

JOHN

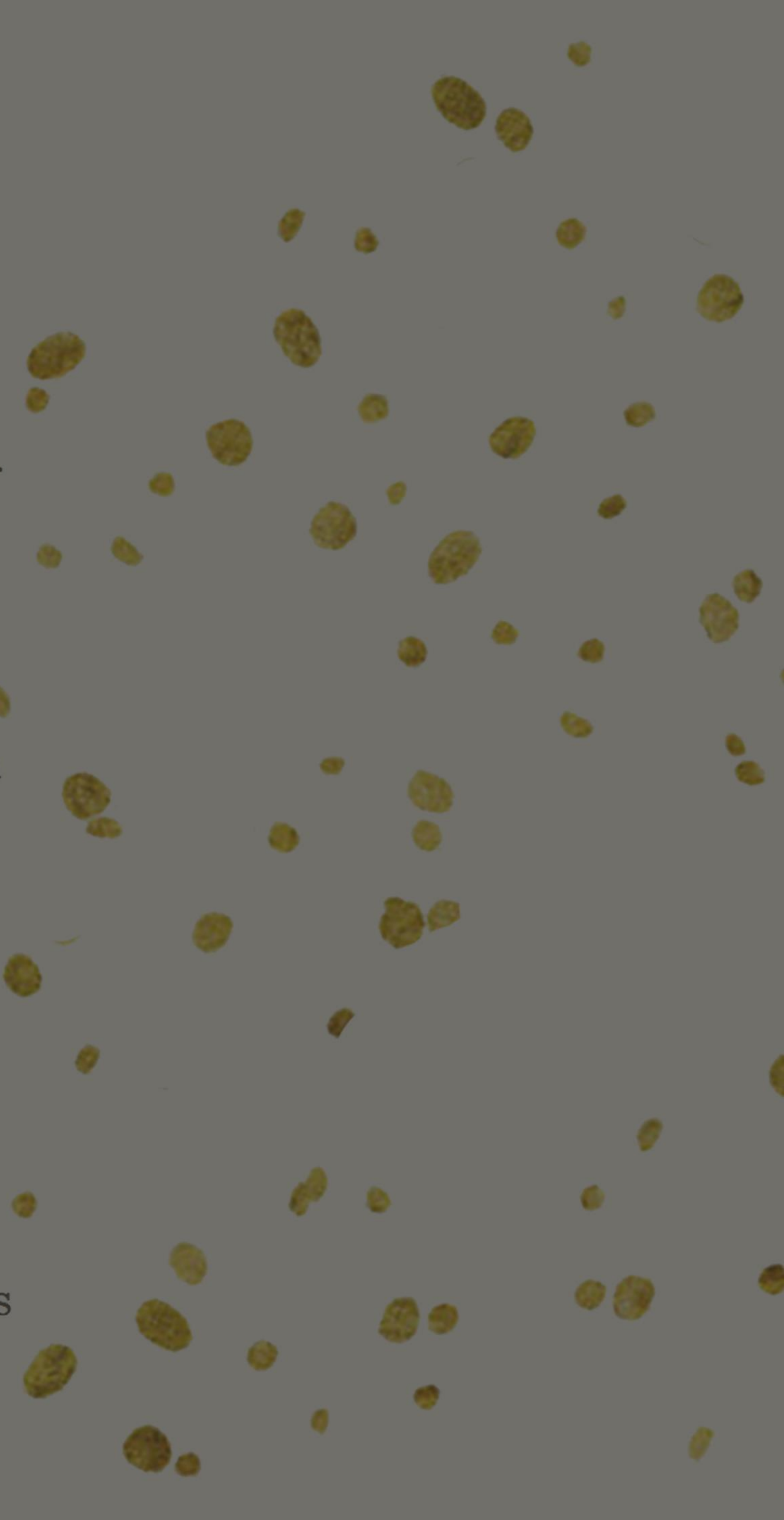
