



MINISTÈRE DU PASTEUR CLÉMENT SALOMON · READING PLAN #1

7 Days: Meet Jesus in the Gospels

Seven short readings. One thought. One prayer. One Person.

Josué was thirty-one years old when his aunt handed him the box. Inside were letters — seven of them, written by the father who died when Josué was two. All his life he had heard *about* that man. Everyone had a story. He was tall. He was funny. He worked hard. He loved you. But it was always somebody else's voice telling him.

He was afraid to open the first letter. It sat on his table for a week. Then one night he opened it and read one page. The next night, another. By the seventh night, something had changed in his chest, and he could not explain it to anyone. He didn't just know *about* his father anymore.

He knew his voice.

Here is why that story matters to you. Almost everyone has heard *about* Jesus. People have told you He is good, or strict, or far away, or angry, or a nice idea for weak people. But there are four books in the Bible — Matthew, Mark, Luke and John — where He is not described by someone else. He speaks. He moves. He touches people. He cries. You can hear His own voice.

This plan is seven days long. Nothing more. One short reading, one thought, one prayer. You do not need a church, a degree, or a perfect past. You need a Bible, seven quiet minutes, and an honest heart.

How to use these seven days

1. **Read the passage first.** Before you read our thought, read God's Word. It is His book, not ours.
2. **Pray one line before you begin.** Something as small as: "*Jesus, show me who You are.*" He answers that prayer.

3. **Underline one sentence a day.** Just one. Carry it with you all day.
4. **Don't rush, and don't quit.** If you miss a day, start again where you stopped. Nobody is grading you.

Why the Gospels first? Because Jesus said the whole Bible is pointing at Him: *"Search the scriptures... they are they which testify of me"* (John 5:39). Start where He is easiest to see, and the rest of the Book opens up later.

Day 1 — John 1 • Who He was before the manger

Read: John chapter 1.

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

John 1:14 (KJV)

Thought. Before Bethlehem. Before the star, before Mary, before the animals in that borrowed room — He already was. John says all things were made by Him (John 1:3). The hands that shaped the mountains became a baby's hands.

And look at the order of those last four words: **grace and truth**. Grace comes first. Whatever truth He is going to tell you about yourself this week, He tells it with grace already in the room. That is why you can keep reading without being afraid.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

John 1:12 (KJV)

Pray. *Jesus, I have heard about You from other people. This week I want to hear You. Open my eyes in these pages. Amen.*

Day 2 — Luke 15 • How God feels when you come home

Read: Luke chapter 15.

One chapter, three stories: a lost sheep, a lost coin, a lost son. Watch what the shepherd, the woman and the father all do — they go looking. Nobody in this chapter waits for the lost thing to find its own way back.

"And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."

Luke 15:20 (KJV)

Thought. Read that verse three times. *He was yet a great way off.* The son had not arrived. He had not finished his speech. He still smelled like the pigs. And the father ran.

Notice also who the father saw first — he *saw him* while he was far away, which means the old man had been watching the road. For a long time. That is the face of God that Jesus wanted us to have in our minds.

And when the son came in, heaven did not sigh. Heaven threw a party: *"joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth"* (Luke 15:7).

Pray. *Father, I have run further than I meant to. Thank You that You are still watching the road. I am coming home. Amen.*

Day 3 — Mark 4–5 • What He does with the things that frighten you

Read: Mark chapters 4 and 5.

In two short chapters Jesus faces four things that terrify people: a killing storm, a man no chains could hold, a sickness that had drained a woman for twelve years, and the death of a little girl. Watch how He handles each one — and notice that He never once looks rushed.

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."

Mark 4:39 (KJV)

Thought. The disciples asked Him a question we have all asked: *"Master, carest thou not that we perish?"* (Mark 4:38). He was in the same boat as them the whole time. He was never in danger, and neither were they — they just didn't know it yet.

Then a woman touches the edge of His clothes in a crowd and He stops everything for her (Mark 5:30-34). And when the message comes that the little girl has already died, He turns to her father and says the sentence that carries this whole day:

"Be not afraid, only believe."

Mark 5:36 (KJV)

Nothing on that list was too big for Him. And nothing was too small.

