

*Daily Devotional Guide to
the Book of John*

John Chapter 16

Days 180 - 188

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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.

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:2</p>	<p>Jesus told his disciples that they would be rejected. Those who claim to know God but reject Jesus sometimes think that anyone who follows Jesus should be stopped. For example, Saul persecuted, jailed, and approved the killing of followers of Jesus until Jesus revealed himself to Saul and chose him to proclaim the gospel (Acts 22:1-20). God changed Saul into Paul, his servant who convinced thousands of Jews and Gentiles to believe that Jesus was indeed God's Son, the Messiah, the Savior who had died for them. Paul preached life-changing sermons, performed miracles in Christ's name, started churches, and wrote letters to strengthen and encourage believers. These letters are now a large part of the New Testament in the Bible (the books of Romans, I and II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I and II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, and perhaps Hebrews).</p>	<p>Have I ever experienced censorship of my faith in Christ from those who claimed to know God?</p> <p>In light of Paul's former convictions and actions against Christ's followers and the new life God called him to, what should my prayer be for those at home or around the world who persecute and even kill Christ's followers today?</p>

Day 180

Read John 16:2-4 (16:1 was included with Chapter 15)

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:4</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 863"></div>	<p>Jesus warned his followers that he was leaving and that they would remember his warning when the time came. Jesus sometimes tells us what is ahead in order to help us through a hard time and to increase our faith.</p>	<p>What memorial can I place in my heart and life to bring me back to Jesus' words in the tough times ahead? (Hebrews 12:1-3)</p> <div data-bbox="789 342 1524 863"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:5</p>	<p>Jesus told his followers what would happen. Jesus returned to heaven, to be with God the Father, but before it happened, the disciples couldn't really understand what Jesus was saying.</p>	<p>What difference does it make that Jesus was sent by God the Father rather than doing and saying things on his own?</p>
<p>John 16:6</p>	<p>Telling the disciples that he was going away filled them with grief because they thought his presence was powerful, and when he left they thought they would no longer experience what they experienced in his presence.</p>	<p>What do I experience in Jesus' presence?</p> <p>Do I ever grieve that Jesus is not physically here with me?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:7</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 1104" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 392px;"></div>	<p>The Counselor, or Holy Spirit, was sent by Jesus for us all to experience the presence and power of Jesus <i>within us continually</i>.</p>	<p>How can I see Christ's absence as a good thing? Why is the coming of the Holy Spirit good for us, even better for us than Christ being here on earth as a person right now? (I John 3:24)</p> <div data-bbox="789 373 1524 1104" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 348px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:8</p>	<p>Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would come into the world and convict the world of wrongdoing.</p>	<p>What could I pray for someone I know who is living in a sinful lifestyle today?</p>
<p>John 16:9</p>	<p>If anyone does not believe that Jesus is the Son of God who died to take away his sins, then the sin remains. (Review John 3:36)</p>	<p>What could I pray today for someone who does not believe in Jesus?</p> <p>What do I do with my sin? To whom should I confess sin in order to be forgiven? (I Timothy 2:5-6; I John 1:9)</p>
<p>John 16:10</p>	<p>When Jesus was here on earth he spoke out for righteousness. Now, the Holy Spirit is here on earth in place of Jesus' physical presence, teaching and reminding us of what is right.</p>	<p>How can I determine what is right today?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:11</p>	<p>Because of Jesus' sacrifice and obedience, he accomplished victory and the condemnation of all evil and sin. Though God is patient now, his judgment is as good as done: wrong will be judged and condemned. Those who align themselves with evil will be judged and condemned along with the evil prince or ruler of this world (Satan).</p>	<p>How can I live now, today, with heaven's futuristic perspective on sin?</p>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:12</p>	<p>Jesus said that his disciples could not really understand or bear all that was to come or all that they needed to learn. Our humanness sometimes limits our understanding of what God is doing and of what he can do in our lives.</p>	<p>Is lack of faith, pleasure-seeking, anxiety, or fear limiting God's working in my life today? (Luke 8:14-15)</p>
<p>John 16:13</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit helps us to get beyond distractions, our lack of faith, anxiety, fear, or lack of knowledge. God, through the Holy Spirit, can help us to understand the truth and help us see the bigger picture, to see God's agenda rather than our limited view.</p>	<p>Today, how can I focus on what is important to God? (Philippians 4:6-9)</p>

