



ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

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Encounters with Jesus

„Encounters with Jesus“. This could be the title of the Gospel of John, the book that the disciple John wrote about Jesus. In it, he tells of encounters that people had with Jesus and how their lives were changed as a result. It becomes clear again and again: For Jesus every single person is infinitely valuable, he has a personal interest in everyone. And His goal is „to give them life to the fullest.“ (John 10:10, NL)

As we read and reflect, we wish everyone a personal encounter with Jesus and the joy of a life in abundance.

4	John 1: 35-51 Encountering Jesus – but how?	24	John 11:1-46 And what, if I am at the end?
6	John 3:1-21 How to get started with Jesus.	28	John 12:1-11 To live is to Love
8	John 4:3-30.39-42 What do I need to be happy?	30	John 12:12-36 Dying to live?
12	John 6:1-15 Jesus multiplies what I give Him	34	John 13:1-17 What makes a person truly great
14	John 8:1-11 Does Jesus stand by me, even when I fail?	36	John 14:1-14 Jesus – God, as He really is
16	John 9:1-38 Standing by Jesus, even when the wind is against you	38	John 15:1-11 How do I stay in connection with Jesus?
20	John 10:1-30 Jesus shows me the best way	40	John 17:1-26 Jesus prays for me

Encountering Jesus – but how?

35 The following day John was again standing with two of his disciples. **36** As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and declared, "Look! There is the Lamb of God!"

37 When John's two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus. **38** Jesus looked around and saw them following. "What do you want?" he asked them. They replied, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" **39** "Come and see," he said. It was about four

o'clock in the afternoon when they went with him to the place where he was staying, and they remained with him the rest of the day. **40** Andrew, Simon

Peter's brother, was one of these men who heard what John said and then followed Jesus. **41** Andrew went to find his brother, Simon, and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means "Christ"[a]). **42** Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, "Your name is Simon, son of John—but you will be called Cephas" (which means "Peter"[b]).

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Come, follow me."

44 Philip was from Bethsaida, Andrew and Peter's hometown. **45** Philip went to look for Nathanael and told him, "We have found the very person Moses[c] and the prophets wrote about! His name is Jesus, the son of Joseph from Nazareth." **46** "Nazareth!" exclaimed Nathanael. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"

"Come and see for yourself," Philip replied. **47** As they approached, Jesus said, "Now here is a genuine son of Israel—a man of complete integrity." **48** "How do you know about me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus replied,

"I could see you under the fig tree before Philip found you." **49** Then Nathanael exclaimed, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God—the King of Israel!" **50** Jesus asked him,

"Do you believe this just because I told you I had seen you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this." **51** Then he said, "I tell you the truth, you will all see heaven open and the angels of God going up and down on the Son of Man, the one who is the stairway between heaven and earth.[d]"earth.[d]"

What does the text say about God?

What does the text about people?

What does the text say about my relationship to God?

What has inspired me?

Other thoughts or questions

How can I apply what I have learnt?

How I can get started with Jesus.

1 There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. **2** After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you." **3** Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again,[a] you cannot see the Kingdom of God." **4** "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?" **5** Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.[b] **6** Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.[c] **7** So don't be surprised when I say, 'You[d] must be born again.' **8** The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit." **9** "How are these things possible?" Nicodemus asked. **10** Jesus replied, "You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don't understand these things? **11** I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won't believe our testimony. **12** But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? **13** No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man[e] has come down from heaven. **14** And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, **15** so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.[f] **16** "For this is how God loved the world: He gave[g] his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. **17** God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. **18** "There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. **19** And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. **20** All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. **21** But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.[h]"

What does the text say about God?

Handwriting practice area for the question "What does the text say about God?". The area contains a grid of dots for tracing and a series of horizontal lines for independent writing.

What does the text about people?

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What does the text say about my relationship to God?

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What has inspired me?

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Other thoughts or questions

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What do I need to be happy?

