**Live on Your Own**

**Day 1: For God So Loved**

Review the video for this session.



**Engage**

Read [John 3:1–21](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jn3.1-21).

**Consider**

A lot of people have ideas about what Jesus is like. Many Christians, and even unbelievers, post those ideas on social media, preach them to those who will listen, and share them in conversation. However, the best way to get to know someone is to interact with them personally. Look at what Nicodemus learned about Jesus in one conversation with Him. Jesus explained not only His mission but also helped everyone who reads about their conversation understand His love for us.

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| **QUESTION**  Based on what Jesus said in these verses, what do you think is God’s greatest reason for saving the world? |

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| **QUESTION**  How could understanding that God truly loves someone change their life? How did or can it change yours? |

**Reflect**

There are many reasons why people misunderstand Jesus or even misrepresent Him. Sometimes it’s because they heard bad teaching, other times it’s because they had painful experiences, or it can even be because they simply don’t know better.

It’s possible all of us have some inaccurate ideas about Jesus. We’re all on a journey of learning from and about Him. That is why continually seeking to know Jesus better is a lifelong goal. The challenge for us is to continue to pursue Him. One way we do this is by approaching Him for answers, just as Nicodemus did.

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| **QUESTION**  Do you tend to go to Jesus when you have questions about life? Why or why not? |

**Activate**

Call or text your devotion partner to share your questions or thoughts about today’s devotion.

**Pray**

Jesus, thank You for loving us so deeply that You made the greatest sacrifice. Help me to always listen to You so that all my ideas about You are accurate. Help me to show the world Your love and represent You well to my friends and family. Amen.

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**Day 2: If You Love Me**

**Engage**

Read [1 John 5:1–5](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.1Jn5.1-5).

**Consider**

A lot of people will sit and listen to instructions. They’ll hear their coach shout directions, their boss give an order, or their parents tell them what needs to be done. But the ones who thrive in life have learned a valuable lesson along the way. It doesn’t matter how much you listen if you don’t follow through with what you’ve heard.

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| **QUESTION**  How can you tell if someone truly loves God? |

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| **QUESTION**  How can keeping God’s commands show our love for Him? |

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| **QUESTION**  Do you agree with John (the author of the verses you read) when he said God’s commandments are not burdensome? Why or why not? |

**Reflect**

None of us are perfect. We all have moments, even days when we make poor decisions or don’t precisely line up our life with God’s commands. This isn’t about being perfect. It’s about making the daily decision to line up our life with God’s ways, His plans, and His commands.

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| **QUESTION**  What are some ways you have grown in your pursuit of God because you obeyed His commands? |

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| **QUESTION**  Are there any areas of your life where you work at obeying God’s commands better? If so, what are they? |

**Activate**

Call or text your devotion partner to share your questions or thoughts about today’s devotion.

**Pray**

Jesus, I love You, and I want to obey Your commandments. I want to honor Your standard for living. I know You want what’s best for me, so today, I choose to follow Your commands. I don’t want to just know them in my mind. I want to live them consistently. Please help me do this through the help of the Holy Spirit. Also, please help my friends to obey Your commands. Give them the strength to also be faithful to You. Amen.

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**Day 3: Being Rich Isn’t Everything**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 19:16–30](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt19.16-30).

**Consider**

This rich man started out asking Jesus questions about the afterlife. He quickly found out that following Jesus involved something more. We should be willing to allow Him to challenge our thoughts, our comforts, and our desires. This man wanted eternal life, but he wasn’t sure he wanted Jesus to change his life.

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| **QUESTION**  Why do you think the young man came to Jesus with this question? |

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| **QUESTION**  How did the young man walk away from Jesus? Why do you think he responded this way? |

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| **QUESTION**  What do you think Jesus meant when He said it’s difficult for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven? |

**Reflect**

It’s important to understand that this story is not just about money and wealth. It’s about the condition of our heart. Jesus wants us to hold tightly to Him and hold loosely to everything else. Having anything we’re unwilling to surrender makes it difficult to follow Jesus well. But if you’re willing to listen and obey what Jesus is saying, the benefits are incredible.

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| **QUESTION**  What did Jesus say would happen for those who are willing to give up things for Him? |

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| **QUESTION**  How might giving up things Jesus asks of us show how much we’re pursuing Him? |

**Activate**

Call or text your devotion partner to share your questions or thoughts about today’s devotion.

**Pray**

Jesus, You are my Lord and Master. I never want to hold onto anything tighter than I hold onto You. I never want to value anything or anyone as much as I value You. I never want to be at risk of walking away, like the rich young man, because I love something or someone else too much. Show me what to do, and I will do it. I also ask that You help my friends to love You more than they love anything in this world. Amen.

**Live on Your Own**

**Day 4: The Rest of the Story**

**Engage**

Read [John 7:40–53](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jn7.40-53).

**Consider**

When Nicodemus finished his late-night conversation with Jesus, we’re left not knowing what else happened between them. Did Nicodemus become one of Jesus’ followers, or did he walk away unchanged? With a little digging further in the Book of John, we discover that Nicodemus was likely devoted to Jesus. This passage is one of our hints at that. How sad that the religious leaders challenging Nicodemus told him to search the Scriptures to find truth. Sadly, they didn’t see truth for themselves.

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| **QUESTION**  Why do you think Nicodemus spoke up to the chief priests and Pharisees? |

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| **QUESTION**  How do you think Nicodemus felt before he challenged his peers? |

**Reflect**

We don’t know what Nicodemus said to Jesus at the end of their conversation in [John 3](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jn3). We don’t know if he verbally committed to Jesus that night, but we do know through his actions later in the Book of John that he probably became a follower of Jesus. It’s important to tell people you are a Christian. But it’s more important to show your commitment by your actions.

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| **QUESTION**  What actions in your daily life show that you’re a follower of Jesus? |

**Activate**

Call or text your devotion partner to share your questions or thoughts about today’s devotion.

**Pray**

Jesus, I want my commitment to You to be more than just words. I want my actions to reveal to others that I belong to You. Help me to live in such a way that others have no doubt that I follow You. Amen.

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**Day 5: Well, Well, Well**

**Engage**

Read [John 4:4–30](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jn4.4-30).

**Consider**

Today is a long reading, but listening to Jesus to discover His truths is not a matter of convenience. At times it requires a little extra effort. In today’s story, Jesus had a conversation with a Samaritan woman at a well. She was not the type of person society said He should be talking with. In their conversation, we can learn some great truths about Jesus.

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| **QUESTION**  What do we learn about Jesus from the fact that He was willing to have a conversation with this woman even though she wasn’t seeking Him out? |

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| **QUESTION**  What was this woman like prior to meeting Jesus? How did her life change after her encounter with Him? |

**Reflect**

This woman’s life was dramatically changed because she had an encounter with Jesus, was willing to ask Him questions, and listened to Him. Not only was her life changed, but her entire community was impacted by this encounter at the well. She went and told everyone what Jesus had said to her.

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| **QUESTION**  What’s been the biggest change in your life since meeting Jesus? |

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| **QUESTION**  How do you think other people have been impacted by the change Jesus has made in your life? |

**Activate**

Call or text your devotion partner to share your questions or thoughts about today’s devotion.

**Pray**

Jesus, You always have something important to teach me. One of the most important things I can learn from You is to not be intimidated when I reach out to others. Use me to make a difference in the lives of others just as You have done for me. Amen.