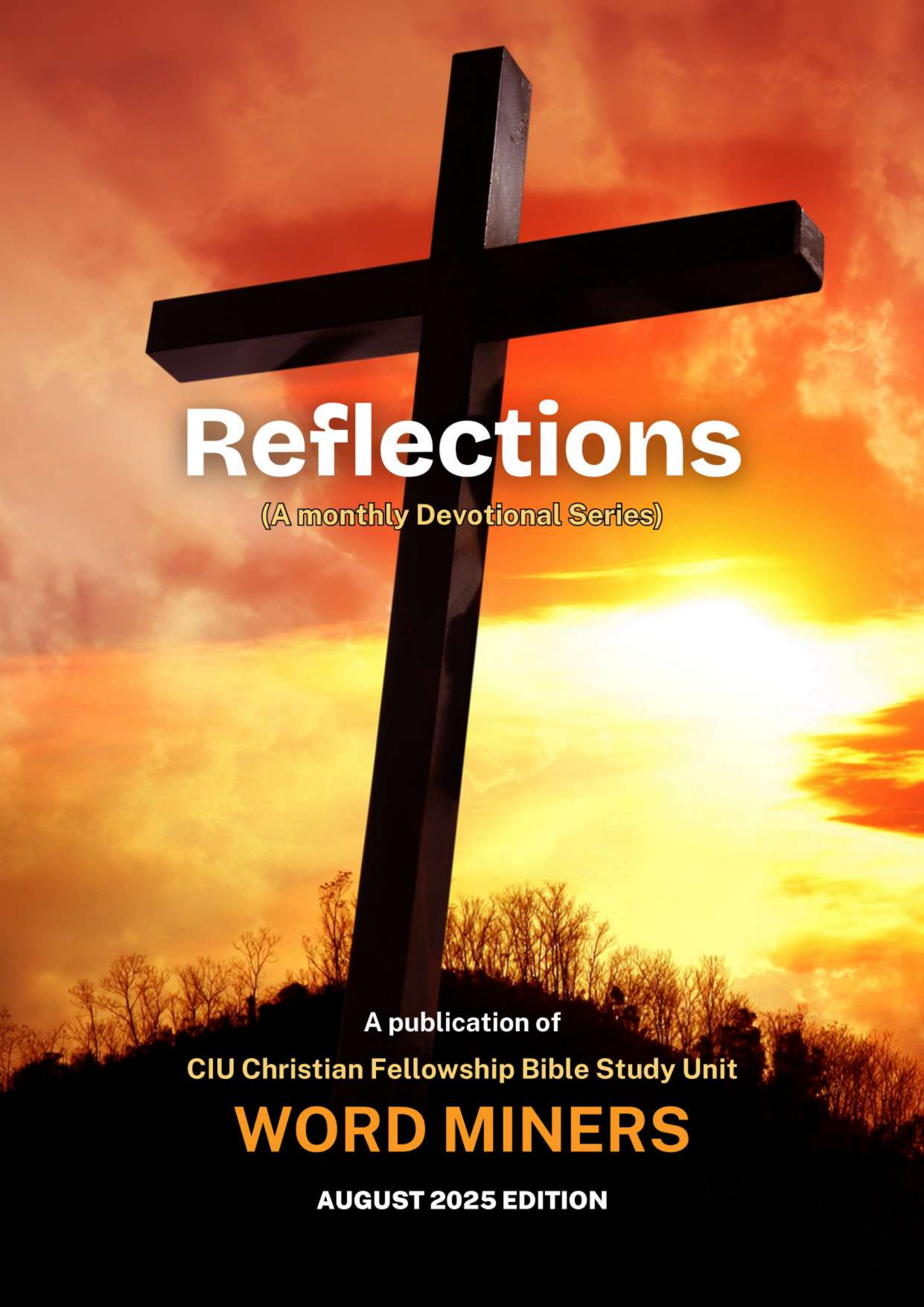




Reflections

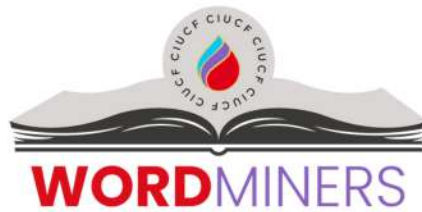
(A monthly Devotional Series)

A publication of

CIU Christian Fellowship Bible Study Unit

WORD MINERS

AUGUST 2025 EDITION



Reflections

(A monthly Devotional Series)

A publication of
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Cyprus International University Christian Fellowship (CIUCF)

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INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME FOR AUGUST 2025

By Pst. Jonathan Kalula

At the heart of the Christian faith lies not a set of rules or mere religious practices, but a Person—Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. The essence of our walk with God is knowing Him, beholding Him, and reflecting Him to the world. This is why the revelation of Jesus is central to the believer's life. Without a true revelation of Christ, our faith becomes shallow, our worship empty, and our witness ineffective.

The Scriptures testify of Him from Genesis to Revelation, unveiling God's eternal plan of redemption through His Son. He is the Image of the invisible God, the Word made flesh, the Lamb that was slain, the risen Lord, the Head of the Church, and the hope of glory in us. To see Jesus clearly is to see life as God intended, for all things were made by Him, through Him, and for Him.

As Paul declared, *"that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings..."* (Philippians 3:10), so too must our hearts burn with a deep desire to know Christ beyond head knowledge. The revelation of Jesus transforms us, anchors our faith, and empowers us to live as His witnesses in the world. Every fresh unveiling of His person leads us into deeper intimacy and greater conformity to His image.

This devotional series, **The Revelation of Jesus**, is designed to help us behold Christ in different dimensions of His person and work. Each day, as you meditate on the Word, you will see Jesus more clearly and be drawn to reflect Him more faithfully. Our prayer is that as the Holy Spirit opens the eyes of your understanding, you will not just learn about Jesus, but truly encounter Him.

May this journey cause your heart to echo the words of the Apostle Paul: *"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me"* (Galatians 2:20). May the revelation of Jesus ignite in you a passion to love Him deeply, follow Him closely, and reveal Him boldly in your world.

Jonathan Kalula
August Pastor

JESUS IN THE BEGINNING

John 1:1–3; Genesis 1:1–3; Colossians 1:15–17

AUGUST

01

Memory Verse:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:1 (NKJV)



Many believers meet Jesus first in the Gospels — as a baby in Bethlehem, a teacher on the mountainside, or a Savior on the cross. But Scripture reveals that Jesus didn't begin in the manger. He is the eternal Word, present before the foundation of the world. In John 1:1–3, we're told that Jesus (the Word) was with God in the beginning and that **all things were made through Him**. Before anything existed — time, matter, humanity — Jesus already was.

Genesis 1:1–3 introduces us to a formless, dark earth, into which God spoke light. This first recorded speech of God — "Let there be light" — was not merely physical illumination. John 1:4–5 tells us that "in Him [the Word] was life, and the life was the light of men." Jesus was not only present at creation but was also the life-giving power behind it. The same Word that brought order out of chaos in Genesis is still at work in us today.

Colossians 1:15–17 reinforces the supremacy of Christ in creation: "By Him all things were created... visible and invisible... and in Him all things hold together." Jesus was not an assistant in creation — He is the **Creator**. He is not only the image of the invisible God but also the glue that holds the universe in place. Understanding this gives weight to our worship. We are not following a mere prophet or moral teacher; we follow the very One through whom the stars and systems were formed.

This revelation is essential to anchoring our faith. When we understand that Jesus is eternal, not bound by time, we gain perspective on our temporary challenges. The One who was "in the beginning" is also present in our now. He holds our past, our present, and our future. He is not just the Author but also the Finisher (Hebrews 12:2).

