

**PRAYER  
DEVOTIONS**

**3-16-2020**



# INTRODUCTION

Thank you for joining us on this “316” journey! If a movement of God is to be sparked on March 16th, it will only be because the people of God prepared the kindling in prayer. And how desperately we need a fresh movement of God among Kentucky Baptist churches!

The following pages provide a simple prayer strategy to sensitize our hearts to lostness and sixteen daily devotions to help align our people’s hearts to God’s heart in preparation for 3:16 on 3-16.

The troubling trends we see in our communities as people continue to “love the darkness rather than light” might tempt us to despair or to rail against the darkness (John 3:18-21). Instead, may the same love of God which compelled Jesus to temporarily leave behind the glories of Heaven inspire us to reengage lostness with the Good News that forgiveness and everlasting life is available in Jesus’ name (John 3:13-17).

*Our prayer is that March 16, 2025, can be a historic day in the life of your church and a turning point in the lives of many.*

# CONTENTS

<b>(3) Prayer Triplets: A Simple Prayer Strategy</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>(16) Daily Devotions</b>	<b>4</b>
▪ Day One: Get Up and Go	4
▪ Day Two: Incite	5
▪ Day Three: The Next Person on Your Path	6
▪ Day Four: Never Cast Out	7
▪ Day Five: Be Still	8
▪ Day Six: “Rewilding” the Church	9
▪ Day Seven: Peace Filled Thankfulness	10
▪ Day Eight: The Invitation to Surrender	11
▪ Day Nine: Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly	12
▪ Day Ten: That They May Know	13
▪ Day Eleven: Full of Grace and Truth	14
▪ Day Twelve: An Able and Available Creator	15
▪ Day Thirteen: A Personal Burden	16
▪ Day Fourteen: Following Takes Us Fishing	17
▪ Day Fifteen: That Your Joy May Be Full	18
▪ Day Sixteen: Not Everyone Knows	19

## PRAYER TRIPLETS

# A SIMPLE PRAYER STRATEGY

“For where two or three are gathered together in  
My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

Matthew 18:20

The idea of a prayer triplet is simple. Three believers commit to meet regularly to encourage one another by praying for three lost persons by name in each of their circles of concern. How might God move if prayer triplets began meeting regularly across Kentucky to pray for nine lost persons by name leading up to 3:16 on 3-16? Let's find out!

For many years, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has encouraged prayer triplets as an effective strategy for engaging lostness. When churches committed themselves to prayer triplets, the BGEA always witnessed greater fruits from Billy Graham crusades or other evangelistic emphases. Here are some simple tips.

- 1. Invite two other friends to join you in praying specifically for lost FRANs** (friend, relatives, associates or neighbors). You will naturally pray for one another but be clear that the focus of this time will be partnering in prayer to see lost FRANs saved.
- 2. Commit to a regular, set schedule.** Defining the number of weeks and length of prayer times makes it easier for friends to commit. Consider using a timer to keep the triplet focused. If friends have interest to linger for fellowship, that's fine. However, honoring their time makes it possible for everyone to stay engaged.
- 3. Establish a consistent meeting location.** The fewer decisions which need to be made weekly the better. Select a space conducive for prayer and accessibility.
- 4. Pray locally.** For this prayer triplet, try to focus on praying for FRANs who live locally and can be impacted by your church's 3:16 on 3-16 efforts.
- 5. Prioritize relationships beyond prayer time.** There will be important life needs and deep hurts shared. Sometimes, these needs trump everything else. Generally, there is ample space to encourage and minister to one another outside and beyond this time committed to praying for lostness.

There are great resources for praying for the lost available at [kybaptist.org/evangelism](http://kybaptist.org/evangelism) or on the KBC Evangelism Team App.

## DAY ONE

# GET UP AND GO

“Get up! Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it because their evil has come up before me.”

