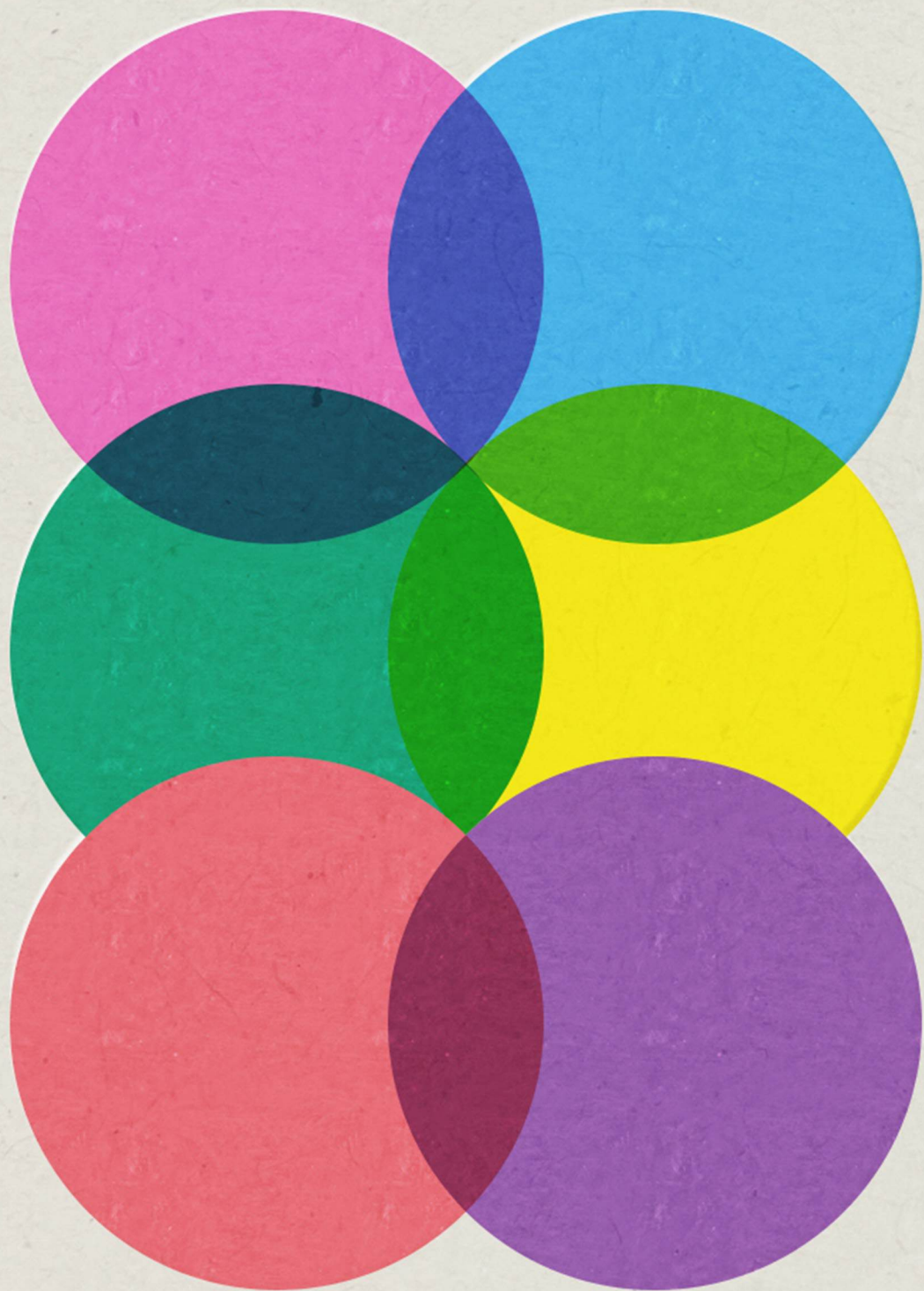


First.
Foremost.
Forever.