To walk in the light of this truth is to submit every area of life to Christ's Lordship — our time, our ambitions, our relationships. He who was before all things deserves to be first in all things. Just as creation began when God spoke, transformation begins when we allow the Word — Jesus — to speak into every area of our lives.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does understanding Jesus as the eternal Creator change about the way you relate to Him?
2. Are there areas in your life where you need Jesus to speak light and order today?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for revealing Yourself as the eternal Word who was with God in the beginning and through whom all things were made. Help me to honor You not only as my Savior but also as my Creator. Speak light and life into every area of chaos or confusion in my heart, and let Your presence bring order and peace. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Spend a few minutes today meditating on John 1:1–5. Write down one area in your life where you need the creative and restorative power of Jesus to bring transformation. Prayerfully invite Him to speak into that area, and commit it to His Lordship.



SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN

Matthew 16:13–17; Daniel 7:13–14; Philippians 2:5–11; John 1:14

AUGUST

02

Memory Verse:

"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."

1 Timothy 2:5 (NKJV)



One of the most profound truths in the Christian faith is that Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully man — the **Son of God** and the **Son of Man**. This dual identity is not a contradiction but a mystery that lies at the heart of our salvation. In Matthew 16:16, Peter makes the bold confession: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus affirms this as a divine revelation, not something Peter arrived at by human reasoning. Knowing who Jesus truly is — both divine and human — is essential to truly following Him.

The title "**Son of God**" points to Jesus' divine nature. He shares the same essence as the Father — eternal, all-powerful, and sinless. Colossians 2:9 says, "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." As the Son of God, He had authority over nature, demons, sin, and death. His miracles, His transfiguration, and ultimately His resurrection point to His divinity. Without His divine nature, His sacrifice on the cross would not be sufficient to save humanity.

Yet Jesus also called Himself "**Son of Man**" — a title He used more than 80 times in the Gospels. This wasn't just a way of saying "I'm human." It was a direct reference to the prophetic vision in Daniel 7:13–14, where the "Son of Man" is given dominion, glory, and a kingdom. Jesus, as Son of Man, identified fully with us — experiencing hunger, weariness, temptation, grief, and even death. He wept, bled, and suffered. Hebrews 4:15 reminds us that He can sympathize with our weaknesses because He was tempted in every way, yet without sin.

The beauty of this duality is that only someone fully God and fully man could bridge the gap between a holy God and fallen humanity. Philippians 2:6–8 shows us that Jesus, though equal with God, humbled Himself to take on flesh. His humanity allowed Him to represent us; His divinity empowered Him to redeem us. He became like us so that we could become like Him.

Today, we are called not only to admire Jesus but to follow Him. As the Son of God, He is worthy of our worship and obedience. As the Son of Man, He is our perfect example and High Priest who understands our struggles. In every trial, we can approach Him with confidence — not as one who is distant, but as One who walked where we walk and now reigns forever.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways does understanding Jesus as both God and man affect how you pray and relate to Him?
2. Are you following Jesus as just a good example, or are you also submitting to Him as Lord?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I worship You as both the Son of God and the Son of Man. Thank You for stepping into my world, bearing my burdens, and making a way for my redemption. Help me to walk in awe of Your divinity and comforted by Your humanity. Let my life reflect both reverence and intimacy as I grow in knowing You. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Take time today to read Philippians 2:5–11 slowly and prayerfully. Reflect on what it cost Jesus to leave His glory and become like us. Then write down one area of your life where you need to surrender more fully to His Lordship as both God and Man.



REFLECTIONS

RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

AUGUST

03

THE WORD MADE FLESH

John 1:1–14; Philippians 2:5–8; Hebrews 2:14–17

AUGUST

04

Memory Verse:

“And the Word became 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 (NKJV)



In John 1, we are introduced to the divine mystery at the heart of the Christian faith — the eternal Word, who was with God and was God, **became flesh**. This truth is not merely theological; it is transformational. Jesus Christ, the eternal Logos, did not remain distant. He stepped into time, took on human nature, and walked among us. The invisible became visible. The untouchable became touchable. God became man.

The phrase "the Word became flesh" speaks of more than just incarnation — it speaks of **identification**. Jesus did not appear to be human; He became fully human. He experienced hunger, tiredness, pain, and even death. Hebrews 2:14–17 tells us that He shared in our humanity so that He could destroy the power of death and serve as a merciful and faithful High Priest. He knows what it is to be tempted, to suffer, and to weep. And because He lived as one of us, we can relate to Him and approach Him with confidence.

Philippians 2:5–8 reveals the humility behind this act. Though Jesus existed in the form of God, He did not cling to His divine privileges. Instead, He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant and becoming obedient even to death on a cross. His condescension was not a downgrade but a demonstration of love. God wrapped Himself in human frailty, not out of necessity, but out of compassion.

Through the incarnation, we also see the glory of God in a new way — **not just in power, but in grace and truth**. Jesus' life on earth was not only about dying for our sins but about showing us what God is truly like. Every healing, every act of compassion, every word of truth spoken in love was a glimpse of God's heart. John says, "we beheld His glory," not in the thundering voice on Sinai but in the gentle touch of the Savior.

The Word made flesh also reminds us that the divine is not disconnected from the ordinary. Jesus sanctified the everyday by stepping into it. That means our daily lives — our work, relationships, struggles, and joys — matter to God. He is not far off; He is present. And just as the Word became flesh, we too are called to embody God's truth in our world — to live lives that reflect His love in tangible, visible ways.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does the incarnation of Jesus reveal to you about how far God is willing to go to reach you?
2. How can you embody God's grace and truth in your interactions with others today?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for becoming flesh and dwelling among us. Thank You for stepping into my world to redeem me and show me the heart of the Father. Help me never to take Your humility and sacrifice for granted. May I walk closely with You, reflecting Your grace and truth in everything I do. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Spend 10–15 minutes today reflecting on John 1:14. Write down one area in your life where you need to become more like Christ — embodying His grace, truth, or humility — and take one intentional step to live that out today.



THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD

Colossians 1:15–20; Hebrews 1:1–3;
John 14:8–10; 2 Corinthians 4:4–6

AUGUST

05

Memory Verse:

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."
Colossians 1:15 (NKJV)*



One of the pillars of our faith is our worship of God. But how do we see or know the God we serve?

God is Spirit — invisible, eternal, and beyond the grasp of human eyes or imagination. Yet in His desire to be known, He gave us the ultimate revelation of Himself: Jesus Christ. In Colossians 1:15, Paul describes Jesus as “the image of the invisible God.” The Greek word for “image” (eikōn) means a visible representation — not merely a likeness, but the exact expression and manifestation of God’s nature. In other words, when we see Jesus, we see God.

This truth was emphasized by Jesus Himself in John 14:9 when He told Philip, “He who has seen Me has seen the Father.” For those who had longed to see and know God, Jesus was the answer. He didn’t just bring information about God; **He revealed God in human form** — His love, His power, His wisdom, and His righteousness. Everything Jesus said and did was in perfect alignment with the Father’s will.

Hebrews 1:3 further reinforces this by calling Jesus “the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person.” Unlike the shadowy glimpses of God that people saw in the Old Testament — like the burning bush or the cloud on Mount Sinai — Jesus gave us a clear, full revelation. He walked among us, ate with us, wept with us, and ultimately died for us, showing us not just what God looks like, but what God is like.

