

A SMALL GROUP STUDY

JOHN

Volume II

Tom Holladay



drivetime
DEVOTIONS

JOHN VOLUME II: SMALL GROUP STUDY

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ABOUT DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS SMALL GROUP STUDIES

Welcome to this special Drivetime Devotions Small Group Study. This three-volume, 21-week study on John is designed so that you can enjoy Drivetime Devotions as a podcast throughout the week and then talk about it with your small group. This will allow for more time in your small group for discussion, application, and fellowship.

The purpose of Drivetime Devotions is to help you know God's Word and put it into practice. Here at Saddleback Church, we believe it's better to study small sections of God's Word each day instead of a larger section once a week. Studying the Bible is like eating—you'll be healthier if you eat small amounts each day rather than one big meal a week! All the episodes are designed to be listened to once per day, five days a week. In the event you miss a day or two, you can still stay on schedule.

In Drivetime Devotions, Pastor Tom Holladay teaches God's Word and helps you put it into practice. With over 30 million downloads, Drivetime Devotions has built a reputation for changing lives and helping people grow closer to God. There are three ways you can access this podcast study on John:

1. Click on the link at the start of each session of this study guide.
2. Download the Drivetime Devotions app to your phone or tablet. Go to "Devotions" and select "John."
3. Go to drivetimedevotions.com/devotions/john.

HELPFUL TIP

Depending on your device settings, you may need to select the **PLAY BUTTON**  or the **UNMUTE BUTTON**  on the Drivetime audio player when it is fully loaded.

This is the second of three volumes in a 21-week study on the Book of John.

VOLUME 1: John 1–7, seven-week study

VOLUME 2: John 8–14, seven-week study

VOLUME 3: John 15–21, seven-week study



HOW TO USE THIS INTERACTIVE STUDY GUIDE

This study guide is designed to be used as a downloaded file on your tablet or phone. You do not need to print it out, unless you want to. Throughout the guide, you will see areas where you can type directly into the guide. There are also convenient links that direct you to external resources including Scripture passages on [BibleGateway.com](https://www.biblegateway.com).

HELPFUL TIP

For best experience on Android platforms, please view this interactive study on Adobe Acrobat Reader.





A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN



LISTEN

Prepare yourself before each study by listening to each week's five daily podcast episodes (one per day).



CATCHING UP & LOOKING AHEAD

Open each meeting with a time for everyone to check in on each other's progress with the podcast. Accountability is a key to success in this study!



KEY VERSE

Each week you will find a key verse from the chapter you are studying. You may want to memorize this verse together as a group.



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

These are questions for group discussion. Please don't feel pressured to discuss every single question. The material in this study is meant to be your servant, not your master. Therefore there is no reason to rush through your discussions. Give everyone ample time to share their thoughts.

The questions will reference the verses from which they are taken. Many groups will want to have someone read those verses, and then you can ask the question. There is something powerful about hearing the Bible read aloud together as a group.



LIVING ON PURPOSE

This section helps you encourage each other in balancing God's five purposes of evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship. Each week, there will be a prayer, practical action, or personal assignment that focuses on one of these purposes.



PRAYING TOGETHER

At the end of each session you will find suggestions for your group prayer time. Praying together is one of the greatest privileges of small group life. Please don't take it for granted.

A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN

Get ready for God to do incredible things in your life as you begin the adventure of learning more deeply about the most exciting message in the world: the truth about God!



TELL A FRIEND

As you go through each session, the Holy Spirit may bring to mind different people in your life. You may even want to write their names down beside a point, phrase, or verse in the margins. Take the opportunity to share God's Word in a friend's life during the week.



WEEK EIGHT: John 8



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. In John 7, you learned about Jesus being the one who quenches your deepest thirst. Share some ways you were reminded of this during the past week.
2. Would you characterize the atmosphere you grew up in as more judgmental or more grace giving?



