

WORKOUT

JOHN 18:28-19:16

Believe
and
LIVE
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



Read all of John chapters 18–19, focusing on 18:28–19:16.

Ponder Jesus's kingdom that is not of this world.

- What is Jesus's kingdom? (See verses like Matthew 3:2; Luke 1:32–33; 17:20–21; Daniel 2:44–45; 7:13–14; Luke 1:6–7; Isaiah 9:7; Revelation 11:15)
- What does it mean for Jesus's kingdom to be not of this world?
- If Jesus's kingdom is not of this world, why does Jesus say that He has come into the world? (18:37)
 - What is the truth that Jesus has borne witness to?
- Jesus says, "Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice" (18:37). How does this claim inform what it means for us to believe in Jesus?
 - What does it mean to be "of the truth"? How do we know if we are of the truth? (See verses like John 8:31–47; 10:3–8; 14:6; 1 John 2:21)

Meditate on the authority of Jesus: no one takes His life from Him; He lays it down of His own accord.

- Read John 5:18–29, 10:14–18, 17:1–3, 19:11, and Romans 13:1–2.
- How does remembering the complete authority of God change how you read the crucifixion narrative?



Pray Holistically

Pray in response to God's authority.

- Father, your authority is supreme. You are God; there is nothing more powerful than you. Everything that has life finds its origin in you. Everything that we have ultimately comes from you. Every authority and power is given from you.

Pray Personally

Read John 19:15 and pray in confession of your own sin and idolatry.

- It is our pride that would lead us to think we would have responded differently from the Jews. The reality is, you would have joined the crowd in crying, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Recognize your conceit and confess it to the Lord. Acknowledge the ways you approach Jesus with entitlement as though he exists to serve your selfish ambitions. Confess the inclination of your heart to the broken worship of idolatry and your unwillingness to submit to the rule and reign of Jesus in your life.



Jesus died for our sins. This week, practice confession of your sin, both in your prayers and in your conversations with other brothers and sisters in Christ.

- Confess your sins to the Lord in prayer, to anyone who was hurt or affected by your sin, and to someone who can hold you accountable and help you walk in holiness.
- Be specific in your confession. Name the specific sinful attitudes and actions. Do not try to justify, soften, or minimize the wrongs. Acknowledge the ways your actions have hurt or affected others.
- Ask for forgiveness, and accept the consequences for your sins.
- Make a plan for change. How will you respond to this temptation next time? What safeguards can you put in place to help you flee temptation?

In addition, consider how you rightly respond to others if they confess sin to you.

- If they have sinned against you, forgive them.
 - We are called to forgive one another, as Christ has forgiven us (Colossians 3:13).
 - Remember the debt you have been forgiven against the Lord (Matthew 18:21–35).
- If they are asking for help and accountability:
 - Fight the temptation to excuse them by saying things like, "I'm sure you meant well," or laughing it off with, "Oh, everyone struggles with that."
 - Point them back to biblical truth. In Christ, we have died and our life is hidden with Him in God (Colossians 3:3). Because we belong to Him, we can put the flesh to death (Galatians 5:24). There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1).