Understanding Jesus as the image of the invisible God reshapes how we relate to God. We are no longer guessing at His character or groping in the dark. In Jesus, we see God’s heart toward sinners, His compassion for the broken, His justice against evil, and His patience with the weak. We don’t have to invent ideas about God; we simply need to look at Jesus.

This revelation also carries a calling. As Jesus is the image of God, and we are being transformed into His likeness (2 Corinthians 3:18), we are now called to reflect His image to the world. The more we behold Jesus, the more we are changed — and the more clearly others can see God through our lives.

Reflection Questions:

1. When you think of God, do your thoughts align with who Jesus reveals Him to be?
2. In what ways can you reflect the character of Christ more clearly to those around you?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I thank You for being the visible image of the invisible God. Through You, I see the Father's heart, love, and power. Help me to know You more deeply so that I may walk in truth and reflect Your image to the world. Make my life a living expression of Your grace and glory. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Choose one of the Gospel accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) and begin reading it with fresh eyes — asking, “What does this reveal to me about God through Jesus?” Keep a journal of what you observe about God's nature through Christ, and let it shape your thoughts, prayers, and actions today.



THE POWER OF THE CROSS

1 Corinthians 1:18–25; Colossians 2:13–15;
Galatians 6:14; Romans 5:6–10

AUGUST
06

Memory Verse:

“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NKJV)



What is the symbolism of the cross? And why is it so important to us as believers?

To many in the world, the cross seems like weakness, defeat, or even foolishness. Yet, for those who truly understand it, the cross is the most powerful symbol of divine victory and love. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, Paul declares that the message of the cross is “the power of God” to those who are being saved. This power is not in the wooden beams themselves, but in the sacrificial act of Jesus Christ who died upon them.

At the cross, sin was judged, Satan was defeated, and humanity was offered a way back to God. Colossians 2:13–15 tells us that through the cross, Jesus canceled the record of debt that stood against us and disarmed principalities and powers, making a public spectacle of them. What looked like a shameful execution was actually a triumphant victory. Jesus stripped the enemy of his authority and set us free from condemnation.

The power of the cross is also seen in its ability to reconcile us to God. Romans 5:6–10 shows that while we were still sinners — weak, ungodly, and enemies of God — Christ died for us. The cross wasn’t God responding to our goodness; it was His mercy meeting us at our worst. Through it, we are justified, cleansed, and brought into a new relationship with the Father.

For the believer, the cross is not just history — it is identity. Galatians 6:14 says, “God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” The cross redefines our values, our purpose, and our allegiance. We live no longer for ourselves but for the One who died and rose again.

Ultimately, the power of the cross is not only what it accomplished on Calvary, but what it continues to produce in the lives of those who believe. It breaks chains, heals hearts, restores hope, and calls us into a life of surrender and resurrection power. It invites us to die to sin and live for Christ, daily carrying our own cross as followers of the Crucified King.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways have you personally experienced the power of the cross in your life?
2. Is there an area of your life where you need to more fully surrender to the work of the cross?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for the power of the cross. Thank You for loving me enough to bear my sins and defeat the powers of darkness on my behalf. Help me to never treat the cross as common or distant. Let its power be evident in my life every day as I walk in freedom, love, and surrender. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Take a few minutes today to write a short letter of gratitude to Jesus for what He did for you on the cross. Be specific about what His sacrifice means to you, and then spend time in worship, thanking Him personally for that victory.



BURIED WITH HIM, RAISED WITH HIM

Romans 6:3–11; Colossians 2:11–13; Galatians 2:20

AUGUST

07

Memory Verse:

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

1 Timothy 6:4 (NKJV)



The death and resurrection of Jesus are not just events to admire from a distance; they are spiritual realities we are called to share in. Paul writes in Romans 6:3–4 that when we were baptized into Christ, we were baptized into His death — and just as He was raised from the dead, we too were raised to walk in newness of life. This is not symbolic language; it speaks to a real transformation that happens when we come into union with Christ.

What does it mean that we were buried with Christ?

To be **buried with Him** means that our old life — ruled by sin, guilt, and self — is put to death. It is a deliberate surrender, a spiritual burial of who we used to be. Colossians 2:12 says we were “buried with Him in baptism,” and through faith in God’s power, we are “raised with Him.” This burial is not the end, but a doorway into resurrection life.

But resurrection is impossible without death. Many seek the power of Christ’s resurrection without embracing the death of self that precedes it. Yet, Galatians 2:20 reminds us that the Christian life is one where “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.” The cross and the grave come before the empty tomb. Dying with Christ means we no longer belong to sin, fear, or condemnation.

But it didn’t end in death and burial. **He rose, and we were raised with Him!**

Being **raised with Him** means stepping into a new identity and power. We are no longer slaves to the past. Sin’s hold is broken, and we are empowered by the Spirit to live in righteousness, joy, and purpose. Our resurrection with Christ is not only a future hope but a present reality. Every day becomes an opportunity to live out the life of Christ within us — holy, bold, and fruitful.

This truth invites us to shift from striving to surrender. You don't become holy by trying harder, but by walking in the truth that your old self is dead and Christ now lives in you. The resurrection life is a gift we receive, not a performance we achieve. We were buried with Him, and now we are raised with Him — let's live like it.

Reflection Questions:

1. What aspects of your old self do you need to leave buried in Christ today?
2. Are you living daily from the reality of resurrection, or still striving in your own strength?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for including me in Your death and resurrection. I surrender my old life and receive the new life You purchased for me. Help me to walk daily in the power of Your resurrection, free from sin and filled with purpose. Let my life reflect Your victory and grace. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Today, take time to quietly reflect on Romans 6:3–11. Write down one area where you've been living from your old nature instead of your new identity in Christ. Declare that area "buried with Christ," and consciously invite the Holy Spirit to help you walk in resurrection power.



SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND

Ephesians 1:19–23; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 3:1–4; Psalm 110:1

AUGUST

08

Memory Verse:

"[God] raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion..."

Ephesians 1:20–21a (NKJV)



After Jesus rose from the dead, His work on earth did not simply end with an empty tomb. He ascended into heaven and was **seated at the right hand of God**, a position of supreme honor, authority, and victory. This truth is not merely theological — it is deeply practical for every believer. It assures us that Christ reigns now and that our lives are anchored in His finished work.

If we are in Christ Jesus, then we have access to the power and authority He holds over sin and death.

Ephesians 1:20–23 paints a powerful picture: Jesus is not only alive, but exalted. He sits **far above** all powers, both spiritual and earthly. Every name, every throne, every force — whether seen or unseen — is beneath Him. The right hand of God is not just a place of proximity, but of **power**. From there, Jesus reigns as King, intercedes as High Priest, and governs His Church as Head.

Hebrews 1:3 adds another layer: after purging our sins, Jesus “sat down” — a posture that signifies completed work. Unlike the priests of the Old Covenant who stood daily offering sacrifices, Jesus offered Himself once for all and sat down, signifying that redemption is finished. There's nothing more to add, nothing left to prove. The throne is His, and the victory is ours in Him.

This truth has direct implications for us. Colossians 3:1–2 urges us, “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” Our perspective must shift to align with His position. We don't live from a place of defeat, fear, or striving — we live from **victory**, resting in Christ's authority.

And even more, Ephesians 2:6 tells us that **we have been seated with Christ** in the heavenly places. Spiritually, we share in His authority. This doesn't mean life will always be easy, but it does mean we fight from a place of confidence and security. Jesus is not pacing in worry or scrambling for control — He is seated, sovereign, and unshaken. So we can be, too.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does Christ's position at the right hand of God reveal to you about your present challenges?
2. Are you living from a place of rest in His finished work, or from fear and striving?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I worship You as the risen and exalted King, seated at the right hand of the Father. Thank You that Your work is finished and Your throne is secure. Help me to live with the confidence and peace that comes from knowing You reign above all. Teach me to set my mind on things above and walk in the authority You've given me. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Spend time today meditating on Ephesians 1:19–23. Then, write down one area of your life where you need to remember that Jesus is reigning — and speak a declaration of His authority over that situation.



CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY

Colossians 1:24–29; Galatians 2:20; Romans 8:9–11

AUGUST
09

Memory Verse:

*“To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**” Colossians 1:27 (NKJV)*



The phrase “Christ in you, the hope of glory” is one of the most profound and transformational truths in the New Testament. Because of how familiar we have become with the statement, we sometimes fall into the trap of missing the power of this truth and what it means for us as believers. In Colossians 1:27, Paul unveils a mystery that had been hidden for generations but is now made known to believers: **God’s plan is not just to save us from afar, but to live within us through Christ.** The indwelling presence of Jesus in the believer is the foundation of our hope, identity, and future.

Unlike the Old Covenant, where God’s presence was confined to temples and tabernacles, the New Covenant makes every believer a dwelling place for Christ. Galatians 2:20 confirms this: “It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.” This means Christianity is not about self-improvement but about divine indwelling. The life we now live is by faith in the Son of God who gave Himself for us.

This glorious truth is not a poetic metaphor. Romans 8:9–11 explains that those who belong to Christ have His Spirit living in them, and that same Spirit gives life to our mortal bodies. The presence of Christ in us means we are never alone, never powerless, and never without purpose. His life becomes the source of our strength, wisdom, and transformation.

But Paul calls it not just “Christ in you,” but **the hope of glory**. What does that mean? It means His presence in us is the guarantee of our future with Him. His Spirit is the down payment of eternal life. The glory we anticipate — eternal life, perfect transformation, and unbroken fellowship with God — is made certain because Christ already lives in us. Our hope is not wishful thinking; it is a confident expectation anchored in the presence of Jesus.

This truth should shape the way we live each day. When we recognize that Christ is in us, we begin to carry ourselves differently. We face trials with courage, resist sin with power, love others with grace, and pursue our calling with boldness. The world may see weakness, but heaven sees vessels of glory in whom Christ resides.

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you live daily with the awareness that Christ lives in you? How does this truth affect your thoughts and actions?
2. In what area of your life do you need to shift from striving to trusting Christ within you?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for the incredible mystery and gift of Your presence within me. You are not just beside me — You are in me. Help me to live each day in awareness of Your power, presence, and purpose in my life. Let my hope be rooted in Your life within me, and may Your glory be revealed through me. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Begin your day by declaring this truth out loud: “Christ lives in me — I am not alone, I am not without help, and I am not without hope.” Write it down and carry it with you today as a reminder whenever challenges arise.



REFLECTIONS

RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

AUGUST

10

REFLECTIONS

RE-IGNITE SERIES (DAY 1-5)

TEXTS:

AUGUST

11-15

BEHOLDING AND BECOMING

2 Corinthians 3:12–18; Romans 8:28–30

AUGUST

16

Memory Verse:

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV)



One of the most profound truths in Scripture is that transformation in the believer's life does not primarily come from striving harder, but from beholding Christ. Paul makes it clear in 2 Corinthians 3:18 that as we behold the glory of the Lord, the Spirit changes us into His likeness. This means that our spiritual growth is deeply connected to what — and Who — we consistently fix our eyes upon.

In our fast-paced world, there is no shortage of things clamoring for our attention. If we are not deliberate, we may spend more time beholding the distractions of the world than the beauty of Christ. Yet, what we behold shapes us — it feeds our thoughts, molds our desires, and influences our choices. If we behold fear, we become anxious; if we behold sin, we become dulled in conscience; but if we behold Christ, we are conformed to His image.

The principle of “beholding and becoming” can be seen throughout the Bible. Moses' face shone after spending time in God's presence (Exodus 34:29–35). The disciples, after walking with Jesus, were recognized as men who had “been with Him” (Acts 4:13). These examples remind us that transformation is the fruit of intimacy, not mere religious activity.

Beholding Christ is not limited to Sunday services. It happens in the quiet moments of prayer, in meditating on His Word, in worship, and in choosing to see life through His perspective. Over time, this steady gaze reorients our values, purifies our desires, and empowers us to live in a way that reflects His Kingdom.

Beholding calls our attention to a fixation on Christ over all other opinions, perspectives, and circumstances, and letting Him become the lens through which our lives are viewed and molded.

Ultimately, becoming like Christ is not a one-time event, but a lifelong journey from “glory to glory.” The Spirit takes what we behold and uses it to shape us until we mirror Christ more in our character, our speech, our attitudes, and our actions. Our call is simple yet profound: keep our eyes fixed on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2) and allow Him to make us more like Himself.

Reflection Questions:

1. What are the things you have been beholding most in your daily life, and how have they shaped you?
2. How can you create more intentional moments in your week to behold Christ’s glory?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I fix my gaze upon You today. Remove every distraction that draws my eyes away from You, and let my life reflect Your beauty and character. Transform me from the inside out as I behold Your glory. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Set aside at least 15 minutes daily this week to meditate on a Gospel passage, focusing on who Jesus is and what He has done.
- Limit your exposure to influences (media, conversations, environments) that turn your gaze away from Christ.



REFLECTIONS

RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

AUGUST

17

THE BODY OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 12:12–27; Romans 12:4–8

AUGUST
18

Memory Verse:

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."
1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV)



The term “*Body of Christ*” is one of the most powerful metaphors used in Scripture to describe the Church. It conveys both our unity in Christ and our diversity of function. Just as a human body has many parts, each with different roles, so the Church is made up of individuals with unique gifts, callings, and responsibilities. None of us stands alone — we are connected through Christ, our Head. This means that my growth, service, and faithfulness are not just personal matters; they affect the health of the whole body.

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul emphasizes that every member is essential. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you,” nor can the head say to the feet, “I have no need of you.” This tells us that in God’s design, there are no insignificant believers. Whether you serve on the pulpit or behind the scenes, your contribution matters to the overall mission of Christ’s Church. Even unseen parts of the body — like the heart or lungs — are vital for life, reminding us that unseen service is no less valuable in God’s eyes.

Being part of the Body of Christ also means that we share in both joys and sufferings. Paul writes, “*If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*” (1 Corinthians 12:26). This is a call to deep empathy, compassion, and mutual care within the Church. It is not enough to focus only on our personal walk; we are called to bear one another’s burdens, encourage one another, and stand together in faith.

Our unity, however, is not uniformity. Romans 12 reminds us that our differences in gifting are by design. The Spirit distributes gifts so that the Church can function effectively as a whole. Some are gifted to teach, others to encourage, others to give, lead, or show mercy. When each member operates faithfully in their God-given role, the Body grows stronger, healthier, and more impactful in the world. Neglecting our role or competing with others diminishes the Body’s effectiveness.

Finally, Christ Himself is the Head of the Body. This means that all our actions, decisions, and directions must flow from Him. The Body cannot function if disconnected from its Head — just as the Church cannot fulfill its mission without being led by Christ. Our unity, growth, and power all come from our ongoing connection to Him through His Word, prayer, and obedience.

Reflection Questions:

1. What role or gift has God given you in the Body of Christ, and how are you using it to serve others?
2. How can you strengthen the unity and health of your local church family this week?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for making me a part of Your Body. Help me to recognize and faithfully use the gifts You have given me. Teach me to value others, to serve with humility, and to keep my eyes fixed on You as the Head. May my life contribute to the health, unity, and mission of Your Church. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Identify one practical way you can serve or encourage someone in your church this week.
- Pray intentionally for unity and mutual love within your local church community.