Pray. *Lord Jesus, You know the storm I am in. I am bringing You the thing I am most afraid of today. Amen.*

Day 4 — Matthew 5–7 • The life He is inviting you into

Read: Matthew chapters 5, 6 and 7.

This is the Sermon on the Mount — the most famous sermon ever preached. Read it slowly, and notice where He starts.

He does not start with the strong. He starts with the empty-handed: *"Blessed are the poor in spirit"* (Matthew 5:3), and with those who are grieving, and hungry for what is right. If you have ever felt you had nothing to offer God, He begins this sermon with you.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Matthew 6:33 (KJV)

Thought. Read Matthew 6:25-34 if you are worried about money, food, or tomorrow. Jesus points at birds and flowers and asks a question no one can answer: if God dresses grass, what makes you think He forgot you?

Then He ends with a picture instead of a rule — two houses, one storm, and only one difference between them:

"Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

Matthew 7:24 (KJV)

This is not a ladder to climb to reach God. It is the shape of a life lived *with* Him, from the inside out.

Pray. *Jesus, I do not want a religion of appearances. Build my life on rock. Change me from the inside. Amen.*

Day 5 — John 11 • When He is late and someone dies

Read: John chapter 11.

This is the hardest and tenderest chapter of the week. Lazarus is sick. His sisters send for Jesus. Jesus does not come. Lazarus dies. And when Jesus finally arrives, both sisters say the same aching sentence: "*Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died*" (John 11:21, 32).

If you have ever prayed and nothing seemed to happen, this chapter was written for you.

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

John 11:25-26 (KJV)

Thought. Then comes the shortest verse in the Bible, and one of the biggest:

"Jesus wept."

John 11:35 (KJV)

Stop there. He knew — He absolutely knew — that in a few minutes Lazarus would walk out of that tomb alive. He cried anyway. He did not hurry their grief along or tell them to be strong. God stood at a grave and cried with the people He loves.

Notice too what He called death before He raised him: "*Our friend Lazarus sleepeth*" (John 11:11). To Jesus, the grave is not a wall. It is a night before a morning.

Pray. *Lord, You know the name I miss. Thank You that You cry with me, and that You are the resurrection. Hold me until that morning. Amen.*

Day 6 — Luke 23 · What it cost Him

Read: Luke chapter 23.

Read this one somewhere quiet. Today you are watching the price being paid.

Listen to the first thing He says once the nails are in — before any complaint, before any defence:

"Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

Luke 23:34 (KJV)

Thought. His first word from the cross was *forgive*. Not *why*. Not *stop*. Forgive.

And then, hours later, one of the criminals dying beside Him — a guilty man, out of time, with nothing to offer, no baptism, no changed life to show, no chance to fix anything — simply asks to be remembered. Here is the answer:

"And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:43 (KJV)

If you have ever thought you had gone too far to be wanted by God, that man is your answer. He was saved in the last hour of the worst life, by asking.

Pray. *Jesus, remember me. I bring You nothing but myself, and I believe that is what You came for. Thank You for the cross. Amen.*

Day 7 — John 20–21 · He is alive, and He has a question for you

Read: John chapters 20 and 21.

An empty tomb before sunrise. A woman crying in a garden who thinks He is the gardener until He says her name — *"Mary"* (John 20:16). One word, and she knows.

Then Thomas, who refuses to believe on other people's word. Look at how patient Jesus is with him. He does not scold the doubter. He shows up and offers His hands:

"Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

John 20:29 (KJV)

Thought. That blessing has your name in it. You have not seen Him with your eyes — and He calls you blessed for coming this far anyway.

And then chapter 21, on a beach, with breakfast on a fire. Peter is there — the man who had promised loyalty and then denied Jesus three times, out loud, in public. Jesus does not ask him *why did you fail me?* He asks him something else, three times:

"Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep."

John 21:17 (KJV)

Three denials, three chances to say "I love You," and then a job to do. That is how Jesus restores people. Not with a lecture. With breakfast and a second calling.

John tells you plainly why he wrote all of it down:

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."

John 20:31 (KJV)

Pray. *Jesus, You are alive. You know everything about me and You still ask for my love. Yes — I love You. Show me what to do next. Amen.*

You finished. Now what?