3 So he left Judea and returned to Galilee. **4** He had to go through Samaria on the way. **5** Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. **6** Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. **7** Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." **8** He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. **9** The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans.[a] She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?" **10** Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water." **11** "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water?" **12** And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?" **13** Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. **14** But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life." **15** "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water." **16** "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her. **17** "I don't have a husband," the woman replied. Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband — **18** for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!" **19** "Sir," the woman said, "you must be a prophet. **20** So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim,[b] where our ancestors worshiped?" **21** Jesus replied, "Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. **22** You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. **23** But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. **24** For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

25 The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." **26** Then Jesus told her, "I am the Messiah!"[c]

27 Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do you want with her?" or "Why are you talking to her?" **28** The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, **29** "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?" **30** So the people came streaming from the village to see him. **39** Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!" **40** When they came out to see him, they begged him to stay in their village. So he stayed for two days, **41** long enough for many more to hear his message and believe. **42** Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heard him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world."

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» Those who drink
the water I give
will never be thirsty
again. It becomes
a fresh, bubbling
spring within them,
giving them eternal
life. «

John 4:14

Jesus multiplies what I give Him

1 After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias. **2** A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick. **3** Then Jesus climbed a hill and sat down with his disciples around him. **4** (It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration.) **5** Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" **6** He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do. **7** Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money[a] to feed them!" **8** Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. **9** "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?" **10** "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) **11** Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. **12** After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted." **13** So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves. **14** When the people saw him[b] do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, "Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!"[c] **15** When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

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Does Jesus stand by me, even when I fail?

1 Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, **2** but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. **3** As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. **4** "Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5** The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?" **6** They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. **7** They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!" **8** Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. **9** When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. **10** Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" **11** "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."

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Standing by Jesus, even when the wind is against you

1 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. **2** "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" **3** "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. **4** We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us.[a] The night is coming, and then no one can work. **5** But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world." **6** Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. **7** He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent"). So the man went and washed and came back seeing! **8** His neighbors and others who knew him as a blind beggar asked each other, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" **9** Some said he was, and others said, "No, he just looks like him!" But the beggar kept saying, "Yes, I am the same one!" **10** They asked, "Who healed you? What happened?" **11** He told them, "The man they call Jesus made mud and spread it over my eyes and told me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash yourself.' So I went and washed, and now I can see!" **12** "Where is he now?" they asked. "I don't know," he replied. **13** Then they took the man who had been blind to the Pharisees, **14** because it was on the Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud and healed him. **15** The Pharisees asked the man all about it. So he told them, "He put the mud over my eyes, and when I washed it away, I could see!" **16** Some of the Pharisees said, "This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." Others said, "But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" So there was a deep division of opinion among them. **17** Then the Pharisees again questioned the man who had been blind and demanded, "What's your opinion about this man who healed you?" The man replied, "I think he must be a prophet." **18** The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. **19** They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?" **20** His parents replied, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind, **21** but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself." **22** His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who had announced that anyone saying Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. **23** That's why they said, "He is old enough. Ask him."

24 So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, "God should get the glory for this,[b] because we know this man Jesus is a sinner." **25** "I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied. "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!" **26** "But what did he do?" they asked. "How did he heal you?" **27** "Look!" the man exclaimed. "I told you once. Didn't you listen? Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" **28** Then they cursed him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses!" **29** We know God spoke to Moses, but we don't even know where this man comes from." **30** "Why, that's very strange!" the man replied. "He healed my eyes, and yet you don't know where he comes from?" **31** We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but he is ready to hear those who worship him and do his will. **32** Ever since the world began, no one has been able to open the eyes of someone born blind. **33** If this man were not from God, he couldn't have done it." **34** "You were born a total sinner!" they answered. "Are you trying to teach us?" And they threw him out of the synagogue. **35** When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?[c]" **36** The man answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." **37** "You have seen him," Jesus said, "and he is speaking to you!" **38** "Yes, Lord, I believe!" the man said. And he worshiped Jesus.

