

John 6:15-25, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - He Traded a Crown for the Cross.

John 6:15

“So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone” (John 6:15). Out of the five thousand men that Jesus had miraculously fed (Jn. 6:1-14) grew a grass roots movement to make Jesus king, which would require driving out Pontius Pilate and overthrowing Roman rule. Matthew’s gospel records that “immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side” (Mt. 14:22), for they were undoubtedly sympathetic toward the revolutionary impulse of the crowd. Yet Christ had not come to conquer Rome, but to conquer a greater enemy; that is, sin. Christian, are you as intent on Christ’s victory over your sin, as you are in His victory over your external problems?

Read Matthew 6:33

☐ Tuesday - Alone With God.

John 6:15

Here, John explains that Jesus “withdrew again to the mountain by Himself” (John 6:15), and in a parallel passage, Matthew notes Jesus’ purpose: “He went up on a mountainside by Himself *to pray*” (Mt. 14:23). Over and over again we see from the Scriptures that it was Jesus’ regular practice to find a secluded place in order to get alone with God, and there devote Himself to prayer (Lk. 5:16, 9:18, 28). Dear follower of Christ, make time in your busy schedule today to sequester yourself from the world, for a time of undistracted and unhurried conversation with God.

Read Matthew 6:5-6

☐ Wednesday - Our Obstacles May Be God’s Avenues.

John 6:19

“Then, when [the disciples] had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat” (John 6:19). The water which separated Jesus from His disciples proved to be the vehicle which brought them together. Today consider this, Christian, that what you think may be an obstacle in your life may actually be the avenue that brings you closer to the Lord.

Read Romans 8:35, 38-39

☐ Thursday - God Treads Upon the Waves of the Sea.

John 6:19-20

“Then, when [the disciples] had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened. But He said to them, ‘It is I’” (Jn. 6:19-20). Everything about this verse reveals the deity of Jesus Christ which is one of the primary themes in the Gospel of John: [1] Observe first Jesus’ power over the laws of nature, to control or suspend them at His pleasure, making the water uphold His weight; [2] Notice next how Scripture ascribes such activity to God alone, for it says that He “alone stretches out the heavens, and treads upon the waves of the sea” (Job 9:8); [3] Finally, hear Christ’s Self-revelation, “It is I,” which in Greek *ego eimi*, literally means ‘I I am’ (cf. John 8:24, 8:58, 18:4-5), reminding us of the divine name of God revealed to Moses from the burning bush (Ex. 3:14). Jesus is in every sense of the word GOD. And so today, let us render unto Jesus praise and worship that is worthy of God alone.

Read Philipians 2:9-11

☐ Friday - Fear Factor.

John 6:19-20

“Then, when [the disciples] had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened” (John 6:19). Matthew’s gospel records that the disciples thought they were seeing a ghost (Mt. 14:26). But Jesus said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid” (John 6:20). While the wicked have every reason to be afraid of God (Heb. 10:31), the Lord repeatedly comforted His own disciples with these words, “do not be afraid” (Mt. 17:17; Rev. 1:17).

Read 1 John 4:17-18