Jonah 1:2

Occasionally one will hear an old timer say, “My get up and go done got up and went”. Those of us who wish to be faithful in gospel conversations must have some “get up and go” about us. In Jonah 1:2, God had a mission for Jonah. Jonah was expected to deliver God’s message to the people of Nineveh.

Here are four thoughts for us to consider related to God’s call to Jonah and His call to us:

- 1. The Call of God is Personal:** God called Jonah personally. God also calls us. The Great Commission, Matthew 28:18-20, should be taken personally by every follower of Jesus.
- 2. The Call of God is to People:** Jonah was called to take the message to the people of Nineveh. The Lord will always send us to people because people are the objects of His love. The people to whom we are sent will likely include family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and people we meet as we live our life.
- 3. The Call of God is to Proclamation:** Jonah was called to go to Nineveh and “preach against it”. We too are called to deliver a message. Our message is the story of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
- 4. The Call of God is for a Purpose:** Jonah’s ministry was given to him because the wickedness of Nineveh had come up before God. God wanted Nineveh to repent. The Lord also wants the people to whom we are sent to repent and believe the gospel.

*Dear Lord, help me to daily hear and respond to your call to personally take the gospel proclamation to people who need to repent and believe. Grant me grace to obey your calling today for your purpose of reaching people with the good news. Help me remember also that it is only good news if it arrives in time. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

## DAY TWO

# INCITE

**"Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"**

Matthew 9:37-38

The pharmacy assistant informed my wife they had filled two of my prescriptions, but not the third, which happened to be a nasal spray, because the cost was nearly two hundred dollars. The assistant proceeded to tell her they could provide two nasal sprays that would accomplish the same task, and the cost would only be forty dollars.

Arriving at home, my wife shared her experience. I was thrilled at her choice to save such money. There was one caveat. As directed by the pharmacist, the two nasal sprays would have to be taken fifteen minutes apart. The first would incite the second and vice versa. It was the timing and the mixture of the components in each of the sprays that would accomplish the same as the more expensive one that cost five times as much.

Prayer is very similar to the medical term "incite." Prayer is what instigates the power of God. Prayer ought to precede any efforts we put forth for the Lord. As followers of Christ, we can never accomplish in our own strength what we can accomplish with the help of the Holy Spirit aiding us. Prayer incites more laborers for the work and incites the power of God. Spend more time praying, and you will discover your efforts to be far more effective.

***Pray the Lord will send forth more laborers from your own church and that many invitations will be issued for 3:16 on 3-16.***

## DAY THREE

# THE NEXT PERSON ON YOUR PATH

**“But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’”**

Luke 10:29

Nicodemus had come lurking in the shadows, making his way through the darkness, and in that moment, his path intersected with the Light of the World. Jesus had launched His public ministry, been busy performing miracles and teaching about the kingdom of God, when a man intersected His path for a divine appointment.

Both the Old and New Testament teach that the Great Commandment is to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself. In Luke 10:29, a lawyer was brought face to face with this truth and sought to justify himself by asking, “Who is my neighbor?”. Jesus then told the story about a man who had been robbed, beaten, and left for dead on the side of the path. He told of a priest and a Levite that saw him and left him there in his difficulty. Then, Jesus told of a Samaritan man who saw him, had compassion, and took care of all his needs. Jesus then asked, “Who was the neighbor?”

The answer...our neighbor is the next person on our path.

Jesus took Nicodemus from the darkness and addressed his greatest need by first living out and then explaining, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” We must be prepared to meet the need and to give the gospel to the divine appointments we meet every day.

***Pray for the Spirit of God to open your eyes to see the next person on your path as a potential divine appointment. Consider your blessings and seek to maximize the manifold blessings of God. May the gospel be ever ready on your heart and mind.***

## DAY FOUR

# NEVER CAST OUT

"All that the Father giveth me shall  
come to me; and him that cometh to  
me I will in no wise cast out."

