprised? Why am I being opposed? (I Peter 4:12-16)</p> <p>How have I responded? How should I respond even when innocent? (I Peter 2:22-24)</p>

**Day 77**

**Read John 7:31-33**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:33</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 737" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 217px;"></div>	<p>Those who opposed Jesus were not in control. God the Father was in control of the times and events and Jesus was submitting to the Father's will.</p>	<p>Who is in control of the times and events of my life?</p> <div data-bbox="789 281 1524 491" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div> <p>Where will I go when this life ends?</p> <div data-bbox="789 529 1524 739" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>

What do I need to say to Jesus?

**Day 78**

**Read John 7:34-36**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:34</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 596"></div>	<p>Jesus was explaining that he was going to die and go back to God who had sent him.</p>	<p>Will everyone go to heaven when they die? (Review John 1:12)</p> <div data-bbox="789 310 1526 596"></div>
<p>John 7:35</p> <div data-bbox="100 648 428 1341"></div>	<p>The Jewish leaders did not accept that Jesus was from God, so they did not understand when he talked about going back to heaven. They wondered if he intended to go to another country.</p>	<p>Who in my life helps me to have a heavenly perspective? Am I thankful for that person?</p> <div data-bbox="789 680 1526 1341"></div>

**Day 78**

**Read John 7:34-36**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:36</p>	<p>They did not understand that he would give his life and go to the Father.</p>	<p>Do most people understand that Jesus gave his life out of love for us and is now seated at the right hand of the Father until the time when he will return to earth as King of Kings? (Acts 2:34 quotes Psalm 110:1.)</p>

What do I need to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:37</p>	<p>Jesus himself is the water of life, the provision from God that gives eternal life. If anyone is searching for God, searching for truth, searching for eternal life, Jesus is the answer and he willingly gives all of the above to anyone who comes to him.</p>	<p>How and when have I found what I was searching for in Jesus?</p> <p>For what have I been searching lately? Have I asked Jesus?</p>
<p>John 7:38</p>	<p>Those who come to Jesus are not only sustained, they become a source of spiritual blessing to those around them. God gives with such generosity that it overflows!</p>	<p>Have I been blessed in some way by the lives, words, or actions of Christ's followers?</p> <p>How is my own relationship with Jesus Christ bubbling up and overflowing to others?</p> <p>Does my face reflect the joy of the Lord? Why or why not?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:39</p>	<p>When Jesus went to heaven, he sent God's Holy Spirit to indwell those who believe in him. (John 16:7-15) The Holy Spirit was sent from God to seal us as his own, and teach us, and be with us. (Ephesians 1:13-14) God's Spirit comes to live in us when we believe. He never leaves us and his blessings fill us and change us.</p>	<p>As a follower of Jesus, the Christ, how do I know I belong to Jesus?</p> <p>How has giving my life to Jesus and having the Holy Spirit of God in me, changed me?</p>

What would I like to say to Jesus?



What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:40</p>	<p>Some people in the crowd believed Jesus was the prophet like Moses, promised by God in Deuteronomy 18:18. Jesus is indeed that promised prophet and more. In John 1:45 it is clear that Phillip recognized Jesus as the Christ (the Messiah) from what Moses and the Old Testament prophets wrote about Jesus. In John 5:46 Jesus himself said that Moses had written about him.</p>	<p>God's <i>Anointed One</i> (<i>Christ</i> in the Greek language and <i>Messiah</i> in the Hebrew language) is Jesus (the Greek name for Joshua in Hebrew). According to Isaiah 42:5-9 and Isaiah 49:5-7, what were the two main things God sent Jesus to do?</p>
<p>John 7:41</p>	<p>According to Matthew 21:11, the people considered Jesus a prophet and they knew his home was in the area of Galilee. Some were skeptical that he was the actual Messiah.</p>	<p>How can I answer people who are skeptical of Jesus being God's Son?</p>
<p>John 7:42</p>	<p>Most people did not know that Jesus was of the line of David (Mary was a descendant of King David) and was actually born in Bethlehem. God had worked in Mary and Joseph's lives to fulfill every sign of the birth of the Christ, the Chosen One, given in the Old Testament Scriptures.</p>	<p>What difference does it make that Jesus fulfilled every prophetic requirement of the Messiah?</p>