THE BRIDEGROOM OF THE CHURCH

Ephesians 5:25–32; John 3:27–30; Revelation 19:6–9

AUGUST
19

Memory Verse:

*"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."
Ephesians 5:23 (KJV)*



The Bible presents one of the most intimate and profound pictures of Christ's relationship with His people through the imagery of a Bridegroom and His bride. This metaphor is not simply poetic—it is deeply theological, revealing Christ's love, commitment, and covenant with the Church. Just as in a marriage, the Bridegroom has chosen, cherished, and committed Himself to His bride, so Christ has done for His Church. The marriage covenant becomes a picture of the eternal union between Jesus and His redeemed people.

In Ephesians 5, Paul compares the love of a husband to the sacrificial love of Christ. The Church is not merely a gathering of believers; she is the beloved of Christ, purchased with His blood, and set apart for Him. This love is not passive—it is active, purifying, and sanctifying. Like a bride preparing for her wedding day, the Church is being made ready, clothed in righteousness, and beautified for her Bridegroom. Every act of obedience, worship, and service is part of this preparation.

John the Baptist recognized this truth when he described himself not as the bride but as the friend of the Bridegroom, rejoicing at the Bridegroom's voice (John 3:29). This perspective reminds us that the focus of the Church's life should always be on Christ—our Bridegroom—not on ourselves or even on His servants. He is the center of our affection, devotion, and hope. When our love for Him grows cold, it is like a bride turning away from her wedding day—tragic and out of place.

The final union of Christ and His Church will be the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6–9), a celebration of love and covenant fulfillment. There, the Bride will be presented without spot or wrinkle, clothed in the fine linen of righteousness. This future hope should shape our present living. We are not aimless wanderers; we are a bride in preparation. Our purity, unity, and devotion today are acts of love toward the One we will be united with forever.

In a world where distractions and divided affections compete for our hearts, the Bridegroom metaphor calls us back to singular devotion. Christ is not an optional part of our lives; He is our life, our joy, and our eternal reward. The Church must remain vigilant, faithful, and longing for His return. When we live with the Bridegroom in view, our priorities shift, our endurance strengthens, and our worship deepens.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does seeing Christ as the Bridegroom change your perspective on your relationship with Him?
2. In what ways can you actively prepare yourself as part of His bride in your daily walk?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for loving me with a love deeper than I can fully comprehend. You have chosen me, redeemed me, and called me Your own. Help me to live daily in purity, devotion, and readiness for Your return. Keep my heart steadfast in love for You, my Bridegroom, and let my life bring You joy and glory. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Dedicate intentional time this week to deepen your personal intimacy with Christ through worship and prayer.
- Identify and remove any habits, relationships, or distractions that draw your heart away from loving Him fully.



THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

Colossians 1:15–20; Ephesians 1:20–23

AUGUST
20

Memory Verse:

“And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence.” Colossians 1:18 (KJV)



The Bible clearly declares that Christ is the Head of the Church. This truth is not symbolic alone—it is a spiritual and practical reality that defines the identity, purpose, and function of the Church. As Head, Christ is not merely a figurehead; He is the source of life, the governing authority, and the One who directs and sustains every member of His body. Without the Head, the body cannot live, move, or fulfill its purpose. Likewise, without Christ, the Church loses direction, power, and relevance.

Being the Head means Christ is the source from which the Church derives its mission and vision. The Church does not exist to fulfill human agendas or cultural trends, but to carry out the will of its Head. In Colossians 1:18, Paul emphasizes that Christ must have “the preeminence in all things.” This means that in leadership, doctrine, worship, and service, His authority is supreme. Any church or believer who operates outside His authority is functioning independently from the Head, which leads to disconnection and decay.

As the Head, Christ is also the source of nourishment for the Church. Just as the human head sends signals, nourishment, and coordination to the body, Christ supplies the spiritual strength, wisdom, and grace we need to live as His witnesses. Through the Holy Spirit, He equips us with gifts, instructions, and power to operate effectively in our callings. This is why constant fellowship with Him through prayer, the Word, and obedience is non-negotiable for every believer.

Furthermore, Christ’s headship unites the Church. While we may be diverse in cultures, languages, and expressions of worship, we are bound together under one Head. This unity is not based on human agreement but on submission to the same Lord. When believers or assemblies lose sight of Christ’s headship, divisions, pride, and disorder creep in. But when all eyes are fixed on Him, the Church operates in harmony, reflecting the oneness He prayed for in John 17.

Lastly, recognizing Christ as Head calls for personal submission. It is not enough to acknowledge Him in theory—we must yield our decisions, ambitions, and daily lives to His Lordship. A body cannot resist its head without becoming paralyzed; likewise, we cannot resist Christ’s leading and expect to be spiritually vibrant. True discipleship begins with the confession, “Jesus is Lord,” and continues with a lifestyle that demonstrates His authority over every area of our lives.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of your life or church activities might you be operating independently from Christ’s headship?
2. How can you deepen your personal connection to the Head so that His life flows more fully through you?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the Head of the Church and the Head of my life. Forgive me for times I have acted apart from Your leading. Teach me to submit fully to Your authority, to walk in step with Your will, and to be a channel of Your life and love to others. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Identify one area of your life where you’ve been self-directed, and intentionally submit it to Christ’s leadership through prayer and obedience.



SEEING JESUS IN THE SCRIPTURES

Luke 24:13–35; John 5:39–40

AUGUST

21

Memory Verse:

“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.” **Luke 24:27 (NKJV)**



The Bible is not merely a book of moral lessons, historical accounts, or religious laws—it is, at its core, the revelation of Jesus Christ. From Genesis to Revelation, every page either points forward to His coming, reveals Him in His ministry, or looks back to His finished work on the Cross. In Luke 24, on the road to Emmaus, the risen Jesus opened the Scriptures to two discouraged disciples, showing them that the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms all spoke about Him. This encounter transformed their understanding and reignited their passion for God.

When we read the Scriptures without seeing Jesus, we risk falling into the same error as the Pharisees. Jesus told them in John 5:39–40 that they searched the Scriptures thinking that in them they had eternal life, but missed the fact that those very Scriptures testified about Him. The written Word was never meant to be an end in itself—it was designed to lead us to the Living Word. Every story, prophecy, law, and psalm whispers His name.

In Genesis, He is the Seed of the woman who crushes the serpent’s head. In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb. In Leviticus, He is our High Priest. In Numbers, He is the lifted bronze serpent bringing healing. In Deuteronomy, He is the Prophet like Moses. This pattern continues throughout the Old Testament, culminating in the Gospels, where He is revealed in flesh, and in the Epistles, where His work is explained and applied to the believer’s life.

Seeing Jesus in the Scriptures changes how we read, meditate, and apply God’s Word. The Bible stops being just a manual for right living and becomes a living encounter with the One who is Life itself. This perspective fuels love for Christ, deepens our worship, and strengthens our faith. As Paul says in 2 Corinthians 3:18, when we behold the glory of the Lord, we are transformed into His image from glory to glory.

This means our Bible study should not be driven by duty alone, but by a desire for communion with Jesus. When we open the pages of Scripture, we should ask the Holy Spirit to unveil Christ to us. Whether we are reading about the building of the tabernacle, the genealogy of kings, or the miracles of Jesus, we can train our eyes to look for how these reveal His nature, mission, and love. The more we see Him, the more our hearts will burn like the disciples on the Emmaus road.

