

# Weekly Devotions 10th-16th August



A key way that we are going to be transformed as individuals and as a community is through consistent, meaningful engagement with God's Word. Daily Bible reading and meditating on Scripture is an ordinary

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means of grace through which God is delighted to work out His purposes in our lives. Each day is divided nicely into the following sections:

**Prepare** Just a simple moment of quiet and then a simple prayer as you set aside time to engage in God's Word.

**Read** The day's reading. Some weeks it will be different bits of a passage, some weeks it will be the same passage repeated picking out different elements.

**Write** A good way to familiarise ourselves with Scripture is to write it out as we are forced then to really concentrate.

**Learn** Hiding God's word in our hearts is a great goal so each day you'll be invited to learn just one verse to mull over during the day.

**Focus** This will be a question to help understand the passage. Try and be as thorough in answering as possible, chasing down all the possible angles.

**Reflect** This will be an extension question aimed at helping you reflect and relate to what you have read.

**Pray** There will be one thing to pray for at the end of each day, hopefully useful as a springboard to launch you in to praying through other things.

Hopefully all this will take no more than 15 minutes in total. There is not a better way we could spend this time.

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## **Monday 10th August**

Prepare: 'I come humbly before you this morning, Lord God.'

Read: Mark 8:11-13

Write: 8:12

Learn: 8:11

Focus: What is the Pharisees request and underlying motive? Why does Jesus sigh in response?

Reflect: What is the state of your heart this morning in relation to Jesus?

Pray: 'Help my fickle heart today seek after your Kingdom first and not my own.'

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## **Tuesday 11th August**

Prepare: 'I praise you that are a great God.'

Read: 1 John 2:18-21

Write: 2:21

Learn: 2:21

Focus: In amidst of many people leaving the Church what is John keen to stress (2:18 & 2:21)?

Reflect: Take time to write down the gospel 'truth' that you believe.

Pray: 'Prone to wander Lord I feel it, help bind my wandering heart to thee.'

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### **Wednesday 12th August**

Prepare: 'Lord Jesus, thank you that you are good to me.'

Read: Mark 8:14-21

Write: 8:15

Learn: 8:17

Focus: Given what they have seen previously (6:42) what is odd about the disciples reaction in 8:18?

Reflect: What truth about God could you be in danger of forgetting today as you live your life?

Pray: 'Lord, cement your promises and truth in my heart today.'

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### **Thursday 13th August**

Prepare: 'Thank you that you don't treat me as I deserve.'

Read: 1 John 2:22-23

Write: 2:23

Learn: 2:22

Focus: What error about man and about Jesus have we seen John address already in his letter (1:10)?

Reflect: Write down the truth that you 'acknowledge' about Jesus Christ.

Pray: 'Lord Jesus, thank you for that you are the perfect Saviour.'

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### **Friday 14th August**

Prepare: 'Thank you that you made a way for me to be forgiven and restored to a relationship with you.'

Read: Mark 8:22-30

Write: 8:27

Learn: 8:29

Focus: How is the blind man's half-sight (8:24) an indication of Peter's understanding of Jesus?

Reflect: Who do the people in your everyday life say Jesus is? How about you ask them today!

Pray: 'Lord Jesus, thank you that your Kingdom is not like the world's Kingdom.'

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### **Saturday 15th August**

Prepare: 'Father God, I praise you that you are the same yesterday, today and forever.'

Read: 1 John 2:24-27

Write: 2:24

Learn: 2:25

Focus: What word is used 3 times in these verses that the departed claimed? What does John say?

Reflect: Read John 15. What does it look like to abide in Jesus?

Pray: 'Lord Jesus, help me abide in you today and every day.'

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**Sunday 16th August** - Morning read - 1 John 2:18-27.

- Evening read - Mark 8:11-30.