Jesus—The One & Only



Day 1.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” – John 1:1

Devotional:

The opening words of John’s Gospel — “In the beginning” — echo the first words of Genesis. In Genesis 1, this statement introduces the story of the old creation, yet here in John’s gospel they introduce the story of new creation. In both works of creation the agent is the Word of God. This “Word” (logos in Greek) isn’t merely a philosophical concept or idea; it is a person, Jesus Christ, the One who reveals God fully. Jesus is not merely a messenger from God; He is God. In Jesus, the invisible God is made visible.

John’s statement that “the Word was with God, and the Word was God” affirms that Jesus is distinct from the Father yet fully one with Him. Through Jesus, the eternal Word, we are invited into a relationship with the Creator. Jesus is the bridge between the eternal and the temporal, the divine and the human.

As we begin this new year, reflect on the reality that Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God. He is the foundation of all creation, the One who gives meaning and purpose to our lives. Our pursuit of Jesus is not merely a journey toward a teacher, but a pursuit of God Himself, the eternal Word who existed before time and entered the world to reveal the Father’s love. This year, let us make Jesus the centre of our lives, our one and only pursuit.

Reflection:

- Knowing that Jesus is the invisible God made visible, list all the things you know about God because you know Jesus.
- List some of the things you want to learn about God this year?
- What does it mean for you to make Jesus your “one and only” pursuit this year?

Prayer:

- Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to reveal Jesus through His Word and in doing so reveal the Father to you.
- Thank God for loving you so extravagantly that He sent Jesus to reveal Himself in His fullness.
- Ask God to help you make Jesus the centre of your life, prioritizing Him above all else this year.

Day 2.

“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.” – John 1:3

Devotional:

John 1:3 brings us to a profound truth about Jesus: He is the Creator. Everything in existence finds its origin in Him. This verse echoes a theme found in Psalm 33:6, where it says, “By the word of the Lord, the heavens were made.” Jesus, the Word, is not just part of creation; He is the very agent of creation. Every star, every tree, every breath we take has its source in Him.

The world around us is not just a random series of events or an impersonal universe. It is created, sustained, and purposeful, with Jesus as the central point. Paul echoes this truth in Romans 11:36 when he writes, “For from him and through him and for him are all things.” From the vastness of the universe to the smallest particle, all things have been created for Him and are held together by His power.

This means that Jesus is not just a distant figure in the history of the world. He is the One through whom everything we see, and experience has its meaning and purpose. Your life, your purpose, and your very existence are intimately connected to Him. In every season of life, He is at the centre of all things, whether you are in moments of joy or moments of struggle.

Reflection:

- How does knowing that everything exists for Him shape the way you think about your life and purpose?
- In what ways can you intentionally acknowledge Jesus as the Creator in your daily life? How might you develop a deeper awareness of His presence in everything you do?
- Take a moment today to reflect on the creation around you. Whether it's a beautiful sunrise, the laughter of friends, or the simple act of breathing, how can you express gratitude to Jesus for the world He has made?

Prayer:

- Thank Jesus for being the Creator of all things. Praise Him for the beauty and wonder of the world around you and acknowledge His hand in every detail.
- Ask Jesus to help you recognize that your life, along with all of creation, is meant to bring glory to Him. Pray for a deeper sense of purpose in all you do.
- Pray for the strength to trust Jesus, the Creator, in all circumstances. Whether in times of abundance or scarcity, thank Him for His sustaining power in your life.

Day 3.

“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” – John 1:4-5

Devotional:

In the opening verses of John’s Gospel, we are introduced to a beautiful and profound truth: In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The life that Jesus possesses is not a mere biological existence, but a self-existent, divine life that is the source of all true life. This life is also the light that shines into the world, illuminating the hearts of those who receive it.

John’s description of life and light is deeply connected to creation. In Genesis 1, the world was “formless and empty,” and darkness covered the surface of the deep. But God spoke, saying, “Let there be light,” and with that word, light entered the darkness and created order. Now, in the new creation, Jesus, the Word made flesh, is the agent who banishes the spiritual darkness of sin, brokenness, and death. Just as God’s word in Genesis 1 brought physical light, the Word, Jesus, brings spiritual light to a world shrouded in darkness.