KEY VERSE

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Does Jesus' challenge help you to see some stones of judgment that you need to drop? Verses 1–11
2. Take some time to talk about how thankful you are for the light that Jesus brings into your life. Verses 12–30
3. In what ways is the truth of Jesus setting you free? Verses 31–32
4. What barriers have you faced or are you facing as you seek to trust Jesus to set you free? Verses 33–47

5. What would it mean for you to act like Jesus is God? Verses 48–59



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Evangelism

Who do you know who needs to be set free by hearing the truth that Jesus does not condemn them? Pray together that God would open the door to your planting some seeds of faith in that person's life this next week.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Take some time to pray for one another's needs. Make sure to take time to pray for anyone who has shared in the group a specific area where they are trusting Christ to set them free.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK NINE: John 9



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. Talk about whether any in the group had an open door to help someone see that Jesus loves them without condemnation this last week.
2. Take a few minutes to talk about how grateful you are for the gift of physical sight. Or, if someone in your group is blind, ask them to share with you what they can about the journey they face.



KEY VERSE

“One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!”

John 9:25



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Is there a way that you have discovered the freedom of escaping from either/or thinking in your life? Verses 1–7
2. What does it mean for you right now to “obey Jesus in the ordinary?”
3. Are there some doubts you are facing that you could be courageous enough to share with the group? Verses 8–12
4. As you read this story, did you sense any place where pride or fear might be keeping you from seeing what God says about you and wants to do in your life? Verses 13–23

WEEK NINE

5. In what specific ways can you say, “Once I was blind, but now I see.” Verses 24–34
6. How could your group pray for you to have the humility to trust God? Verses 25–41



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Worship

The song “Amazing Grace” uses the famous line from this passage “was blind but now I see.” Find a version or two for your group to listen to and maybe even to sing together.



PRAYING TOGETHER

As you pray, thank God for his amazing grace in each of your lives. Thank him for the ways that he has opened your eyes and brought his light into your life.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK TEN: John 10



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING-IN

1. Talk about how you were able to see the light of life through Christ this last week, or how you were able to help someone else see the light.
2. Do you have a “grass is greener on the other side” story or learning to share with the group?



KEY VERSE

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What has been your experience of Jesus the shepherd calling you as his sheep? Verses 1–3
2. What has been your experience of Jesus leading you as his sheep? Verses 4–13
3. How are you learning to trust Jesus’ character, power and promise? Is one of these three most significant for you right now. Verses 14–29
4. What that God is currently doing in your life is expressed by the truth that Jesus is the door? The good shepherd? The Son of God? Verses 30–33



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Discipleship

Take some time this week to dwell more deeply on the truths that Jesus is the door, the shepherd and the Son. This could be as simple as taking five minutes each day to consider these truths and what they mean for you personally. What assurance comes from these truths? What direction grows out of meditating on these truths?



PRAYING TOGETHER

Take some time to pray for one another's needs as you end your group meeting.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK ELEVEN: John 11



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. Share what God taught you this last week as you meditated on the truths of Jesus being the door, shepherd and Son.
2. Talk about some of the good things you've had to wait for longer than you wanted or expected.



KEY VERSE

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Is there an area of your life where you feel like Jesus is waiting when you need him to act? Verses 1-6
2. What are some specific ways you've discovered you can have faith in Jesus even as you wait? Verses 7-27
3. Is there someone you are weeping with or need to weep with? Verses 28-37
4. Where are you praying for something that is dead to be brought back to life? Verses 38-44

5. Where do you need to praise God for something that was dead being brought back to life? Verses 45–57



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Fellowship

Help someone to trust God for a miracle in their life by sharing with them the five truths about trusting God for a miracle in the story of the resurrection of Lazarus.

1. Know Jesus cares.
2. Do the first thing Jesus asks you to do.
3. Pray with faith, for faith.
4. Hear the powerful voice of Jesus.
5. Respond in practical ways to what Jesus has done.



PRAYING TOGETHER

If someone in your group is waiting for a miracle, take some time to focus your prayers as a group on that need.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK TWELVE: John 12



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. Did anyone in the group have an opportunity to share with someone the truths about trusting God for a miracle? Share your experience.
2. What would you say are some of the motivations, whether big or small, behind your daily actions?