John 6:37

In 1934, a young man named Louis Zamperini found himself lost in the depths of despair. A world-class athlete and World War II veteran, Louis had survived 47 days adrift at sea and years of brutal treatment in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp. But when he returned home, he was tormented by nightmares and consumed by bitterness. His life spiraled into anger and alcoholism, straining his marriage to the breaking point.

One evening in 1949, Louis reluctantly attended a Billy Graham revival meeting at his wife's urging. As Graham preached on forgiveness and salvation, Louis was gripped by the promise of John 6:37: "*him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" Despite his brokenness and guilt, he realized Christ was inviting him to come just as he was. That night, Louis surrendered his life to Jesus.

Instantly, his heart was transformed. He forgave his captors, reconciled with his wife, and devoted the rest of his life to sharing his testimony of God's grace and power. Louis's story reminds us that no sin, pain, or failure is too great for Christ to forgive. When we come to Him, He will never turn us away. Whether you've been running from God or feel unworthy of His love, remember this truth: Jesus stands ready to receive you with open arms.

*Lord, thank you for your promise to accept all who come to You. Help me trust in your grace and share it with others. Amen.*



## DAY FIVE

# BE STILL

**“Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth!”**

Psalm 46:10

This is a well-known verse in the Bible. “Be still and know that I am God.” It makes for a nice coffee mug or an encouraging reminder on your kitchen wall. We see this verse placed on items we frequently use or in places we often find ourselves because we need a regular reminder to be still and know that God is who He says He is.

The words, “be still”, *rapha* in the Hebrew language, mean to cease striving, let go, or sink down. In our fast-paced culture, we desperately need the words of Almighty God, calling us to stop striving and let go– to be quiet with our Creator and hear what He wants to say.

The second half of verse 10 tells us the “why” behind being still and knowing God. God says, “I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” This verse gets an injection of rocket fuel when you read it in the context of the whole chapter.

God wants you to quiet your soul and rest in His grace because He is on the throne. He is in control of your life. And not only your life but all the nations, the whole earth, and even the cosmos! God will be exalted among every tribe, tongue, and nation. If this glorious reality is true, that God is in control over the cosmos, how much more can you take delight and rest in Him for your own life?

***As you quiet your soul before the Father, remind yourself that God is for you because He is for His glory. All nations will exalt the name of Jesus Christ, and praise God we get to participate in His plan!***

## DAY SIX

# “REWILDING” THE CHURCH

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, it gives light to all who are in the house. Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14-16

In 1995, the grey wolf was reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park after a 75-year hiatus in a process called "rewilding." The process is quite simple: reintroducing animals back into their natural habitat. Researchers did not realize that reintroducing wolves into the ecosystem would lead to a decrease in the coyote population. This change increased rabbit and mouse populations, which attracted hawks, foxes, weasels, and badgers.

Because the wolves had not been in the area for some time, the park became overpopulated by deer, which led to overgrazing in parts of Yellowstone. Once the wolves were reintroduced, the deer's movement patterns became more confined, allowing varieties of plant life to thrive again. As a result, berry bushes became fruitful, which led to bears returning to the area, and the trees and plants tripled in height. Songbirds began nesting in the trees, and beavers built dams from the timber. This created habitats for various animals, including ducks, otters, and reptiles. And here's the craziest part: the presence of wolves altered the river's behavior. Due to these ripple effects, the riverbanks stabilized once again.

It's time we reintroduced the church to our communities. We need to be active and visible and seek to meet actual needs in our communities, showcasing the love and goodness of God through our actions. If we do that, we can have the same ripple effect in our communities that the grey wolves had at Yellowstone.

*Lord, help us to see our communities through your eyes and may Your compassion shown to us overflow into the lives of those closest to our homes and churches in such a way that the gospel spreads like ripples across the waters.*

## DAY SEVEN

# PEACE FILLED THANKFULNESS

**“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”**

Philippians 4:6-7

Life and ministry can often present some unexpected turns. It is often in these moments that one's faith is challenged and put to the test. The apostle Paul reminds the Philippians, and even us today, of some important truths that we need in these moments.