The light of Christ is stronger than any darkness. Darkness and light are opposites, but they are not opposites of equal power. Darkness cannot overcome light. When we embrace the light of Jesus, we are no longer bound by the darkness of sin and death. We are given a new life, a life that is rooted in the eternal and self-existent life of the Word.

Reflection:

- What situation or circumstance might you view differently upon realizing that light always triumphs over darkness?
- In what ways have you experienced the life of Jesus transforming your heart and your world?
- How can you be a reflection of God’s light in a dark world? What steps can you take to share the light of Christ with others today?

Prayer:

- Pray for a deeper understanding of the life that is available to you in Christ.
- Ask God to shine His light into any dark areas of your life—whether it’s fear, unforgiveness, or spiritual apathy—and bring healing and renewal.
- Pray for opportunities to be a light in the darkness around you, whether to your family, friends, or in your community. Ask God to use you to share His life and light with others.

Day 4.

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.”
– John 1:6-9

Devotional:

In these verses, we are introduced to John the Baptist, a man sent from God with a singular purpose: to witness to the light. This light, which is Jesus Christ, is the true source of life, and John's mission was to testify about Him, so that all might believe. John's role in the grand narrative of God's salvation plan was never to take centre stage but to direct people to the One who would save them—the true light that enlightens every person.

John's testimony reveals the heart of the gospel: believe in Jesus, the light of the world. Jesus, the true light, came into the world to enlighten all people. He does not withhold His light from anyone; it is available to everyone. However, as John 3:19 states, some will reject the light because they love the darkness more than the light. We are given the choice, we can either come into the light or remain in darkness, it is up to us to accept the light and allow it to illuminate our lives.

In the same way, John the Baptist was a lamp burning and shining, reflecting the light of Christ. His purpose was to point to Jesus, not draw attention to himself. As followers of Christ, we are called to do the same. We are called to reflect the light of Jesus to the world around us. Like John, our lives should be a testimony that directs people to the true light of Christ.

Reflection:

- How does the light of Jesus shine from your life? Are there areas that you still need Jesus to shine in and through?
- John the Baptist came to bear witness to the light, not to be the light. How can you intentionally live in a way that brings glory to God, not yourself?
- Is there someone you know that is still walking in darkness, what can you do to help signpost the way home to Jesus.

Prayer:

- Praise God for His boundless love and gracious invitation to all. His light and life are available to everyone who chooses to walk in them.
- Pray for the courage and boldness to be a witness to the light of Christ in your life.
- Ask God to open the eyes of those around you who are still in darkness, that they may see and come to the light of Jesus.

Day 5.

“He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.” – John 1:10-11

Devotional:

In these verses, we encounter a profound and sorrowful reality: the world, though created by the Word, did not recognize, or receive Him. The Word—Jesus—was in the world from the very beginning, yet when He came to His own creation, the world failed to acknowledge Him. Even more heart-wrenching, His own people, who had been waiting for the Messiah, did not welcome Him.

This rejection is not a new concept in the story of God’s relationship with humanity. From the beginning of time, God’s revelation has been made known to the world, but too frequently, people chose to ignore it, stiffening their necks and refusing to listen (Jeremiah 7:25). The response of the world to Jesus is a reflection of the human condition: even when the truth is plainly evident, people can be blinded by their own desires, pride, and sin. Yet, despite this rejection, God’s purpose in sending Jesus was not to condemn the world, but to save it (John 3:17). The world remains the object of God’s love, and He sent His Son to offer salvation, not judgment.

Despite the widespread rejection, there is hope. Some did receive Him—a believing remnant who recognized the truth of Jesus’ identity and accepted Him as the Saviour. In the same way, today, the call to follow Jesus still stands, and those who respond in faith are welcomed into God’s family.

Reflection:

- What does it mean for you personally that God sent His Son into a world that He knew would reject Him?
- What might rejecting Jesus look like in your life, and how would it manifest?
- How can you intentionally choose to respond to Jesus in faith? What daily decisions can you make to live in alignment with that choice?

Prayer:

- Thank God for sending Jesus to the world to offer salvation, even when the world rejected Him.
- Pray for a heart that remains open to God’s revelation and ask Him to help you receive and respond to His truth.
- Ask God to help you be a faithful in following Him wherever He is leading you.