Reflection Questions:

1. When you read the Scriptures, do you intentionally look for how they reveal Jesus, or do you focus mainly on moral lessons?
2. How would your personal Bible study change if your main goal was to encounter Jesus in every passage?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for revealing Yourself through the Scriptures. Open my eyes to see You in every page and every passage. Let my heart burn with love and passion as I behold You in the Word. May Your presence and truth transform me daily into Your likeness. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Dedicate a week of Bible study to tracing Jesus in one Old Testament book, asking the Holy Spirit for insight.
- Share one insight you discover about Jesus in Scripture with a friend, family member, or Bible study group this week.



“WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?”

Matthew 16:13–17; John 6:66–69; Romans 10:9–10

AUGUST

22

Memory Verse:

“But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ **Matthew 16:15-16 (NKJV)**



Jesus asked His disciples this piercing question at Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16:13–17), a place surrounded by idols and rival claims of power. He was not seeking public opinion but personal conviction. The same question confronts every believer today: Who is Jesus to you? Our answer cannot be outsourced to culture, family, or tradition; it must be a Spirit-birthed revelation that shapes our entire life.

Peter’s confession—“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”—was affirmed by Jesus as revelation from the Father, not human deduction (Matthew 16:17). In calling Him the Christ, Peter acknowledged Jesus as God’s anointed King and promised Messiah. In confessing Him as the Son of the living God, he declared Jesus’ unique divine identity. Similar confessions echo throughout the New Testament: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (John 6:68–69), “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28), and “Yes, Lord, I believe...” (John 11:27).

This confession is not merely doctrinal—it is transformational. Scripture teaches that salvation is tied to a true-hearted confession of who Jesus is and what He has done: “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9–10). To confess Jesus as Lord is to surrender the rule of our lives to Him—our decisions, desires, and daily practices aligning with His will (Luke 9:23).

Moreover, the ability to confess Jesus rightly is empowered by the Holy Spirit. “No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit” (1 Corinthians 12:3). This means our understanding of Christ must be continually nourished by Scripture and the Spirit’s illumination. As we behold Him in the Word, our confession grows clearer, our worship deeper, and our obedience more consistent (John 14:26; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

Finally, Jesus' question is not answered once and for all in a single moment; it is answered daily in how we live. Trials, temptations, and pressures test whether our confession is genuine. When Jesus is truly our Christ and Lord, we cling to Him in confusion, obey Him when it costs us, and bear witness to Him before others (John 6:68–69; Matthew 10:32). Our lips confess, and our lives confirm, that He alone is the Son of the living God.

Reflection Questions:

1. Do my daily choices reflect my confession that Jesus is both Christ (King) and Lord of my life?
2. Where is the Holy Spirit inviting me to deepen my revelation of who Jesus is?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I confess that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. Open my eyes by Your Spirit to know You more truly and follow You more fully. Let my words and my ways agree, and may my life bear faithful witness that You are my Lord and King. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Set aside 10–15 minutes today to slowly read Matthew 16:13–17 and John 6:66–69. Write a personal confession of who Jesus is to you right now, then choose one practical act of obedience today that aligns with that confession.



FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS

Hebrews 12:1–3; Matthew 14:28–31; Colossians 3:1–2

AUGUST

23

Memory Verse:

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." **Hebrews 12:2 (KJV)**



The Christian life is often compared to a race, not a sprint but a marathon that requires endurance, focus, and determination. In Hebrews 12:2, we are instructed to "look unto Jesus" as we run this race. This is not a casual glance but a deliberate and continuous fixing of our eyes on Him as the source, sustainer, and perfecter of our faith. When our eyes are on Jesus, our perspective changes—we see life through the lens of His finished work, His promises, and His unchanging character.

Peter's experience walking on water is a vivid illustration of this truth. As long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, he defied the natural laws of the stormy sea. But the moment he shifted his focus to the wind and waves, fear and doubt crept in, and he began to sink (Matthew 14:28–31). In the same way, when we let our gaze wander to the challenges, opinions, and distractions of the world, our faith weakens, and our courage falters.

Fixing our eyes on Jesus also means removing the things that compete for our focus. Colossians 3:1–2 urges us to "set our affection on things above, not on things on the earth." This doesn't mean ignoring our earthly responsibilities, but it means prioritizing eternal values over temporary concerns. It is a call to see our lives in light of God's Kingdom and to let His purposes guide our decisions.

Life will always present distractions—success can shift our focus to ourselves, failure can shift it to our inadequacies, and trials can shift it to our pain. But keeping our eyes on Jesus anchors us in truth. We remember that He is both the Author who began the work in us and the Finisher who will bring it to completion. His endurance through the cross shows us that no hardship is beyond His power to redeem.

To fix your eyes on Jesus daily is to train your heart to look beyond what is seen. It is to meditate on His Word, seek His presence in prayer, and allow the Holy Spirit to realign your gaze whenever it drifts. The more you behold Him, the more your faith grows, and the more you find strength to keep running the race set before you — no matter how fierce the storm or how long the road.

Reflection Questions:

1. What are the “winds and waves” in your life right now that compete for your focus?
2. What practical steps can you take each day to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I choose today to fix my eyes on You. Help me to look beyond my circumstances and see Your power, love, and faithfulness. Remove every distraction that pulls my heart away from You, and strengthen me to run this race with endurance until I see You face to face. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Spend 10 minutes each morning meditating on a verse that reveals who Jesus is.
- Identify one distraction in your life this week and take deliberate steps to limit its influence.



REFLECTIONS

RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

AUGUST

24

REVEALED THROUGH US

2 Corinthians 4:6–7, Matthew 5:14-16

AUGUST

25

Memory Verse:*“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”***2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)**

The revelation of Jesus Christ is not only something believers receive; it is also something we are called to embody and reveal to the world. God, who made His light shine in our hearts through Christ, has entrusted us with the sacred responsibility of reflecting that light in the darkness of this world. We carry within us the treasure of Christ’s presence, not to keep hidden, but to reveal Him through our lives.

Paul reminds us that we are like jars of clay—fragile and ordinary in appearance—yet within us resides the all-surpassing glory of God. This paradox demonstrates that the greatness of what is revealed is not about our strength or wisdom but about Christ who lives in us. When people encounter us, they are meant to encounter the fragrance, wisdom, and love of Christ revealed through our words, actions, and attitudes.

Jesus declared in Matthew 5:14, “You are the light of the world.” Light is not meant to be concealed but to shine forth. As believers, we are called to live in such a way that our good works glorify our Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). The revelation of Jesus in us is most evident in how we love others, forgive as we have been forgiven, and serve with humility. Through such Christlike living, the world catches glimpses of the Savior.

However, revealing Christ through us is not limited to our morality alone—it is also about demonstrating His power. When we pray for the sick, share the gospel boldly, walk in joy despite trials, and live with an unshakable hope, Christ is revealed. Our transformed lives become living testimonies of the resurrection power of Jesus, showing the world that He is real and present.

Therefore, the revelation of Jesus Christ in the earth continues through His church. As we yield daily to the Spirit and allow Christ to be formed in us, we become vessels through which His glory is seen. The more we behold Him, the more we are conformed to His image, and the more His reality shines through us into a dark and desperate world.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of your life can Christ be revealed more clearly to those around you?
2. How can you be more intentional this week about demonstrating the light and love of Christ in practical ways?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for making me a vessel of Your glory. Help me not to hide Your light but to reveal You in all I say and do. May my life be a living testimony of Your love, grace, and power. Shine through me so that others may encounter You and be drawn to Your saving grace. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Choose one practical way to reveal Christ this week — whether by sharing the gospel, extending forgiveness, serving someone in need, or being a source of encouragement — and do it with the intention of making Him known.