Paul has just emphasized the importance of rejoicing in the Lord. Our circumstances do not determine our joy; our connection to the Savior does! Secondly, the Lord is at hand! Jesus Christ could come back at any moment for His people. We know that even now, the ever-present, all-knowing, and all mighty God is still on His throne working out all things for His glory and our good.

In light of knowing who God is, we should have a calmness about us, “be anxious for nothing” or do not worry about anything. When we worry, we show we don't trust the plans and purposes of God for our lives. In Matthew 6:31-34, we are reminded of the foolishness of worrying. Our lives should be characterized by grace, unmerited favor. Realizing that anything we have received in this life is underserving, when we are grace-centered, it leads to a grateful heart. A grateful heart will ultimately lead to thankfulness.

Thankfulness should be at the forefront of our prayers as we talk to the Lord. It is amazing when we focus on the grace of God, we experience the peace of God. We already have peace with God because of the person and work of Jesus Christ on the cross (Romans 5:1). But when our minds are focused on the Lord Jesus Christ, there is a tranquility that we experience even though all around us is not calm. This stillness prevents our minds from worrying about things that are ultimately out of control.

*Lord, forgive me for focusing on my problems more than the solution found in you. Help me develop a heart of thankfulness. Help me to trust your plans for my life. Help me to cherish my relationship with you. Amen.*

## DAY EIGHT

# THE INVITATION TO SURRENDER

**"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."**

Galatians 2:20

One of the great joys of the Christian life is the invitation our LORD extends to us. Throughout the gospels we see Jesus extending the simple yet life changing invitation of COME FOLLOW ME. None of us understand the full implications of those words when we begin our walk with Christ. However, throughout the journey we begin to understand this is a full surrender which our LORD is requesting from us.

COME FOLLOW ME requires that we die. Yes, our old selfish nature must die. We must now live in, through and for our LORD Jesus Christ. With this new life in Christ comes the opportunity to join Him in the work of ministry. For the reborn child of God, personal evangelism is not something we will now try to do. It becomes who we are in Christ.

In Christ, we are His disciples, and as such we will follow the example our LORD. He made disciples because disciple-making was part of His daily routine. Meaning that if our lives are too busy for making disciples, it is the busyness that must be sacrificed. A life lived for Jesus is one that allows margin. We give space in our day, week, month, and year for Jesus to use us to bring someone else to COME FOLLOW HIM. And then we give space for Jesus to use our life to disciple this new believer to become a disciple-maker themselves. Yet, it must start with us having been truly crucified with Christ.

***Lord Jesus, help me surrender to your will each day. Help me to leave margin in my life so that I never miss the opportunity to have a gospel conversation. Allow me LORD to be like Andrew, bringing others to you and watching as you then transform their lives through your love. Oh, LORD, I pray that you would allow my life to bring you greater glory. In Jesus Name, AMEN.***

## DAY NINE

# LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY

**“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another in all  
wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual  
songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”**

Colossians 3:16

In our 3:16 journey I thought we would stop and observe one of the Bible's other 3:16 passages. Colossians 3:16 encourages, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly” and when you do, you will “teach and instruct one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God”.

Takeaway? A word that dwells richly quickly becomes a word that is declared and displayed. If we are people that treasure the Gospel of Jesus, and I believe that Kentucky Baptists are, then we must also be people that declare and display that same message we cherish.

The Apostle Paul draws that conclusion emphatically for us. A word that dwells within us will naturally be declared and displayed to those around us. Friend, as someone I know cherishes the Word of God and the Great Commission of Jesus our Savior, how is that word dwelling in you richly? And how is it being declared and displayed in your life? To whom is that richly dwelling word directing you?

