



WHY JESUS MATTERS

Who is Jesus? *(Week 1: Apr. 29 - Apr. 4)*

Scriptures: Colossians 1:15-20, John 6:35, John 8:12, John 10:9, John 10:11, and John 14:6.

Reflection: Jesus is the Son of God, both fully God and fully man! He's the second person of the Trinity and the one who redeems us and reconciles us to God!

Journal Prompt: How can I better recognize who Jesus is and position myself to give Him glory and consistently confess my need for Him?

Prayer: Jesus, I am in awe of you and the sacrifice you have given for everyone. I confess that I have sinned against you, and I need your saving grace to save me and transform me to become more like you in deed and action! Thank you for showing me who you are, Jesus!

What happened on Easter? *(Week 2: Apr. 5 - Apr. 11)*

Scriptures: Matthew 26-28, Mark 15-16, Luke 22-24, and John 17-20.

Reflection: On Good Friday, Jesus was crucified and buried. For three days, there was complete darkness. However, on the third day Jesus rose from the grave, and there was an empty tomb! This is Easter! This act was a declaration that Jesus IS God, and He has power over death. He completely washed away our sins by being the ultimate sacrifice. As Christ followers, we can walk in forgiveness and heart transformation!

Journal Prompt: Do I live daily in the confidence that I am redeemed and restored by the death and resurrection of Christ? Do I believe by faith that my pain has a purpose because Jesus is alive?

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for the sacrifice that you have endured to wash away our sins and restore me. I pray that I would walk in the confidence of redemption and restoration, and that you would daily transform me to look more like you and proclaim the Good News of how you have saved me! Thank you for showing me the true meaning of Easter!

Why did Jesus come? *(Week 3: Apr. 12 - Apr. 18)*

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Mark 8:34-35, and John 10:10

Reflection: Jesus came to live out and declare the Good News, which we call the Gospel! The Gospel is the amazing story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Jesus has saved us. He now sits at the right hand of God and leads Christ followers to eternal life with God in heaven!

Journal Prompt: Am I walking in the belief that I already have Jesus' love and favor without having to earn it?

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for taking my place and my punishment on the cross! I pray that I would surrender to you, God, and that I would walk in the gift of grace that is extended to me, and I would walk in the belief that you love me without any earning. Help me fully grasp the reason why Jesus came.

What did Jesus say and do? (Week 4: Apr. 19 - Apr. 25)

Scriptures: 1 Peter 2:21-24, John 1:18, Luke 15:11-32, and Mark 1:30-42; 4:35-39; 5:21-24, 35-42; 10:46-52.

Reflection: Throughout Jesus' ministry, He taught and modeled the true character of God. He cared for and showed compassion to the outcasts and sinners. He performed miraculous wonders that pointed people to the Father and the restoration to come, and He delivered people from spiritual bondage.

Journal Prompt: How can I better understand Jesus' ministry and life so that I can use that as a model for how I love, teach, and interact with everyone around me?

Prayer: Lord, I pray that I would lean on your Word and your Spirit to teach me and guide me in my life, so that I can be a light to those around me! I pray that as I chase after you, Your Kingdom will grow as others are drawn to you! Help me be more like Jesus in all that I say and do against you, and I need your saving grace to save me and transform me to become more like you in deed and action! Thank you for showing me who you are, Jesus!

Who did Jesus hang out with, and why? (Week 5: Apr 26 - May 2)

Scriptures: John 1:14, John 8:2-11, John 4:1-30, John 4:30-42, and Luke 5:31-32.

Reflection: Jesus spent time with the sinners and those who were outcasts from society! He came to be with the messy and broken people, which broke down the walls of religion and legalism. He truly extended His grace to ALL people - not just those who thought they were worthy.

Journal Prompt: Do I walk with Jesus as if believing I am already fully known and fully loved, even in my brokenness and messiness?

Prayer: Lord, I pray that I would embrace your presence as a safe place, and that I would walk in the knowledge that you already fully know and fully love me, no matter what! Thank you for revealing to me who you are.

What does it mean to follow Jesus today? (Week 6: May 3 - May 9)

Scriptures: Matthew 4:18-20, John 8:30-32, Luke 10:21, Mark 9:35, Mark 10:42-45, 1 Corinthians 12:12-26, and Matthew 25:14-18.

Reflection: To follow Jesus means to believe in his life, death, and resurrection! We trust Him and allow Him to transform who we are so that we are conformed to His character and Holiness. This way, we may be a witness that points the broken to Him. We can join with Him in his mission to draw people back to Himself.

Journal Prompt: Do I have an understanding of what it means to truly follow Jesus? How can I better follow Jesus and be a disciple who points people to Jesus?

Prayer: God, I commit to following you and commit to centering my life around your Word! I ask that you would transform my heart and that I would daily be conformed to Your Holiness and character. I pray that I would walk in the confidence I have as a part of Your family, and that my life would be a testimony to the goodness of who You are! Help me to see how I can fully follow Jesus today.