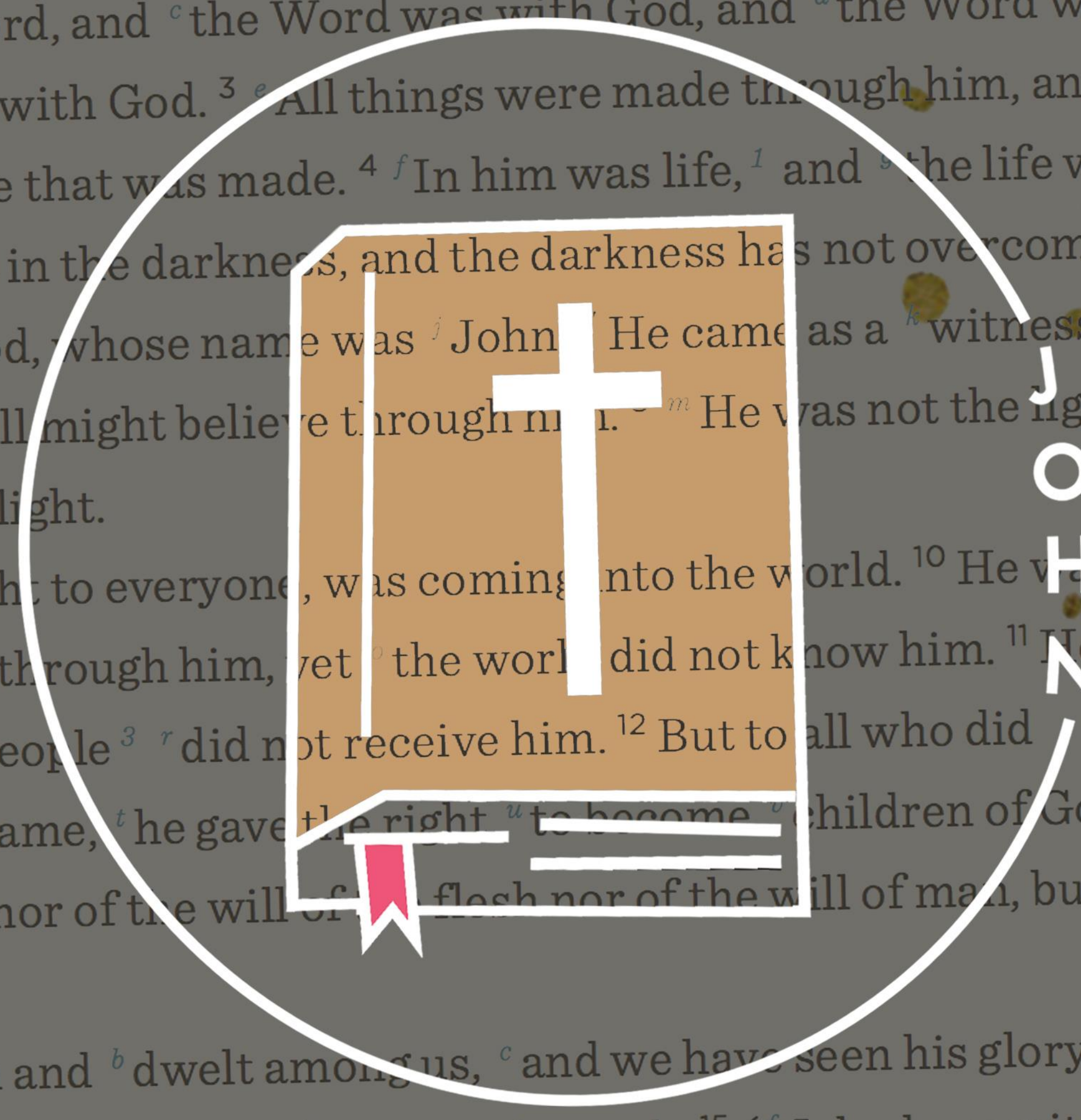
The Word Became Flesh