***Would you be willing to begin praying that God direct you to someone to declare that word? If you already know who that person is, would you begin praying that God would prepare their hearts as good soil to receive the Gospel?***

***Let's pray that together...and see a harvest in our 3:16 journey! May we be known as people who richly dwell in and richly declare the word of Christ!***

## DAY TEN

# THAT THEY MAY KNOW

**"But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins — He said to the paralytic, 'I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.'"**

Mark 2:10-11

In the opening chapters of Mark's gospel, growing crowds followed Jesus. Many are following because of healings that they had or heard about or seen. However, Jesus' mission was not about physical healing. It was, in His own words, "to seek and to save that which is lost" (Luke 19:10). Spiritual healing was the reason Jesus came, and according to the Bible, every single person needs this spiritual healing because every single person is a sinner.

In Mark 2, Jesus is teaching in a packed house when four men came, bringing their friend who was a paralytic. These friends had one mission - to get their friend to Jesus. Getting through the door was an impossibility, so they made their way up to the roof, made a hole, and lowered their friend right to the feet of Jesus. It is here that the crowd gets exhilarated. This is why many had come - to see some freak miracle for their own amusement.

The crowd, with an anticipatory silence, listened as Jesus said to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven." There is a collective sigh of disappointment. This was not what they wanted to hear or see. The religious leaders are bewildered in their minds. As they think through the ramifications of someone saying they can forgive sin, they rightly think to themselves, "Only God can forgive sin."

However, it is in this clarifying moment that Jesus proclaims that He is indeed God and absolutely has the power to forgive sin. "So that you know the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sin, I say (to the paralytic), 'Arise, take up your bed and go to your house.'" In this amazing claim to divinity, Jesus heralds that He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The Bible tells us that if we confess with our mouths Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead, we would be saved.

***Lord, thank you for loving the world enough to send your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Help us to be like these four friends, willing to do whatever it takes to help our friends hear the gospel on 3-16.***

## DAY ELEVEN

# FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH

**"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'"**

John 8:12

It's one thing to be able to diagnose a problem. It's another thing to know how to fix it. In John 8:1-47, we see evidence that the religious leaders in Jesus' day had no problem diagnosing the problems in people's lives according to the law. They were masters in the law. Unfortunately, they did not always use that knowledge to point people to God's grace.

The Pharisees cared little for the woman caught in adultery. Their motivation was to use the law to trap Jesus in some type of infraction that they could use against Him when the time was right. The example we see from Jesus is quite different from that of the religious leaders. While Jesus knew the law entirely, kept the law perfectly, and clearly used the law to show people their sin, He also provided them with the solution, Himself.

Jesus responds to this woman with grace and truth. He does not condone her sin. He forgives it. He does not dismiss her sin. He tells her to go and sin no more. His call is for her to repent and turn from her sinful lifestyle and devote her life to living for God.

Our call is to imitate Christ, not the Pharisees. Our words and actions must be full of grace and truth as we point people to Jesus, the only solution to every person's sin problem.

***Spend time in prayer for the lost in your life and ask the Lord for an opportunity to share the life changing gospel message with them.***

## DAY TWELVE

# AN ABLE AND AVAILABLE CREATOR

**“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”**

Genesis 1:1-2

Have you ever stopped to ponder this truth?

Before there was time, space, or anything in all of creation, there was a Creator. This Creator needed nothing to sustain. This Creator was fully self-sufficient. This Creator had all authority, jurisdiction, and right to do whatever He wanted, whenever He wanted, however He wanted. What did He do with it? He began creating. He created light, sky, water, land, vegetation, night and day, animals, and humanity.

Realizing that spirituality doesn't start with us is liberating. No matter how deep we search, dig, or discover, we can never be gods of our own lives. We simply were not made to carry this weight and pressure. We must lean on the arms of a Creator who is unlimited in strength, able to sustain, and outside of our wisdom. That Creator, God, is the only being not limited by space, time, opposition, and matter.