EMISSARIES OF HIS LOVE

2 Corinthians 5:18–20; John 13:34–35

AUGUST

26

Memory Verse:*“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”***John 13:35 (NIV)**

The mission of the believer is more than words, more than titles, and more than outward practices. At the heart of the gospel is love—the love of God demonstrated through Christ and carried into the world through us. To be called emissaries of His love means that we are commissioned representatives, bearing His nature and extending His heart to a world longing for healing and reconciliation.

Christ reconciled us to the Father not because we deserved it, but because His love compelled Him. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 5 that we have now received that same ministry of reconciliation. This means our lives must become visible channels of God’s love. The world cannot see God physically, but they can see Him through the way His people love, forgive, serve, and give of themselves.

Jesus Himself set the standard when He declared, “A new commandment I give you: love one another as I have loved you.” This love is not sentimental or self-serving; it is sacrificial, patient, and kind. It crosses boundaries, reaches the forgotten, and embraces the unworthy. In being emissaries of His love, we are not simply instructed to show kindness but to embody Christ’s heart in every interaction.

Our witness to the world depends on this love. Many people are not won over by arguments or eloquent sermons, but by experiencing a love that cannot be explained apart from Christ. When believers embody this divine love in families, workplaces, communities, and even in hostile environments, the reality of the gospel shines through unmistakably. We become letters from Christ written not with ink but with actions of love that testify of Him.

Living as emissaries of His love requires intentionality. It calls us to look beyond ourselves and to live in ways that reflect the generosity, forgiveness, and compassion of Christ. Every smile, every prayer, every word of encouragement, every act of service becomes a seed of God's love planted in a broken world. In this way, we fulfill our calling as Christ's ambassadors — those through whom His love is made visible on earth.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways can you intentionally reflect the sacrificial love of Christ to those around you this week?
2. How does being an emissary of God's love shape your understanding of your identity as a Christian?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for reconciling me to the Father through Your perfect love. Help me to live as a true emissary of that love in my words, actions, and relationships. Let Your love flow through me so that others may experience Your grace and be drawn to You. Amen.



Recommended Action:

- Reach out this week to someone who may be hurting, forgotten, or overlooked, and extend love through a practical act of kindness.
- Make a conscious effort to respond with patience and forgiveness in situations where it is easier to react with anger or indifference.



REVEALING JESUS AMONG PEERS

Matthew 5:14–16; John 13:34–35; Colossians 3:12–14

AUGUST

27

Memory Verse:

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3:12 (NIV)



Our peers—friends, classmates, colleagues, and those within our circle of influence—are the people who often see us most closely and consistently. It is one thing to project an image of Christ to the wider world; it is another to live Him out among those who share daily life with us. Peer relationships are fertile ground for revealing Jesus authentically. It is in these everyday interactions that the authenticity of our walk with Christ is either revealed or concealed. Jesus did not just call us to shine in distant mission fields but also in the familiar spaces where our lives are constantly observed.

Jesus' words remind us that the surest evidence of discipleship is not eloquent sermons or impressive acts of spirituality but love. Among our peers, where competition, comparison, and misunderstandings often arise, the choice to walk in love speaks volumes. Every act of patience, kindness, humility, and forgiveness reflects Christ more loudly than words could. Many times, those closest to us may never read the Bible, but they will “read” our lives. The consistency of our love, humility, and truthfulness becomes a living epistle pointing them to Jesus.

The light Jesus describes in Matthew 5:14–16 is not meant to be hidden. Within peer groups, we can choose to be that light—through integrity in conversation, honesty in dealings, encouragement in times of weakness, and a steady refusal to compromise faith. In doing so, we reveal Jesus in a way that is natural yet powerful.

Moreover, revealing Jesus among peers requires consistency. Peers see both our public and private moments. When they witness us holding on to Christ's standards under pressure, our lives testify that Jesus is real and alive. This authentic witness is often the spark that draws others toward Him.

Furthermore, Jesus commanded us to love one another as a witness to the world. Among our peers, love is often tested most—because these are the people we spend the most time with, the ones who know our strengths and weaknesses. But it is precisely here that our love and humility can reveal Christ in His fullness.

Ultimately, when we reveal Jesus among our peers, we open the door for meaningful conversations about faith. Our friends are more likely to ask questions about our hope and values when they see them consistently lived out. In this way, we fulfill our calling to be salt and light, even in the spaces where familiarity abounds.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do my peers currently see Jesus reflected in my words, choices, and relationships?
2. What practical step can I take this week to intentionally reveal Christ's love among my friends and associates?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me to be a true reflection of Your love among my peers. May my words and actions consistently point to You. Teach me to live in such a way that others are drawn to Your light through me.



Recommended Action:

This week, identify one peer who may need encouragement or support. Reach out intentionally with love, showing Christ's care in a practical way.



Memory Verse:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16 (NIV)



One very important expression of the Spirit of God in a believer is excellence. The Spirit of God is the spirit of excellence, and this excellence should reflect in the life of the believer in any endeavour they undertake, whether it be work, business, academics or any other endeavour.

Excellence is not about perfectionism or impressing people; it is about reflecting the nature of God in the quality of our work. From creation itself, God demonstrated excellence—everything He made was “very good.” As His children, revealing Jesus means living and working in ways that showcase diligence, competence, and integrity.

Daniel is a striking biblical example of excellence. Scripture records that he “distinguished himself” because of an excellent spirit. His dedication and competence made him stand out in a foreign land, ultimately opening opportunities for God’s glory to be revealed. In the same way, believers are called to embody excellence in academics, careers, ministry, and everyday responsibilities.

Excellence reveals Jesus because it demonstrates stewardship. When we do our tasks wholeheartedly “as unto the Lord,” we declare that our ultimate accountability is to Christ, not men. Excellence points beyond us to the One who equips and empowers us. Mediocrity, on the other hand, dims that testimony and suggests that God is not worthy of our best.

Excellence also becomes a silent witness. In environments where many cut corners, deliver half-heartedly, or settle for “good enough,” the believer who consistently gives their best becomes a testimony of Christ’s transforming presence. Excellence opens doors for influence and creates respect that paves the way for the gospel.

Therefore, revealing Jesus through excellence is about offering our best as worship. It is about integrity, diligence, and a commitment to do all things in a way that reflects God's glory. It is about letting go of a "bare minimum" approach to work and life, and embracing an attitude of responsibility, stewardship, and diligence in we do.

Reflection Questions:

1. Am I currently revealing Christ through the quality of my work, study, and service?
2. What area of my life requires greater commitment to excellence as an act of worship to God?

Prayer:

Lord, fill me with Your Spirit of excellence. Teach me to work wholeheartedly as unto You, that my life may reveal Your glory and point others to You through the quality of my labor.



Recommended Action:

Choose one area of responsibility this week where you have been careless or average. Commit to improving it with excellence as a witness of Christ.



REVEALING JESUS IN THE WORKPLACE

Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 6:5–7

AUGUST
29**Memory Verse:***"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."***Colossians 3:22 (NIV)**

The workplace is one of the greatest mission fields today. Whether in an office, classroom, shop, or remote desk, believers spend significant portions of their lives in professional environments. Revealing Jesus in the workplace means being salt and light in that space, showing Christ not only in words but in conduct.

Since a good chunk of our lives is spent at work, it is critical that we approach work as an opportunity to minister to our colleagues and those in our workspaces through our work.

