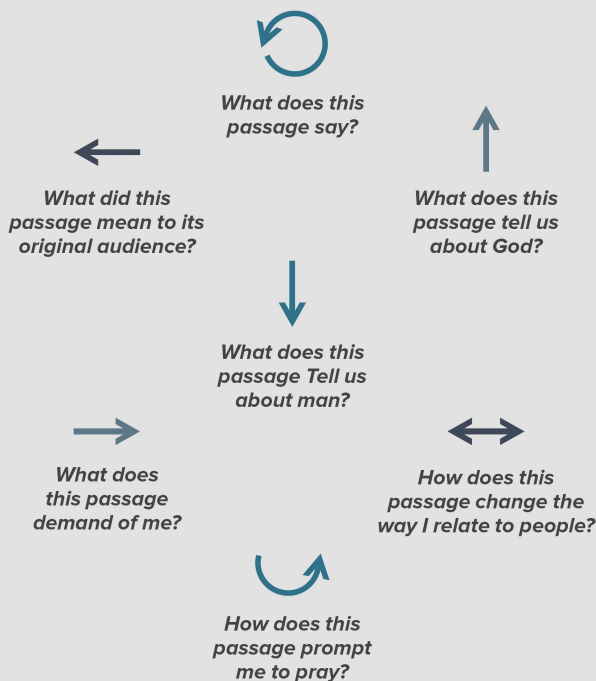


DAILY DEVOTIONS



The 7 Arrows of Bible Reading



Day One JOHN 12:44-45

At this point, Jesus has performed many miracles among the people in Israel. Recently, He had raised Lazarus from the dead, yet rather than being moved to believe, those who had witnessed Jesus' miracles were hardened in their unbelief (John 12:37). Still, Jesus' mission remained the same. He came to earth that we would be able to see the image of the invisible God (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:15), and He performed signs to help people believe the truth about who He is. The Jews claimed to know God, yet in their rejecting Jesus, they were actually rejecting God Himself. But for those who saw Jesus and believed, they were expressing belief in God Himself. To behold Jesus is to behold the glory of God.

➤ What brought you to the point of believing in Jesus?

➤ How is Jesus the image of the invisible God?

Day Two

JOHN 12:46



Darkness refers specifically to things which are false, immoral, or sinful. Light, on the other hand, refers to holiness or a knowledge of the truth. Apart from believing in Jesus, people are left with no knowledge of the truth, believing instead in all kinds of lies about both this life and eternity, and they remain lost in sin. Thankfully, Jesus came into this world to shine light into the darkness, and through His life, we can know the truth. We see the perfect picture of holiness. When we turn to Jesus in faith, He rescues us from the kingdom of darkness and allows us to join Him as part of the kingdom of light (Col. 1:13).

➤ **How do you see darkness in the world?**

➤ **How is Jesus' life a picture of light? How do you reflect these things?**

Day Three

JOHN 12:47-48

One day, every person will stand before Jesus, and He will judge us according to the ways we've lived (2 Cor. 5:10). He will separate those who have loved God from those who have rebelled, and we will be sent either to eternal punishment or eternal life (Matt. 25:46). However, this wasn't the reason Jesus came to earth 2000 years ago. He didn't come to judge, but to offer salvation through preaching the gospel and through His sacrifice on the cross. Those who receive His words and believe in Him for salvation will be spared the punishment we rightly deserve. However, for those who reject His message, Jesus will deliver this verdict: "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41).

➤ **How would you describe Jesus' purpose for His coming to earth?**

➤ **How does it make you feel to know you will stand before Jesus as judge?**

Day Four

JOHN 12:49

Jesus came to earth to accomplish the purposes the Father had for Him. In the garden, we see that He wanted to be spared the suffering His mission required (Matt. 26:39). Still, Jesus was committed to fulfilling all righteousness, completing the work to which the Father had called Him. The Father called Jesus not only to go to the cross, but He also sent Him to share a specific message. The words Jesus spoke were His proclaiming the message He was sent to deliver. Every word Jesus spoke, every claim He made, and every truth He revealed were the things the Father had called Jesus to share with us. We are called today to this same mission. God intends that all His people would share the truth of the gospel with the world. Just as Jesus was sent by the Father to proclaim the glories of God, Jesus has sent us to share with our friends and family, as well as with people around the world, the gospel message of salvation.

➤ **How did Jesus carry out His mission on earth?**

➤ **How do you continually share in Jesus' mission to proclaim the gospel?**

Day Five

JOHN 12:50



Earlier Jesus shared that one day He will come to judge the world, but that wasn't the reason for His first coming. He came to save the world. During His ministry, Jesus continually proclaimed the gospel—the message which the Father told Him to speak. He did this because this is the means to salvation. By believing the gospel—that Jesus died for our sins, and He rose from the grave defeating sin and death—we can share in His victory. Through His obeying the Father's commands, Jesus made it possible that we could have eternal life. We are now to share this same message with others, so they would share with us in Jesus' victory.

➤ **In your own words, how would you share the gospel?**

➤ **Why is the gospel necessary for salvation?**