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John 8:12

» I am the light of
the world. If you
follow me, you
won't have to walk
in darkness,
because you will
have the light that
leads to life. «

Jesus shows me the best Way

1 "I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! **2** But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. **5** They won't follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don't know his voice." **6** Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what he meant, **7** so he explained it to them: "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. **8** All who came before me[a] were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. **9** Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved.[b] They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. **10** The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. **11** "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep. **12** A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. **13** The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep. **14** "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, **15** just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. **16** I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd. **17** "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. **18** No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded." **19** When he said these things, the people[c] were again divided in their opinions about him. **20** Some said, "He's demon possessed and out of his mind. Why listen to a man like that?" **21** Others said, "This doesn't sound like a man possessed by a demon! Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

Jesus Claims to Be the Son of God

22 It was now winter, and Jesus was in Jerusalem at the time of Hanukkah, the Festival of Dedication. **23** He was in the Temple, walking through the section known as Solomon's Colonnade. **24** The people surrounded

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» My purpose
is to give them
a rich and
satisfying life. «

Johannes 10,10

And what, if I am at the End?

1 A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. **2** This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair.[a] Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. **3** So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick." **4** But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this." **5** So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, **6** he stayed where he was for the next two days. **7** Finally, he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea." **8** But his disciples objected. "Rabbi," they said, "only a few days ago the people[b] in Judea were trying to stone you. Are you going there again?" **9** Jesus replied, "There are twelve hours of daylight every day. During the day people can walk safely. They can see because they have the light of this world. **10** But at night there is danger of stumbling because they have no light." **11** Then he said, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up." **12** The disciples said, "Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!" **13** They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died. **14** So he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. **15** And for your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there, for now you will really believe. Come, let's go see him." **16** Thomas, nicknamed the Twin,[c] said to his fellow disciples, "Let's go, too—and die with Jesus." **17** When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. **18** Bethany was only a few miles[d] down the road from Jerusalem, **19** and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss. **20** When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. **21** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." **23** Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again." **24** "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day." **25** Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life.[e] Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. **26** Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?" **27** "Yes, Lord," she told him. "I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God." **28** Then she returned to Mary. She called Mary aside from the mourners and told her, "The Teacher is here and wants to see you."

29 So Mary immediately went to him. **30** Jesus had stayed outside the village, at the place where Martha met him. **31** When the people who were at the house consoling Mary saw her leave so hastily, they assumed she was going to Lazarus's grave to weep. So they followed her there. **32** When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died." **33** When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him,^[f] and he was deeply troubled. **34** "Where have you put him?" he asked them. They told him, "Lord, come and see." **35** Then Jesus wept. **36** The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him!" **37** But some said, "This man healed a blind man. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?" **38** Jesus was still angry as he arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. **39** "Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them. But Martha, the dead man's sister, protested, "Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible." **40** Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?" **41** So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. **42** You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent me." **43** Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" **44** And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"

The Plot to Kill Jesus

45 Many of the people who were with Mary believed in Jesus when they saw this happen. **46** But some went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

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Revelation 1:17.18

» Don't be afraid!
I am the First and
the Last. I am
the living one.
I died, but look -
I am alive forever
and ever! «

To live is to Love

1 Six days before the Passover celebration began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead. **2** A dinner was prepared in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, and Lazarus was among those who ate[a] with him. **3** Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar[b] of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus’ feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance. **4** But Judas Iscariot, the disciple who would soon betray him, said, **5** “That perfume was worth a year’s wages[c] It should have been sold and the money given to the poor.” **6** Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples’ money, he often stole some for himself. **7** Jesus replied, “Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. **8** You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.” **9** When all the people[d] heard of Jesus’ arrival, they flocked to see him and also to see Lazarus, the man Jesus had raised from the dead. **10** Then the leading priests decided to kill Lazarus, too, **11** for it was because of him that many of the people had deserted them[e] and believed in Jesus.

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Dying to live?