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PMC 2018



Living Out God's Word
in the Real World

The Word Became Flesh

1 “Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” – John 20:30-31

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Share with your neighbour:

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Believe: "pisteuo".
Matthew used the verb "pisteuo" 10 times,
Mark 10 times, Luke 9 and can you guess
how many times John used the word?

The Word Became Flesh

1 NT: “pisteuo” generally means “reliance” and “trust”.
To believe in Jesus is not just to have an intellectual assent to who He is, but to be involved in the process of trusting and growing in our reliance on Him; coming to Him and loving Him.

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Second observation: To believe in Jesus means learning to trust that what He said is true.

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Characteristics of Authentic Faith

Abide or continue in God's Word.
(John 8:31-32)

Abide in Jesus, bear fruit and pruned to bear more fruit.
(John 15:5-6): Jesus as the vine

Characteristics of Transitory (Temporal; Cannot Persevere) Faith

Refusal to abide in God's Word are not His true disciples.

Those who cannot abide in Jesus will be "cut off" (John 15:5-6)

Characteristics of Authentic Faith

Those who trust in God despite opposition, doubt, oppression or even death.
(John 9)

Those who love one another and obey the commandments of God.
(John 14:15 and John 13:35)

Characteristics of Transitory (Temporal; Cannot Persevere) Faith

Those who turn away or flee when faced with oppression or a difficult teaching to follow.
(John 6:65-66)

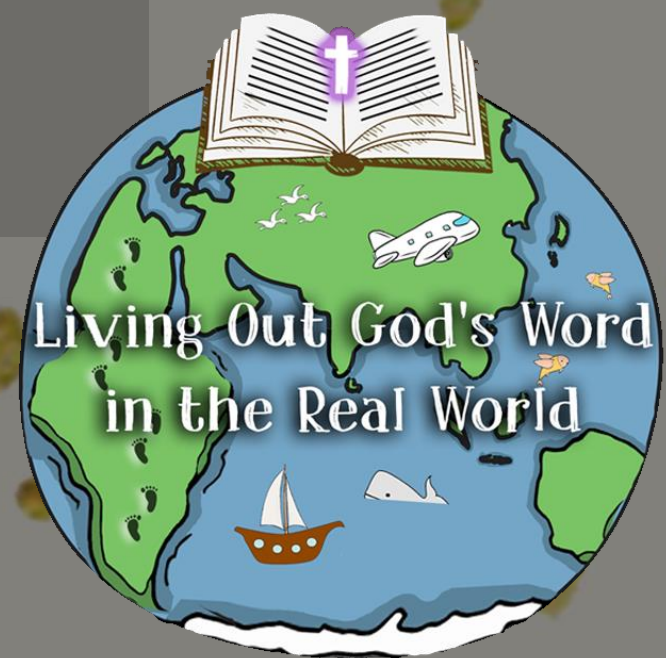
Love and obedience fade away when their own desires and expectations are not met. (John 19:15)

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1 Application: When we say we believe in Jesus, what kind of faith are we trying to cultivate?

Are we cultivating authentic faith or are we messing our lives with faith that is fleeting and transitory?

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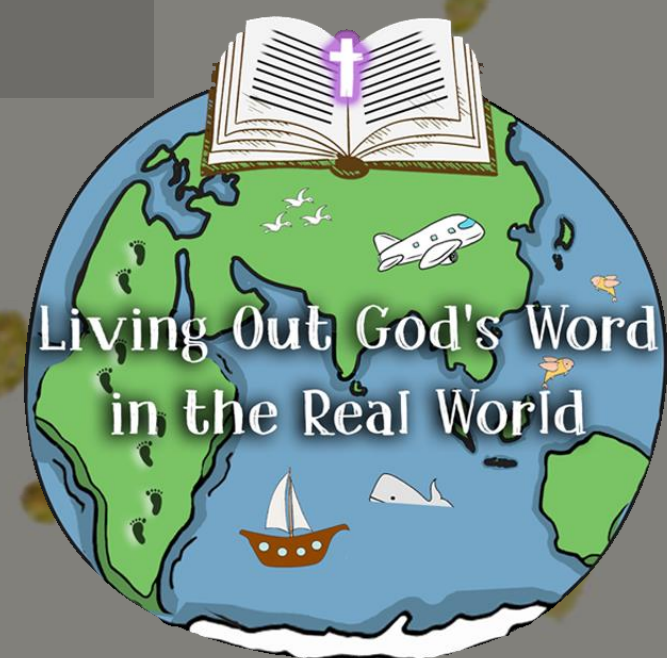
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Application: Are we even reading God's Word in a way that help us to reflect and relate? Or are we just going through the motion to fulfil a Bible Reading Plan? How are we helping one another in our struggles with God's Word?



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1 *"There are no promises of earthly riches or easy living. In fact, Jesus leads us into a suffering world to engage with it more, not less. While most people spend their lives keeping back, filling up, and clinging on, Jesus teaches us to press it, pour out, and give away. The way of Jesus is not a trouble-free existence—far from it. But Jesus does promise that, in giving ourselves away, we will truly find ourselves."* -Glen Scrivener

