



A Four-Week
STUDENT DISCIPLESHIP JOURNAL



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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

Irreplaceable: A Four-Week Student Discipleship Journal

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Starting Now

WHO IS JESUS?

For many of us, this feels like an easy question to answer. After all, we're called to spend our lives following him and becoming more like him. But do we really know *who* we're following? How can we be more like Christ if we don't even know who Christ is?

In the book of John, Jesus makes several statements about himself. We'll explore four of these statements in this study:

- I am the Way and the Truth and the Life
- I am the Bread of Life
- I am the Good Shepherd
- I am the Light of the World

Knowing who Jesus is and believing in him is the only way God changes our lives. It can be easy to substitute our own logic or the world's pleasures for the true life Jesus offers. We think we can earn salvation. We believe we can provide for and take care of ourselves. We linger in the darkness of our sins. But as we dive into Jesus' "I Am" statements, we will discover that what Jesus offers is much better: himself. Jesus is irreplaceable!

How It Works

This book has four weeks of journal pages to help you learn more about how Jesus is the only way to a relationship with God—there’s no substitute for Jesus. Each week takes you through seven days of questions to get you thinking, Bible studies to shift your perspective, and challenges to stretch you out of your comfort zone. Then, on the seventh day of the week, you’ll get a break to recharge for the next week. It’ll help you get into a rhythm of learning, growing, and putting that knowledge into action.

Throughout this journal, you’ll also find the **MARKS OF A DISCIPLE**. These are things that Christ-followers are committed to and have in common, like connecting with God through prayer, applying his Word to our lives, serving without personal agendas, managing God’s gifts, and many other things.

Remember, you’ll get out of this book what you put into it. The challenges you’ll encounter won’t always be easy—they’re designed to stretch you! Take a risk and use this journal to run hard toward God. When we make ourselves available to him, he’ll transform us and use us in ways that will blow our minds!





WEEK 1

He's Got the Answers

Intro

Have you ever followed someone to a new restaurant or through the halls to a new class at school, trusting they knew their way—but then found out they really didn't? It was probably frustrating to realize they *didn't* actually know where they were going and that you put your trust in that person to lead the way. If only you had looked up directions yourself or asked someone more reliable!

The most reliable person who has ever lived has his words written down in the Bible. Jesus doesn't keep his directions a secret! When it comes to finding your way to a perfect relationship with God, forgiveness for your sins, and living for eternity in heaven, Jesus is the only one who offers that. Confessing your sins to Jesus and believing in him as your personal Savior is the only way for God to recognize you as his child and excuse you from punishment for your rebellion against him.

Day One

THE ONE

When you walk the halls of your school to your next class or drive to a friend's house, there are many ways you *could* take to get there. You could make the trip really complicated and go out of your way, backtrack, and go in circles for a while. Or you could take the most clear, direct route.

When it comes to receiving forgiveness and a personal relationship with God, there is only one clear, direct route: Jesus. Through his death and resurrection, he offers us forgiveness and a restored relationship with God. But we have to receive the gift! We can't be forgiven and enjoy a restored relationship with God unless we accept the gift of eternal life from God through Jesus by repenting of our sin and trusting in Jesus alone to save us from eternal death—the punishment we deserve for our rebellion against God (Rom. 6:23).



**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST KNOW
THAT SALVATION COMES
FROM BELIEVING IN JESUS.**

ACTS 16:31 (ESV)

As we jump into the week, take time to reflect on these questions:

When have you gotten really lost, and how did you finally get to your destination?

What are some signs that someone is spiritually lost?

What are ways people try to get to heaven and “get right” with God?

On a scale of 1–4 (1=least, 4=most), how fully do you trust Jesus’ word that he is the only way to God? Circle one:

1 (least)

2

3

4 (most)

In your own words, how would you explain to a friend how to get to heaven?

Day Two

THE LORD'S FAITHFULNESS

If we truly believe that Jesus is the only way to God, how do we see his faithfulness in our lives? What do we have to look forward to in eternity? The Lord does not abandon his children in this life or promise us a lame eternity spent playing harps and floating on clouds. Just the opposite! He is our refuge, source of joy and wisdom, and provider of our “beautiful inheritance,” as Psalm 16:6 says. But those who do not believe Jesus is the only way to God are, sadly, unable to fully experience the Lord’s care, faithfulness, and joys in eternity.

Study the verses in **Psalm 16** carefully using the **OPA method** for Bible Study: Observation, Principles, and Application. *Helpful tip: the more effort you put into making observations, the easier the principles and application will be to see.*

Observation

Compile all the facts found in these passages. Try to make 10–15 observations about what you read.

Principles

Draw a few principles from the observations you made. What is God trying to teach you in this passage?

Application

How will you apply these principles to your life? Be specific—a good application will tell who, what, and when.