Day 6.

“But as for those who did receive him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not from blood nor from the will of flesh nor from the will of man, but from God.”

- John 1:12-13

Devotional:

In these verses, we discover the wonderful privilege of becoming part of God's family. To those who received Jesus and believed in His name, God granted the right to become His children. This is no small thing—this is the gateway to a new life, a life of blessing, belonging, and transformation.

John's Gospel highlights the theme of spiritual birth: Jesus came to give us the opportunity to experience new life, not through human effort or inheritance, but through a divine act of God. The new birth that Jesus offers is not the result of natural descent (“not from blood”), nor human will (“not from the will of flesh”), nor the decision of another person (“nor from the will of man”). It is entirely a work of God, a spiritual rebirth that comes when we place our faith in Jesus.

The key to entering God's family is receiving Jesus. This means more than just acknowledging His name—it involves believing in His true identity, trusting in His authority, and yielding our allegiance to Him. To receive Jesus is to align our lives with His character and purposes. It is to acknowledge His claims as Saviour and Lord and to respond by giving Him our hearts.

This spiritual birth, this entrance into God's family, comes with profound blessings and privileges. As children of God, we are adopted into His eternal family, and we have access to His love, His guidance, and His presence. This identity changes everything about us. It redefines who we are and what we live for. We are no longer defined by our past, our mistakes, or the world's standards. We are defined by God's love and who he has called and created us to be.

Reflection:

- Are there still ways in which you find yourself trying to earn God's pleasure or acceptance, rather than resting in His unconditional love?
- As children of God, we have an inheritance of blessing and privilege, what things are you believing your Father for this year?
- Are there areas of your life that you are yet to yield to God?

Continued on the next page.

Prayer:

- Thank God for His amazing grace and commit to resting in it. Choose to let go of striving and embrace the peace that comes from His unconditional love.
- Pray bold prayers of faith, trusting God's limitless power.
- Ask God to help you let go of your past and boldly move forward in the direction He is calling you.

Day 7.

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” — John 1:14

Devotional:

In John 1:14, we come face-to-face with one of the most profound and incredible truths in all of Christianity: The Word became flesh. The Word chose to take on human form. This is the incarnation: God, in the person of Jesus Christ, becoming fully human while remaining fully divine. This is not just an abstract theological idea but a moment in history that changed everything.

The incarnation reveals God’s heart and His desire to dwell among his people. John’s reference to the Tabernacle is significant. In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle was where God’s presence dwelt with His people as they wandered in the wilderness. Now, in the person of Jesus, God’s presence was no longer in a tent made by human hands but was embodied in Jesus Himself—the true Tabernacle. Jesus revealed the Shekinah glory, the presence of God in the flesh, who came to live among us, to reveal God’s character, and to invite us into His family.

When we contemplate the reality of God becoming human, we are reminded of how deeply God loves us. He didn’t remain distant or untouchable but chose to enter into the messiness of human life to bring us salvation. The glory of God was revealed in a life of grace and truth—a life that invites us into the fullness of God’s love.

In this passage Jesus is described as the “one and only” Son of the Father, emphasizing His unique, unparalleled position in all of creation. He is the one and only Saviour, the only true revelation of God, and the sole bridge between humanity and the Father. Jesus is not just another option or one among many; He is the definitive expression of God’s love and truth. This truth calls us to make Him our one and only pursuit. In a world filled with distractions and competing desires, Jesus, the one and only, deserves to be first in our hearts, foremost in our lives, and forever the centre of our worship. To pursue Him above all else is to live in the light of His glory, grace, and truth.

Reflection:

- How does the fact that God became human impact your relationship with Him?
- In what ways do you see the glory of God revealed through Jesus?
- How can you reflect God’s grace and truth in your life today?

Continued on the next page.

Prayer:

- Praise God for His desire to dwell with us! He is not distant or aloof, but fully committed to a personal relationship with us, drawing near in love and grace.
- Pray for a greater awareness of God's presence in your life today, and for strength to reflect His glory in your words and actions.