Day 183 **Read John 16:12-13**

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:14</p>	<p>Jesus explained that the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives is to bring honor and glory to Jesus. He does that by revealing Jesus to us, by revealing the meaning of Jesus' words and actions.</p>	<p>What things do I do that enable the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to me on a regular basis?</p>
<p>John 16:15</p>	<p>Since everything that comes from Jesus is from God the Father, there is no discrepancy between what Jesus says and what God the Father says. The Holy Spirit makes these spiritual truths known to us through the words and actions of Jesus as recorded in Scripture.</p>	<p>What do I gain from the fact that everything about the Father and of the Father is available to Jesus and the Holy Spirit?</p> <p>How do I access all that belongs to God?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:16</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 1008"></div>	<p>Jesus told his disciples that he would die and be buried in a tomb, but that he would rise again! They would see him again!</p>	<p>What difference did the resurrection of Jesus Christ make to the disciples? (Luke 24:36-53)</p> <div data-bbox="789 310 1524 625"></div> <p>What difference does Jesus Christ's resurrection make to me? (Review Luke 24:36-49; I Corinthians 15 14-19)</p> <div data-bbox="789 695 1524 1008"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:17</p>	<p>The disciples did not understand that Jesus would die, be placed in the tomb, rise again, be with them again for a short time, and then ascend into heaven. They were confused about their future with Jesus.</p>	<p>What do I understand about the future of the world and my future with Jesus? (Review I Corinthians 15: 20-24)</p>
<p>John 16:18</p>	<p>It was outside of their experience and something no one had ever done, so their understanding of what Jesus was saying was limited.</p>	<p>How does seeing the struggles of the apostles help me with understanding God's future actions described in Scripture?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:19</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 1428"></div>	<p>Jesus understands that we have limited understanding of heavenly things and God's plans.</p>	<p>If Jesus were here, what would I ask him?</p> <div data-bbox="789 281 1524 806"></div> <p>Can I ask Jesus to help me understand and rest by faith, knowing that future events will be for my good, even if I don't understand?</p> <div data-bbox="789 905 1524 1428"></div>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:20</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 905" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 297px;"></div>	<p>Those who demanded Jesus' death would rejoice while his followers mourned, but the death on the cross was not the end of the story. Jesus' death led to the resurrection. It was accomplished for our benefit and our continued joyful fellowship with Jesus.</p>	<p>Christ's resurrection is a source of great joy to his followers! What benefits come to me because of Christ's <i>resurrection</i>?</p> <div data-bbox="789 310 1524 905" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 283px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

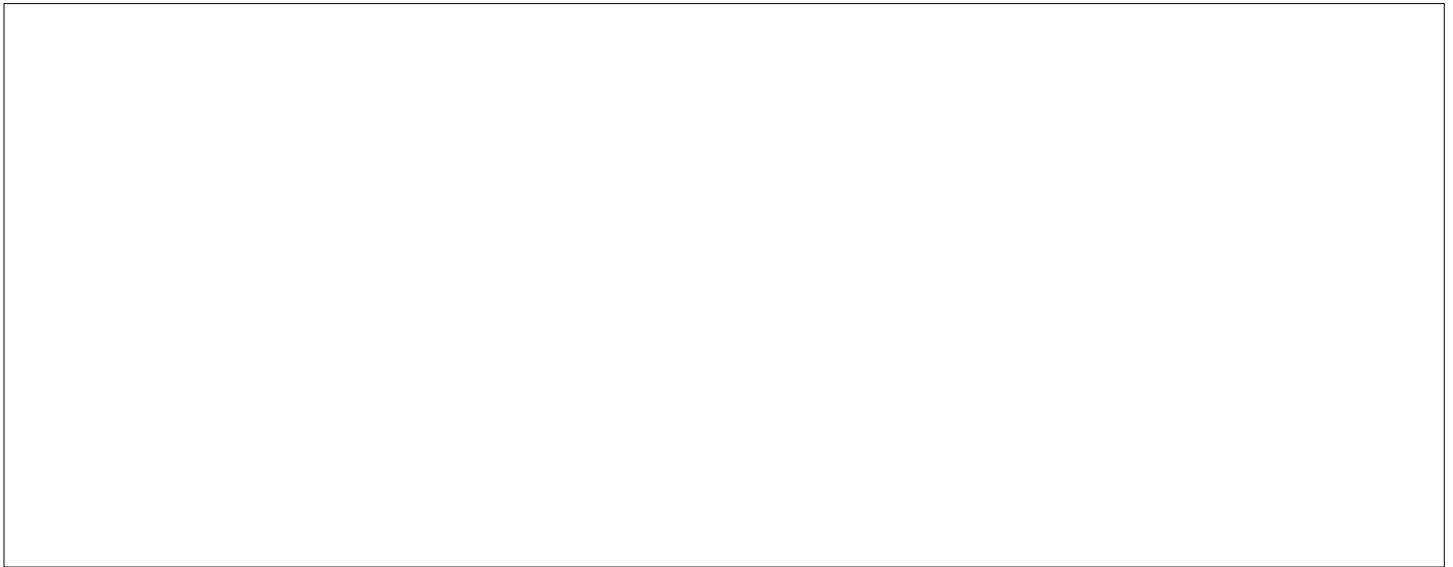
What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:21</p>	<p>Even good things do not easily come about. It is sometimes hard to imagine what God is accomplishing when in the middle of suffering.</p>	<p>What in my life causes me pain right now?</p> <p>What joy may come out of it if I ask God to bring good out of it?</p>
<p>John 16:22</p>	<p>The apostles were grief stricken with the events of the crucifixion. Jesus knew that he would rise from the dead and see them again. Jesus knew that the end result would be an eternal joy for us that no one can take away.</p>	<p>In what ways can I experience a joy in Jesus that no one can take away? (John 6:35-40; 10:28)</p> <p>What about joy in Jesus during <i>this</i> life? (John 15:9-12, 1 Peter 1:8-9)</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:23</p>	<p>Today, because of the crucifixion and resurrection, the power of God is unleashed in the name of Jesus.</p> <p>Though Jesus did not remain on earth with us, God will give whatever we ask in Jesus' name because he won the victory over sin and evil through obedience and is now seated in heaven at God's right hand.</p>	<p>What difference does it make that my prayers in Jesus' name are heard and answered by God himself?</p>
<p>John 16:24</p>	<p>Jesus wants us to ask. His power is unleashed when we ask in his name. The result of asking and receiving from Jesus is joy.</p>	<p>What am I asking in Jesus' name right now, today?</p>