“Even when we allow our imaginations to run wild on the joys of heaven, we find that our minds are incapable of conceiving what it will be like.” – Billy Graham¹

Day Three

GOD'S TRUTH REDEEMS

Yesterday we looked at how we benefit in this life and in eternity from God's faithfulness. Since God cannot lie, as that would go against his holy and perfect character (Titus 1:2), we can believe that God's Word—the Bible—is true. We can trust that what David wrote in Psalm 16, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is absolutely true. Because it's true, we can be encouraged by this Psalm and many other passages that promise help, guidance, and hope for this life and the next for those who love God.

Let's practice looking for God's promises in Scripture:

1. *In the space on the right, write down at least three "broken" things in this life that are results of a sinful, cursed world—either in your personal life or in the world in general. (Example: "temptation to sin")*
2. *Next to each item, write down one way God promises to redeem that broken thing, either in this life or in eternity. Try to find a Bible verse to go with it. You're welcome to do a quick internet search to help you find verses! (Example: "God won't let me be tempted beyond my ability and he also provides a way of escape. I'm not doomed to give into my temptation if I am in Christ (1 Cor. 10:13).")*

BROKEN THING #1	GOD'S PROMISES TO REDEEM	BIBLE VERSE

BROKEN THING #2	GOD'S PROMISES TO REDEEM	BIBLE VERSE

BROKEN THING #3	GOD'S PROMISES TO REDEEM	BIBLE VERSE

Day Four

MOTIVATED BY LOVE

“Every act of God is motivated by His love for us. God’s love is the surety of His staying power—His love is everlasting.”

– Trillia J. Newbell²

Think of the person or people in this world you love the most. Would you give them your phone or car or other most prized possession to keep? Would you die for them? Now, think of your worst enemy or someone who really gets on your nerves. Would you give that person your most prized possession? Would you die in their place?

Jesus not only gave up his perfect home in heaven to come to earth, but he gave up his life for us. The crazy part is that God loved us when we were still sinners, enemies of his (Rom. 5:6–10)! He didn’t look at us and think, “Well, they are pretty good. I’ll reward their efforts.” Not at all! God saw the truth: we were all weak, unredeemed, enemy sinners who were spiritually dead in our sins. Thankfully, his love is so immeasurable and everlasting, that he gave up Jesus who willingly died for us so we are able to be rescued from sin and restored to a perfect relationship with God.

Reflect on the quote above and answer the following questions:

On a scale from 1–4 (1=least, 4=most), how loving do you consider yourself to be? Circle one:

1 (least)

2

3

4 (most)

Who would you be willing to die for, if anyone?

Why do you think God loves his enemies and those who we would think don't "deserve" it?

How does your love compare to God's love?

What are ways that God shows his love to his children that seem not loving at first glance?

What is a specific way you can sacrificially love someone today?

Day Five

UNBREAKABLE

If you are God's child, God is *for* you. He's not out to condemn you or make your life miserable. Yes, this life will be difficult because people—including us—will still sin, and God doesn't promise a perfect life on earth. But no matter what happens, we can remember that God gave his only Son to die in our place: the ultimate display of love. If he can do that, of course he'll keep us safe for eternity with him, otherwise Jesus' death and resurrection would've been a waste! As God's children, nothing here on earth or in eternity can separate us from his love.

Read **Romans 8:31–39** and use the **5P method** of Bible study to dig deeper into this passage. *This title, 5P method, is simply a way to help you remember this Bible study technique so you can use it to learn from other passages later.*

Purpose

Why do you think the author wrote this? Why is it important enough to be in the Bible? In a sentence or two, write what you think the overall theme or topic is.

Primary Verse

Which verse seems to contain the most important thought in the passage? Which one stands out most to you? Write it out.

Promises

Make a list of any promises you find in this passage.

Problems

If you find anything you don't understand—even if it's just a word—write it down as a question. Then ask someone for the answer or look it up yourself.

Practical Application

What do you need to change or work on so that what you have read is real in your life? Be specific—your application should tell who, what, and when.

Day Six

ONE WAY

Some doubt God's truthfulness that he is the one who gives eternal life and a restored relationship with himself. We sometimes substitute trusting in ourselves to be good enough or affirming that there are many ways to God for trusting what Jesus says in his Word in John 14:6: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus is irreplaceable!

Choose one person in your life who follows Jesus and ask them to tell you their testimony or the story of how they started trusting in Jesus. Ask them the following questions and use the space provided to record their answers:

When (specifically) did you realize that Jesus is the only way, truth, and life?

What were you like before you knew God personally, and after?

Why did or didn't you consider other religions?

How do you know you're not good enough to get to heaven on your own good works?

Afterwards, use this space to reflect on your experience and record anything that stood out to you:


“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

– Matthew 7:13–14 (ESV)

Day Seven

SABBATH

Have you ever heard of someone refer to Sunday as the Sabbath? That means it's our day of rest. So today that's your challenge. Rest! Reflect on what you've learned so far, the challenges you did, or Bible verses that stuck out to you. Spend some time praying and talking with God. Recharge your batteries and refresh your mind. Then come back tomorrow ready to go deeper.



**“And on the seventh day God
finished his work that he had done,
and he rested on the seventh day
from all his work that he had done.”**

Genesis 2:2 (ESV)