



# JESUS IS

reading plan

spring 2016

**Get excited!** Pastor John is getting ready to unleash the awesomeness that comes from one simple name—Jesus. Let’s discover together all that Jesus is and all that He means to us as believers. Over the next 8 weeks, you will begin to grasp the greatness of Jesus, but more importantly what He is to you.

# JESUS IS

*(fill in the blank)*



## resurrection & life

**Key Scriptures:** John 11:25, 26; Eph. 2:4-7; Phil. 3:7-11; Gal. 2:20

Jesus said in John 11:25-26, “Jesus said to her [Mary], “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” We should ask ourselves the very same question, “Do I believe this?” Do you realize that because of Jesus, though your body will die, you never will? Do you know that on the day of your death, you will ascend to be with the Lord? Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection were accomplished for you! Paul wrote in Galatians 2:20, “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Paul realized that he had been made alive to God and his inward man had experienced a new birth or resurrection from the dead. Paul believed that God loved him and that Jesus gave His life just for him. Do you know that Jesus died for YOU personally? Everything that Jesus did in His death, burial, and resurrection was for YOU and was motivated by His unending love. How sweet are the words of Amazing Grace, “I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see”!

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| mon.   | 1 Timothy 2:4-6; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 3:1-10 |
| tues.  | Matthew 28:1-15; Colossians 1:11-14; John 14:6         |
| wed.   | Mark 16:1-20; Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10  |
| thurs. | Luke 24:1-34; Romans 5:16-18; Ephesians 2:8-10         |
| fri.   | John 20:1-31; Acts 2:32-41; John 11:23-26              |

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# creator

**Key Scriptures: Hebrews 11:3; John 1:1-5**

Jesus is the Word of God made flesh. We also know from Hebrews chapter one that the worlds were framed by the Word of God. The book of Genesis tells us that God spoke the world into existence. It is amazing to think that Jesus, the very creator of all life, is so in love with His creation that He would die to redeem it. When we observe the vastness of God's creation, we will come to the very same conclusion that David did in the book of Psalms. David declared, "What is man that you are mindful of him and the son of man that you would care for and visit him. You have made him a little lower than yourself and have crowned him with glory, honor, dignity, and worth. You have given him dominion over all the works of your hands." **You are the crown of God's creation, and there is an amazing plan for your life.** Every part of creation has a divine design and purpose. What is yours? Discover it and pursue it with all your heart!

- mon. | **Hebrews 1:1-4; Psalms 8:3-9**
- tues. | **Mark 11:23-24; Proverbs 18:20-21; Hebrews 2:10-15**
- wed. | **Colossians 1:15-22; Joshua 1:8; 1 John 4:4; Romans 8:37**
- thurs. | **Isaiah 55:10-11; John 14:12-14**
- fri. | **Jeremiah 29:11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-19; Romans 8:14-16**

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# redeemer

**Key Scriptures: Galatians 3:13,14; John 10:14-18; Hebrews 9:22**

"I owed a debt I could not pay; He paid a debt he did not owe. I needed someone to wash my sins away." The debt of sin cannot be paid by the efforts of man. Being religious, attending church, receiving sacraments of the church, good works, charitable giving, or any other commendable effort of man is not enough to redeem us from the power of sin. Sin brought separation between God and man. From the moment man fell into sin, God began to work to redeem him. Those efforts culminated in the death of the Son of God upon the altar of the cross. This story illustrates our redemption. There was a young man who committed a crime worthy of death. The judge found him guilty and pronounced a sentence of death upon the young man. The judge then moves from behind the bench and takes the place of the man sentenced to die. The man guilty and worthy of death goes free, while the righteous judge dies in his place. You and I are that guilty man that now walks free, and God is the righteous judge. II Cor. 5:17 declares, "If any man be found in Christ, he becomes a new creation; old things have passed away; all things have become new." **We have been redeemed by Jesus and made right before God and are now called the sons and daughters of God.** Amazing Grace!

- mon. | **Colossians 1:11-14; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21**
- tues. | **Philippians 2:6-11; Ephesians 2:1-10; Galatians 3:26-27**
- wed. | **Romans 8:31-39; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18**
- thurs. | **2 Peter 1:2-10; John 10:9-11; John 8:31-32**
- fri. | **Hebrews 4:14-16; Hebrews 10:19-25; Hebrews 3:14-18**

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# our peace

**Key Scriptures: John 14:27; John 16:33; Romans 5:1**

Jesus said, "My peace I leave you!" Jesus said that the peace He would give us would be different from the peace the world offers. The world's peace is based upon your present circumstances and conditions. It is a moving target that can never hit. Money won't provide it; fame won't bring it; and accomplishments won't sustain it. Jesus provides a peace that passes all understanding. This peace will encompass your heart and mind. It is a peace that will cause you to remain steadfast in the midst of impossible circumstances. This peace enables us to cast our care upon the Lord, because we have become convinced that He cares for us. An abiding peace is only known when we have experienced "Peace with God." Jesus was called the "Prince of Peace." The Gospel is called, "The Gospel of Peace." The first mission of peace is to bring us into an understanding that Jesus came to give us peace with God. Because of Jesus, God is no longer holding our sins against us, and Jesus has reconciled us to the Father. He took our sin, and we have been granted His righteousness by grace, through faith. God is at peace with you today. Accept His love, forgiveness, and gift, and walk in peace today.