KEY VERSE

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

John 12:25 (NIV84)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What happens when you are motivated by worship? Verses 1-3
2. What happens when you are motivated by selfishness, excitement or fear? Verses 4-11
3. Do you relate to the words “at first his disciples did not understand” in verse 16? Verses 12-19
4. How have you personally discovered or experienced the truth that you must lose your life to find it? Verses 20-28

5. Is there a place in your life where you've seen that fear might be keeping you from expressing your faith? Verses 29–50



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Discipleship

This week, take some time to do a brief “life motivation” exercise. On one side of a page write down some of the common actions in your week: “work, small group, worship, recreation, etc.” Then, in the middle of the page, write down what motivates you to do each of these things. The motivation might be love, faith, guilt or fear. Whatever you feel it is, write that down. In many cases you might find yourself writing down two or three motivations. Then, on the right hand side of the page, write down what you'd like to be your motivation in that area. God is an expert on the motivations of your heart, so be sure to make those areas where you would like to change a motivation a matter of prayer.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Take some time to pray for the needs of each person in the group. Be especially aware of the person who hasn't shared a need for a few weeks. Although they've been making way for one another's prayer requests, you want to be praying for them also!



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK THIRTEEN: John 13



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. Talk about anything you may have learned from the “life motivation” exercise that you did last week.
2. What do you think it would have been like to be with Jesus and his disciples in the upper room the night before he went to the cross?



KEY VERSE

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

John 13:34–35 (NIV84)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. What changes do you anticipate God could work in your heart through an in depth look at this night that Jesus spent with his disciples before facing the cross? Verse 1
2. Is there an area of your life where you can identify a need to move from a proud heart to a servant’s heart? Verses 2–5
3. Do you ever struggle with the imperfections—the “dirty feet”—of the people that God asks you to serve? Verses 6–17
4. Can you relate to the struggles of Judas or Peter? Verses 18–33; 36–38

WEEK THIRTEEN

5. What have you discovered about God's new power to live out the new commandment?
Verses 34–35



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Fellowship

What disciple of Jesus do you need to show love to this week? To wash feet is to DO SOMETHING to meet someone's need. What practical need do you feel yourself drawn to meet for a fellow believer this week?



PRAYING TOGETHER

Love one another by praying for one another's needs. As you pray, ask God to give you the wisdom to rely on his power to love rather than trying to love on just your strength.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.



WEEK FOURTEEN: John 14



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening.



CHECKING IN

1. Did you have the chance to do something practical to show love to a fellow believer this last week? Share your experience with the group, and what it may have taught you about love.
2. Are you currently in a season with a troubled heart? What would you say is your usual way of handling or dealing with your troubled heart?



KEY VERSE

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Is there something that is troubling your heart? Verses 1-3
2. What are the things that you have found build your sense of expectancy towards heaven? Verses 4-11
3. What do you need to ask for, in Jesus' name? Verses 12-15

4. Which of these five truths for facing a troubled heart is most strengthening to you right now? Verses 16–21
 - Cry to God’s Spirit.
 - Remember I’m not alone.
 - Remember I’m alive.
 - Remember I am “in Christ.”
 - Remember I am loved.
5. How could the peace of Christ make a difference in your life today? Verses 22–31



LIVING ON PURPOSE

Ministry

Who do you know who has a troubled heart?
As an encouragement, send them some of
these verses from John 14 this week.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for what is troubling the hearts of your
group members. As you pray, thank God for the
truth of his presence, power and peace that are
told by Jesus in John 14.



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and
highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you
would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK FOURTEEN

NEXT STEPS

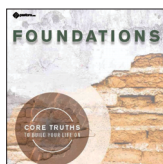
DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS: JOHN VOLUME III SMALL GROUP STUDY

Download the next seven-week study to continue your study through the book of John.



FOUNDATIONS

Written by Tom Holladay and Kay Warren, Foundations teaches 11 core truths of the Christian faith. Choose individual topics such as The Bible or Creation, or walk through the entire course using video teaching from Tom and Kay. Study guides are available at Pastors.com and all Foundations videos are available at saddleback.com/foundations. You can also look for Foundations classes taught live at a campus near you saddleback.com/foundations.



PUTTING IT TOGETHER AGAIN WHEN IT'S ALL FALLEN APART

Walk through Pastor Tom Holladay's book together with your small group for seven weeks, and follow the study guide provided with the book. This study will help teach you principles for rebuilding your life. Books are available for purchase at Pastors.com.