Day 186

Read John 16:21-24

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:25</p>	<p>Now, we have a record of Jesus' life and plain talk about our Heavenly Father. We can know our Heavenly Father because of Jesus.</p>	<p>What have Jesus' life and words revealed to me about God the Father that I'm particularly thankful for today?</p> <p>How has knowing God's heart changed my heart?</p>
<p>John 16:26</p>	<p>Jesus is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew name Joshua, meaning God (The LORD) Saves. Our prayers in the name of Jesus are heard...</p>	<p>Why is it necessary to ask in Jesus' name when we come to God with requests? (Matthew 1:21; Titus 3:3-7; Philippians 2:9-11) Review memory verse Acts 4:12.</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:27</p>	<p>and answered by God. We have access to God because of our belief in Jesus, his Son. The Father's love is available to us because of Jesus.</p>	<p>How can God's love for me through his Son impact my life today?</p>
<p>John 16:28</p>	<p>Jesus told his followers in plain language who he was and where he came from. Jesus existed with God before the world began, entered our world and time by being born as a human, and returned to God. (See John chapter one.)</p>	<p>What difference does it make that Jesus knew who he was, where he was from, and why he came?</p> <p>Why was Jesus able to endure the cross? (Hebrews 12:2)</p>

Day 187 **Read John 16:25-28**

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:29</p>	<p>When Jesus explained to the disciples that he came from the Father in Heaven, entered the world, and would leave the world to return to the Father, then they began to understand that even though he was God's anointed, it was not yet God's intention for Jesus to remain on earth and set up a kingdom. Sometimes we aren't ready to hear plain truth from God.</p>	<p>How can I open my heart and submit to God enough to hear what he wants to tell me today?</p>
<p>John 16:30</p>	<p>Because Jesus knew what was going to happen before it happened, the disciples began to understand and believe.</p>	<p>Does knowing that Jesus has knowledge of <i>my</i> future, help my belief and faith in him?</p>
<p>John 16:31</p>	<p>The apostles had the privilege of hearing Jesus' teachings throughout his time on earth, but it took a long time for them to understand and believe.</p>	<p>Why shouldn't I be discouraged by my own lack of faith or the slowness of others to believe?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 16:32</p>	<p>Jesus knew that the apostles would not be able to handle the events about to unfold. Jesus knew that his Heavenly Father would be with him through the ordeal. Jesus did not condemn them but he did expect faith and obedience from them, ultimately.</p>	<p>How does obedience help me to avoid either pampering myself and excusing sin or condemning myself?</p>
<p>John 16:33</p>	<p>Jesus wanted them to be at peace about what was to come and about their own frailties because he would bear their sins, win the Father's forgiveness for them, and overcome evil by his sacrifice.</p>	<p>What current trouble requires me to find peace in Jesus? (John 14:27, Romans 5:1-11)</p> <p>How can I find that peace? (Romans 15:13; Review I John 3:21-24)</p>

Day 188

Read John 16:29-33

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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