12 The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors **13** took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted, "Praise God!^[a] Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hail to the King of Israel!"^[b] **14** Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: **15** "Don't be afraid, people of Jerusalem.^[c] Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey's colt."^[d] **16** His disciples didn't understand at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered what had happened and realized that these things had been written about him. **17** Many in the crowd had seen Jesus call Lazarus from the tomb, raising him from the dead, and they were telling others^[e] about it. **18** That was the reason so many went out to meet him—because they had heard about this miraculous sign. **19** Then the Pharisees said to each other, "There's nothing we can do. Look, everyone^[f] has gone after him!" **20** Some Greeks who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration **21** paid a visit to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee. They said, "Sir, we want to meet Jesus." **22** Philip told Andrew about it, and they went together to ask Jesus. **23** Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man^[g] to enter into his glory. **24** I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. **25** Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. **26** Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me. **27** "Now my soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, 'Father, save me from this hour'? But this is the very reason I came! **28** Father, bring glory to your name." Then a voice spoke from heaven, saying, "I have already brought glory to my name, and I will do so again." **29** When the crowd heard the voice, some thought it was thunder, while others declared an angel had spoken to him. **30** Then Jesus told them, "The voice was for your benefit, not mine. **31** The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. **32** And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." **33** He said this to indicate how he was going to die. **34** The crowd responded, "We understood from Scripture^[h] that the Messiah would live forever. How can you say the Son of Man will die?"

What does the text say about God?

What does the text say about people?

What does the text say about my relationship to God?

What has inspired me?

Other thoughts or questions

How can I apply what I have learnt?

» Those who love
their life in this
world will lose it.
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eternity. «

John 12:25

What makes a person truly great

1 Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.[a]
2 It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas,[b] son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. **3** Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. **4** So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, **5** and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around him. **6** When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" **7** Jesus replied, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will." **8** "No," Peter protested, "you will never ever wash my feet!" Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't belong to me." **9** Simon Peter exclaimed, "Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!" **10** Jesus replied, "A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet,[c] to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean, but not all of you." **11** For Jesus knew who would betray him. That is what he meant when he said, "Not all of you are clean." **12** After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, "Do you understand what I was doing? **13** You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am. **14** And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. **15** I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. **16** I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. **17** Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them."

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How can I apply what I have learnt?

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Jesus – God, as He really is

1 “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. **2** There is more than enough room in my Father’s home.[a] If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?[b] **3** When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. **4** And you know the way to where I am going.” **5** “No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?” **6** Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. **7** If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is.[c] From now on, you do know him and have seen him!” **8** Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” **9** Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don’t know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? **10** Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. **11** Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do. **12** “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. **13** You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. **14** Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

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How do I stay in Connection with Jesus?

1 “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. **3** You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. **4** Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. **5** “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. **6** Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. **7** But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! **8** When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father. **9** “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. **10** When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. **11** I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!

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Jesus prays for me

1 After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. **2** For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. **3** And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. **4** I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. **5** Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began. **6** "I have revealed you[a] to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. **7** Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, **8** for I have passed on to them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me. **9** "My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. **10** All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. **11** Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name,[b] now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. **12** During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me.[c] I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold. **13** "Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. **14** I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. **15** I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. **16** They do not belong to this world any more than I do. **17** Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. **18** Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. **19** And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth. **20** "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. **21** I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. **22** "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. **23** I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

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Ten Tips for personal Bible Reading

1. Choose a time when you will have quietness to read and ponder on a Bible passage it.
2. Start with the stories of the Bible to understand the big picture of the Bible. For example, you can choose to read the four gospels and the Acts of the Apostles. Or you can use the Bible Reading Plan "365 Stories of the Bible" to first get to know the stories of the Bible and thus the big story of the Bible.
3. Also, take time to study topics of the Bible. Use the Bible reading plan "52 Topics of the Bible" to help you do this.
4. Ask God to help you understand the Bible passage and to show you what is especially important to you personally.
5. Mark the Bible to highlight Bible passages that are particularly important to you. You can do this with colors and symbols.
6. As you read the Bible, ask yourself: What does the text say about God? What does the text say about people? What does God want to show me personally? How can I put this into practice in my life?
7. In a notebook, make notes about what you discovered in the Bible passage.
8. Take time after reading the Bible to talk to God about what you have learned.
9. Tell someone about what you discovered during the Bible reading.
10. Make Bible reading a daily habit. It is important to stick with it and read the Bible consistently, even if it is just a few minutes each day.

* You can find these materials at <https://bibelkompass.info/material>.