Paul exhorted believers to serve not with “eye-service” but sincerely, as unto Christ. This means that our work ethic itself can reveal Jesus. Honesty in handling resources, integrity in decisions, fairness in dealings, and humility in leadership all distinguish the believer in a world often marked by compromise.

Beyond integrity, the workplace provides opportunities for kindness and encouragement. A simple prayer with a colleague in distress, a listening ear, or extending grace in tense moments can reveal Christ’s presence in practical ways. Sometimes, these small acts of love speak more powerfully than a formal sermon.

Revealing Jesus in the workplace also involves boldness in acknowledging Him. While wisdom is needed, believers must not hide their faith out of fear of rejection. Jesus is revealed when we remain unashamed, yet respectful, about our convictions. The balance of gentleness and firmness ensures that Christ is honored in every interaction.

Finally, the workplace becomes a platform for ministry when believers see themselves as Christ's representatives there. Through diligence, love, and courage, Jesus is revealed in the daily rhythms of professional life. We must remember that the life we live at work is the epistle those around us will read about Christ.

Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways am I currently revealing (or hiding) Jesus in my workplace?
2. How can I use my daily work as a platform for demonstrating Christ's love and truth?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, make me a shining light in my workplace. Help me to work with integrity, love my colleagues, and reveal You in every interaction. May my labor and conduct glorify Your name. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.



Recommended Action:

Pray specifically for two colleagues this week and look for a practical way to demonstrate Christ's love to your colleagues at work.



EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS

Revelation 22:12–13, 20; Titus 2:11–13

AUGUST

30

Memory Verse:

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming quickly.' Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"
Revelations 22:20 (NIV)



The cry, “Even so, come, Lord Jesus,” is the longing of every true disciple’s heart. While we labor to reveal Christ in the present, our eyes are fixed on the blessed hope — the return of our Savior and King. The Second Coming is not a distant doctrine but a living expectation that shapes how we live today.

For the believer, it is a blessed assurance!

Jesus promised to return quickly, bringing reward to those who are faithful. This hope motivates holy living. When we live with eternity in view, we hold lightly to the fleeting things of this world and focus on what truly matters: pleasing Christ. Our pursuit of purity, diligence, and love is sustained by the anticipation of His appearing. Our endurance of the ‘sufferings’ of the present life is anchored on the hope of eternity. Our insistence on living faithfully is hinged on the promise of that blessed “Welldone” from our Lord at the fullness of time.

Moreover, the return of Christ is a source of comfort in a troubled world. Injustice, pain, and wickedness will not have the final say. The coming of Jesus assures us that righteousness will prevail and that every tear will be wiped away. This hope keeps believers steadfast in faith, even when the present is difficult.

The cry, “Even so, come, Lord Jesus,” is also a prayer of readiness. It reflects a life aligned with God’s will, eagerly awaiting His appearing rather than shrinking back in fear. It is the declaration of a bride longing for her Bridegroom, confident in His love and secure in His promise.

Therefore, as we live each day revealing Jesus, let us keep eternity in view. May our hearts echo John's cry until the day we see Him face to face: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

We, His bride, wait expectantly for the time when our Bridegroom will come in His glory to take us into the rest He has prepared for us.

Reflection Questions:

1. Does the hope of Christ's return shape my daily choices and lifestyle?
2. How can I cultivate a deeper longing for His appearing while remaining faithful in my present responsibilities?

Prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus! Prepare my heart to be ready for Your return. Keep me faithful in my walk, joyful in hope, and steadfast in revealing You until You come.



Recommended Action:

Live today with eternity in mind. Make a decision or take an action that reflects readiness for Christ's return. If you have not yet received the life of Christ, today is as good a day to believe in Christ Jesus and confess Him with your mouth. Welcome to the family of God!



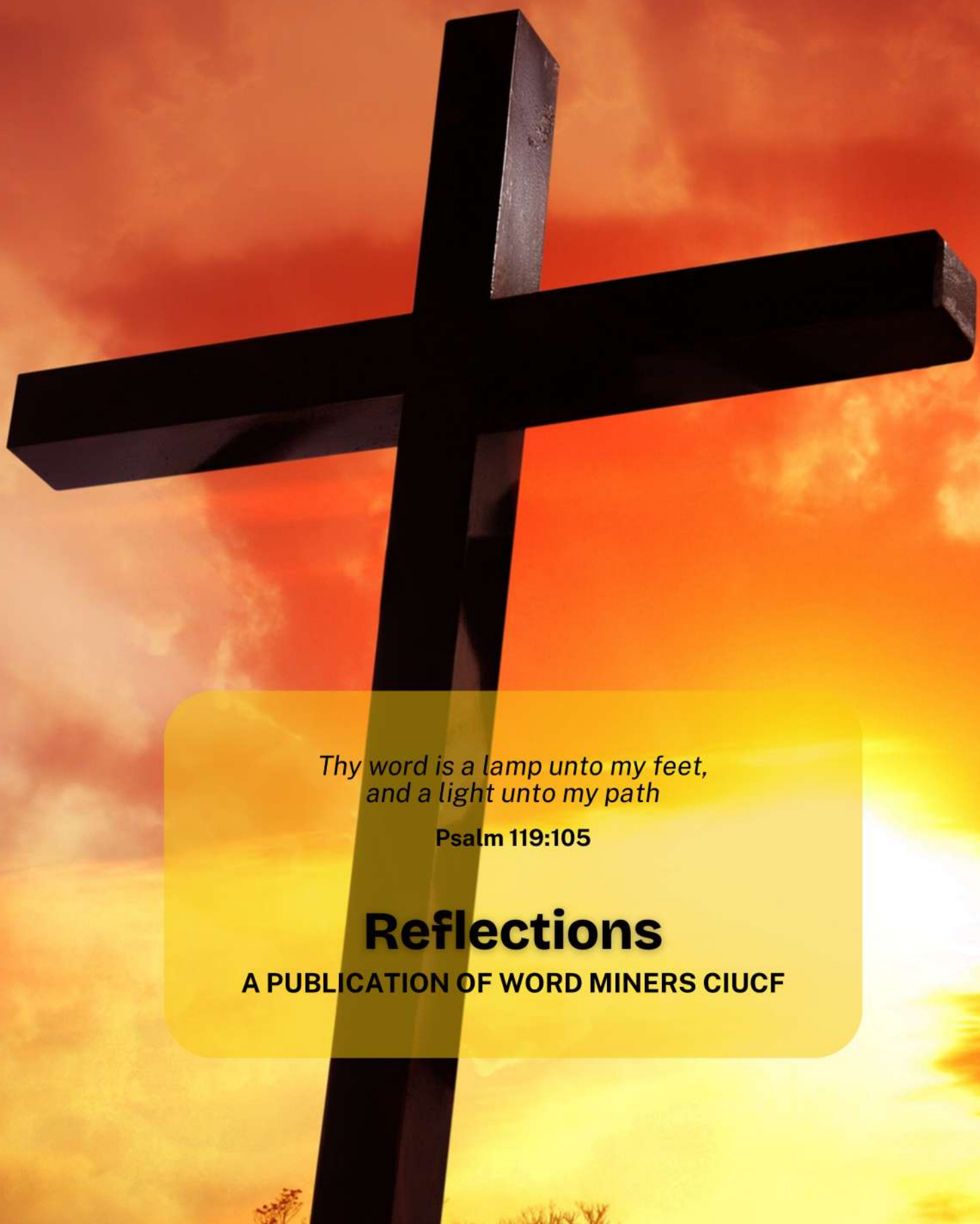
REFLECTIONS

RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

AUGUST

31



*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path*

Psalm 119:105

Reflections

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