**Day 80**

**Read John 7:40-44**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:43 <div data-bbox="100 281 428 525" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 116px;"></div>	People do become divided over the issue of who Jesus is.	How am I experiencing the divisions caused by people's beliefs about Jesus? <div data-bbox="789 310 1524 525" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 102px;"></div>
John 7:44 <div data-bbox="100 575 428 861" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 136px;"></div>	Those who oppose Jesus are still in God's hands and God's purposes will prevail.	Once I have done what God requires of me to accept his Son, how can I be less anxious about the outcome of people's division over Jesus? <div data-bbox="789 638 1524 852" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 102px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

**Day 81**

**Read John 7:45-49**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:45</p> <div data-bbox="100 279 428 764"></div>	<p>It was not yet God's time for Jesus to be crucified, so they had not arrested him. The crowd was divided about exactly who he was, but they were having a chance to hear his words.</p>	<p>God is in control. Am I aware of God's greater purposes and his timing in my life and circumstances?</p> <div data-bbox="792 310 1508 764"></div>
<p>John 7:46</p> <div data-bbox="100 812 428 1092"></div>	<p>The guards had listened to Jesus' words as they stood there. Jesus' words are powerful. Those sent to arrest Jesus instead came away impressed by his words.</p>	<p>Is there someone I know who needs to hear the words of Jesus?</p> <div data-bbox="792 848 1508 1092"></div>
<p>John 7:47</p> <div data-bbox="100 1140 428 1419"></div>	<p>Many people were believing in Jesus. The Jewish leaders did not want more of them to believe and follow Jesus.</p>	<p>Am I hindering or helping others believe in Jesus? (Romans 10:14)</p> <div data-bbox="792 1176 1508 1419"></div>
<p>John 7:48</p> <div data-bbox="100 1467 428 1747"></div>	<p>The Pharisees set themselves above the people by pride in their rabbinic learning and practices.</p>	<p>Who do I know who sets himself above others? Do I? Why?</p> <div data-bbox="792 1488 1508 1747"></div>

**Day 81**

**Read John 7:45-49**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 7:49          	The Jewish leaders considered the people to be ignorant since many did not follow the minutiae of the Law prescribed by the Pharisees. They elevated their observance of the Law above the Law itself.	Who do I know who tries to follow a prescribed Law of details dictated by rabbis, priests, or other spiritual leaders? What should I pray for them?          

What would I like to say to Jesus?

**Day 82**

**Read John 7:50-52 (7:53 will be included with Chapter 8)**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:50</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 890" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 290px;"></div>	<p>Review John 3:1-21. The Jewish leaders must have known that the things Jesus did were of God. Jesus had told Nicodemus that every person needed to be born again, to have a spiritual new birth by God's Spirit. Jesus had told Nicodemus that every person must believe in Jesus, sent as a sacrifice by God, in order to escape the condemnation we all deserve from God. We don't know whether Nicodemus ever experienced that new birth, but there is reason to believe he did. (John 19:38-40)</p>	<p>Have I experienced this new birth? How do I know?</p> <div data-bbox="795 281 1508 527" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 117px;"></div> <p>Have the people I know and love experienced this new birth? How do I know?</p> <div data-bbox="795 596 1508 890" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 140px;"></div>
<p>John 7:51</p> <div data-bbox="100 940 428 1266" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 155px;"></div>	<p>Their "Law" was supposedly based on God's Law, but they did not follow either God's Law or their own rules.</p>	<p>What "Law" do I follow?</p> <div data-bbox="795 940 1508 1266" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 155px;"></div>

**Day 82**

**Read John 7:50-52 (7:53 will be included with Chapter 8)**

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 7:52</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 940" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 314px;"></div>	<p>These Jewish leaders used belittling and intimidation on one of their own to support their untenable position. God can actually raise up a prophet wherever he pleases to meet a spiritual need anywhere. The truth is, the prophet Jonah was from the Galilee region, from a town not far from Nazareth (II Kings 14:25).</p>	<p>Do I limit God? Do I define how God accomplishes his purposes?</p> <div data-bbox="792 310 1524 520" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div> <p>Do I look down on a people group or a region as beneath me or as unusable to God?</p> <div data-bbox="792 590 1524 940" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 167px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?