- mon. | John 14:23-27; Philippians 4:8-9
- tues. | Isaiah 54:11-17; Psalms 91
- wed. | 1 Peter 5:6-8; Isaiah 41:10,13
- thurs. | Romans 8:31-39; Romans 8:6; Psalms 119:165
- fri. | Isaiah 32:17-20; Psalms 29:11

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# provider

**Key Scriptures: Philippians 4:19;  
1 Timothy 6:17-19; John 15:16; John 16:23,24**

Philippians 4:19 states, "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This verse not only tells us of God's unending desire to meet the needs of man, but the balance of the account from which He draws. In the world's system we can draw from our accounts until they are depleted. Many of us have experienced the drama of an overdrawn account. His riches in glory can never be depleted or overdrawn! **God supplies our needs according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus.** Do you know that God is a liberal or open-handed giver and His hand is already opened toward you? Our efforts do not open His hand, as His love has accomplished this for us. When God gives, He does so without fault finding. Religion has defined God as a closed handed, fault finding God who can never be appeased or satisfied. As Romans 8:32 states, "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Jesus came, opened His hands, stretched out His arms, and died on a cross. Receive the love and provision of God that are yours today!

- mon. | Rom. 8:31-32; Isaiah 55:10-14; Luke 6:38; Deut. 28:1-13
- tues. | Matthew 6:19-34; Philippians 4:19; Psalms 1:1-3
- wed. | James 1:22-25; Psalms 37:23-26; Psalms 84:10-12
- thurs. | 2 Corinthians 8:9; Proverbs 3:5-10; Psalms 112
- fri. | 2 Cor. 9:6-11; John 16:23-24; Malachi 3:10-12; Prov. 10:22

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# baptizer

**Key Scriptures: Matthew 3:11; John 14:26**

John the Baptist declared, "There is one coming after me who is mightier than I, whose shoe laces I am not worthy to unfasten. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Every child of God should be filled with the Holy Spirit. The book of Acts is filled with examples of those who were gloriously filled with the Holy Spirit. We should expect to receive the same experience and result that they enjoyed when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Every believer should know the joy of the refining fire of the Holy Spirit. It is His fire and not our determination that sets us free and burns away the clutter and sin of this present age. *When we walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are positioned to pray beyond our understanding, have a capacity to be led intimately by the Lord, and to witness the resurrection of Jesus to a lost and dying world.* I wouldn't want to live one day without being filled with the Holy Spirit and fire. The same fire that took the Apostle Peter from denying Jesus to leading thousands to Christ is available to us today. Yield to the fullness of the Spirit-filled life and walk in a dimension of power that will take you beyond your limits and into God's unlimited power.

- mon. | **Luke 24:47-49; Acts 1:4-8; Acts 2:1-21**
- tues. | **Acts 10:38-48; Acts 19:1-7; 1 John 4:13-16**
- wed. | **1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 John 4:4**
- thurs. | **John 14:15-21; John 16:5-15; Galatians 4:4-7**
- fri. | **Jude 1:20; Romans 8:1-17; 2 Corinthians 3:17**

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# love

**Key Scriptures: John 13:34,35**

The Scripture tells us that God is love. Love isn't an attribute God possesses, but the very definition of His life and nature. Love always does what is in the best interest of another. Do you know that the Lordship of Jesus is the Lordship of Love? Do you know that He won't lead you anywhere love wouldn't lead you? Every command of God's Word for our lives is bathed in love. Religion will erroneously cause us to see God as a distant figure that we must try to appease; religion will cause us to think that we must complete good works to gain God's favor. God so loved the world that He gave His very own Son to die for it. The book of First John tells us that we love God because He loved us first. *Do you know that God is pursuing YOU with His amazing love?* Our love for God is a responsive love. We can all remember when we were kids having a crush on someone who didn't respond to our affection. The sting of rejection was deep and painful. Are you aware that when we don't respond to God's love that we grieve Him, and that He experiences the same emotion about you? God's love makes our relationship with Him personal and intimate. Believe, receive, and act upon His love for YOU.

- mon. | **1 John 4:7-21; John 3:16-17**
- tues. | **1 John 3:16-18; Psalms 36:7-9; Galatians 5:6**
- wed. | **Ephesians 2:4-10; Colossians 3:12-15; 1 John 5:1-5**
- thurs. | **John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13**
- fri. | **John 15:9-17; Psalms 100:4-5; 1 John 3:1-3**

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21150 Route 19, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
724.453.6200 • [lifeatvictory.com](http://lifeatvictory.com)