Seven days ago Jesus may have been a name other people talked about. If anything in these chapters moved you, that was not an accident, and it was not just emotion. That was Him.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

Revelation 3:20 (KJV)

Three simple next steps, in order:

1. **Say yes to Him, out loud, today.** It does not have to be beautiful. *"Jesus, I believe. I'm Yours."* That is enough to begin.
2. **Keep reading.** Start the Gospel of John again tomorrow, one chapter a day. You will see things you missed.
3. **Don't walk alone.** Tell one person what you found this week — and let us study with you.

You've met Him. Would you like to know Him?

Would you like to know more about Jesus, study the Bible, or go deeper?

We would be honoured to pray with you or study with you — free, in your own language, at your own pace, by phone or in person. Bring your hardest question. Nothing you ask will shock us, and nothing you have done will make us turn you away.

 **903-748-9353** ·  **jils19802012@gmail.com**

Or leave a comment, send us a direct message, and **subscribe + follow + share** on YouTube and Facebook.

Don't miss what's next. Once Jesus has your heart, He cares about the rest of you too — your sleep, your plate, your energy, the body you have to live in. Our next study is *"Your Body, God's Temple: The Joy of Healthful Living"* — and it is joyful, not a list of rules. Subscribe now so it reaches you the day it comes out. If you wait, you will have to go looking for it. 🛎

SEND THIS TO SOMEONE WHO HAS HEARD ABOUT JESUS BUT NEVER MET HIM

Viewer Handout

7 Days: Meet Jesus in the Gospels — pocket version

Your seven days at a glance

1. **Day 1 — John 1:** Who He was before the manger. Grace comes first (John 1:14).
2. **Day 2 — Luke 15:** The Father runs while you are still far away (Luke 15:20).
3. **Day 3 — Mark 4–5:** Storm, chains, sickness, death — nothing is too big or too small (Mark 4:39; 5:36).
4. **Day 4 — Matthew 5–7:** The life He invites you into; build on rock (Matthew 6:33; 7:24).
5. **Day 5 — John 11:** He weeps with you, and He is the resurrection (John 11:25-26, 35).
6. **Day 6 — Luke 23:** "Father, forgive them" — and paradise promised to a dying thief (Luke 23:34, 43).
7. **Day 7 — John 20–21:** He is alive, He restores Peter, and He asks for your love (John 20:29; 21:17).

5 truths to remember

1. Jesus is God the Son, the Creator who came in person (John 1:1-3, 14).
2. God comes looking for you — He does not wait at a distance (Luke 15:20).
3. Nothing you fear is bigger than He is (Mark 4:39; 5:36).
4. Death, for those who trust Him, is a sleep with a morning (John 11:11, 25).
5. He receives anyone who asks — even at the last hour (Luke 23:43; John 6:37).

Memory verse

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."

John 20:31 (KJV)

Think & pray about it

- Which day this week hit me hardest — and why do I think that is?
- Have I only ever heard *about* Jesus, or have I actually spoken to Him myself?

- Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" If He asked me today, what would I honestly answer?

Presenter Bullet Sheet

How to lead this plan in one session, or over seven days

- **Open with the story** (Josué and the seven unopened letters from the father he never knew). Ask: "Who here has only ever heard *about* someone they wished they had known?" Let the silence sit.
- **Frame the goal:** this is not a course about Jesus; it is seven appointments with Him. John 5:39 — the Scriptures testify of Him.
- **Day 1 — John 1:** His divinity and His humility. Emphasise the order in "grace and truth" (v.14) and the invitation of v.12.
- **Day 2 — Luke 15:** Three lost things, three searchers. Land hard on "yet a great way off... and ran" (v.20) and the joy in heaven (v.7). This is the character of God.
- **Day 3 — Mark 4–5:** Four fears, one Lord. Pair "Peace, be still" (4:39) with "Be not afraid, only believe" (5:36). Do *not* promise anyone a specific healing or outcome — point to His character and His presence.
- **Day 4 — Matthew 5–7:** He begins with the poor in spirit (5:3). Seek first the kingdom (6:33); the two houses (7:24-27). Grace produces the life; the life does not purchase the grace.
- **Day 5 — John 11:** The delay, the tears, the promise. "Jesus wept" (v.35) before the miracle. Death as sleep (v.11). Handle gently — someone in the room is grieving.
- **Day 6 — Luke 23:** The first word from the cross is "forgive" (v.34); the thief receives paradise by asking (v.43). This is the clearest picture of grace in the Gospels.
- **Day 7 — John 20–21:** Mary hears her name (20:16); Thomas is welcomed with his doubts (20:27-29); Peter is restored, not scolded (21:15-17). Close with John 20:31.
- **Appeal:** Invite each person to answer Jesus' question — "Do you love me?" — silently, then out loud if they are ready. Offer free Bible study and prayer. No pressure, no cost, no judgement.
- **Close:** Memory verse (John 20:31) + Revelation 3:20 + announce the next resource: *"Your Body, God's Temple: The Joy of Healthful Living."*
- **Practical:** Print the handout page for each person. Encourage everyone to bring one underlined sentence back to the next meeting — it turns listeners into readers.

