

**February 11 | Sunday**

Christianity

Read [Philippians 2:1-11](#)



**12 | Mon – Eyewitness report** | Read [Acts 2:22-41](#)

There are things on which people of different religions can agree and it gives us common ground to live and work together respectfully. However, do not misunderstand or minimize the uniqueness of Christianity. The key is at the heart of Peter's words, spoken just 50 days after Jesus was crucified (verse 32) and it radically changed those who were witnesses to Jesus' resurrection. What other religion invites you into a relationship with a God who loves you as you are and offers forgiveness based on your need, *not* on good works?

**13 | Tue – What kind of person was Jesus?** | Read [Matthew 8:14 – 9:13, 35-36](#)

How many different kinds of healing can you identify in this relatively short section of scripture? What did Matthew say was Jesus' motivation (v. 36)? In these accounts, we see the heart of Jesus. We see him tirelessly working to restore people to physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wholeness. How do his actions reveal God's heart toward you?

**14 | Wed – Happy Valentine's Day** | Read [1 John 4:9-10](#) and [3:16-18](#)

Everyone is looking for love. Real love that is unconditional, selfless, authentic. This kind of love is what defines the followers of Jesus. In this short letter from John, which takes about 15 minutes to read, he uses the word "love" over 40 times. What does he say the source of love is? Have you experienced this kind of love at some point in your life? Have you ever been able to show this kind of love to a difficult person in the way Jesus would?

**15 | Thu – Universal problem of guilt** | Read [Luke 19:1-10; John 8:1-11](#)

Jesus offered forgiveness to even those who seemed undeserving. Zacchaeus was a hated tax collector, yet Jesus invited himself over for dinner. People grumbled but it was love, not condemnation that changed Zacchaeus' life. When challenged to judge a sinful woman, Jesus saw past the righteous facade of the religious leaders and into their hearts. He also saw the heart of the accused woman and he did not condemn her. Are you plagued by guilt in some area of your life? What do you think Jesus would say to you about it?

**16 | Fri – Reborn** | Read [John 3:1-8](#) and [16-21](#)

A religious leader named Nicodemus had an interesting conversation with Jesus about the requirements for getting into God's kingdom. Most Jewish people believed that keeping God's laws would help them gain entrance. Read Jesus' answer. How did he connect the ideas of 'birth' with 'new life'? In what way, if any, does this apply to you right now?

**17 | Sat – Challenging** | Read [Romans 7:14 – 8:17](#)

Following Jesus is not always easy. Paul told the Romans plainly of the struggle between right and wrong in his own life. Gritting his teeth and resolving to do better did not produce the good he longed for. It was only as he trusted in Jesus that he found, day by day, God's power was freeing him from the grip of self-righteous, self-centered living. Do you ever get discouraged by your own setbacks? What part of today's reading gives you hope?