10 Myths vs. Facts

Myth	Fact (with Bible)
1. The Bible is too hard for an ordinary person to understand.	"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Psalm 119:130). Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would "guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Fishermen and farmers were His first students.
2. You need a scholar or a priest to tell you what it means.	The Bereans were praised for checking the preacher's words themselves — they "searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). Teachers help; they do not replace your own reading.
3. Reading only a short passage a day is not enough to count.	Jesus said we live "by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4) — daily bread, not one huge meal. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet" (Psalm 119:105) lights the next step, not the whole road at once.
4. The four Gospels contradict each other, so they cannot be trusted.	They are four witnesses describing one Person from different angles, and they say so openly. Luke wrote "in order... that thou mightest know the certainty" of what he investigated (Luke 1:3-4), and John admits he left much out (John 21:25). Different details are what real witnesses give.
5. Jesus was only a good teacher or a prophet.	"In the beginning was the Word... and the Word was God" (John 1:1); "all things were created by him" (Colossians 1:16). Thomas called Him "My Lord and my God" and Jesus accepted it (John 20:28).
6. God is angry and hard to approach.	Jesus painted God as a father who runs to a returning son while he is "yet a great way off" (Luke 15:20), and said "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16).
7. I have done too much wrong for Jesus to accept me.	"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). A condemned criminal was promised paradise in his final hours simply for asking (Luke 23:42-43); Paul called himself the chief of sinners and was saved (1 Timothy 1:15).

8. Bible reading is for emergencies — when trouble comes.	Jesus went to the Scriptures as a habit: "as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read" (Luke 4:16). The Bereans searched "daily" (Acts 17:11), and Joshua was told to meditate on it "day and night" (Joshua 1:8).
9. Nothing really happens when I read — they are just old words.	"The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword" (Hebrews 4:12). Two travellers who heard Jesus explain Scripture said, "Did not our heart burn within us... while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32).
10. I have to clean up my life before I can open the Bible or pray.	"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28) — He invites you as you are. Salvation is "by grace... through faith... not of works" (Ephesians 2:8-9), and He is the one knocking at the door (Revelation 3:20).

Where this comes from (Sources)

This reading plan is built on the Bible and reflects the published beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Verify everything for yourself:

- The Bible — the seven daily readings: John 1; Luke 15; Mark 4–5; Matthew 5–7; John 11; Luke 23; John 20–21 (King James Version, public domain).
- The Bible — other passages quoted: Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:105, 130; Matthew 4:4; 5:3; 6:25-34; 7:24-27; 11:28; Mark 4:38; 5:30-34; Luke 1:3-4; 4:16; 15:7; 24:32; John 1:1-3, 12; 5:39; 6:37; 11:11, 21, 32; 16:13; 20:16, 28-29; 21:15-17, 25; Acts 17:11; Ephesians 2:8-9; Colossians 1:16; 1 Timothy 1:15; Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 3:20 (KJV, public domain).
- Seventh-day Adventist fundamental belief n°1, "The Holy Scriptures", and n°4, "The Son": <https://adventist.org/beliefs>
- 28 Fundamental Beliefs (2020 edition, PDF): <https://adventist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/ADV-28Beliefs2020.pdf>
- General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: <https://gc.adventist.org/>
- Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages* and *Steps to Christ* (public domain) — on knowing Christ through His own words: <https://whiteestate.org/> / <https://m.egwwritings.org/>

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