He created it all. It's all under His jurisdiction. Instead of carrying the pressure and demands that come with being god of our own life, we can place the full weight of our lives in the hands of the only one capable of holding it up. This Creator created all beauty that you get to experience today, all nature you get to enjoy, all time you get to live in. What can't He do?

***Begin with and lean on the Creator who lovingly allows you to have a relationship with Him. As you begin to pray for the lost to be reached, your flock, your family, friends, and coworkers- please pause to consider the great magnitude of the God to whom you are bringing these requests. This elicits awe and gratitude. Thankfully, our Creator is both able and available.***



## DAY THIRTEEN

# A PERSONAL BURDEN

**"I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh."**

Romans 9:3

Raymond Kolbe was a Polish priest who published anti-Nazi material. Kolbe was arrested and sentenced to Auschwitz, where he ministered to his fellow inmates. In August 1941, the Nazi guards selected ten prisoners to execute, including Franciszek Gajowniczek. When he heard Gajowniczek agonizing over his fate, Kolbe did the unthinkable: He volunteered to die in his place.

It is unnecessary to have lived in Nazi Germany to understand the gravity of the sacrifice. As it is with Hell. We do not have to have experienced its horror to understand the eternal suffering that awaits the unrepentant. This awareness is what makes the Apostle Paul's words in Romans 9:3 so stunning, "I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh."

Paul was so desperate for his kinsmen to be saved that he was willing to exchange his eternal security for theirs. Having unsaved family members, I understand Paul's desire. But I (as did Paul) understand that such a "trade" is impossible. Each person has the responsibility to call upon Jesus for salvation.

***So how desperate are we that our lost family members be saved, and what can we do on their behalf? We pray. Consider entering the birthdate of a lost family member as an alarm on your phone (such as 8:05 for August 5). Each day when that alarm rings, pray for opportunities to share the gospel and for a receptive spirit.***

## DAY FOURTEEN

# FOLLOWING TAKES US FISHING

“Follow me,” Jesus told them, “and  
I will make you fish for people.”

Mark 1:17

An interesting thing happens when we start following Jesus. We begin to actively search for the lost and to intentionally seek to introduce others to a saving relationship with Christ. Following takes us fishing. Why is that? It's because the closer we follow Jesus the more He puts on our hearts that which is on His heart.

One student recently shared, “God has given me a heart to see people come to know Him.” Giving us a new heart for the lost is part of what Jesus does inside us when we follow Him. Jesus takes, makes, re-makes, and shapes us into a new being. Following Jesus puts us into a discipleship factory that produces in us a changed heart with a heartbeat to see others come to know Him.

Sometimes we may wonder if we can be effective at reaching others for Christ. When that's the case, we need to go back to Jesus' promise in Mark 1:17 and refocus on following Him. Our part is to follow. Jesus' part is to make us fish for people—to make us fishers of men. It's a reality of the new life in Christ: following takes us fishing!

*Lord, give us a heart for what is on your heart. Help us to follow you.  
Thank you, Lord, that you make us into fishers of people.*

## DAY FIFTEEN

# THAT YOUR JOY MAY BE FULL

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life — the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us — that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full."

1 John 1:1-4

There is joy to be had in knowing Christ and in making Him known. The truth is that if He is worth knowing, than He is also worth being made known. Think of your favorite moment in your favorite movie or your favorite sports team's game-winning moment. You want to tell everyone around you! You want to share it with them! "I was there! I saw it! It was just as incredible as they said!"

Christ deserves this same joy, and the sharing makes our joy complete! We miss out on joy when we do not share it. Is there any joy more incredible than seeing others come from death to life in Christ? I personally do not want to miss out on that joy. There is joy to be had, but many believers are missing out on it.

How can you lead those around you to experience the joy of making Christ known? I love sharing my favorite movie experiences and hobbies with my kids. It's fun seeing them share it with others. I want them to know the joy of knowing Christ and of making Him known. If He is worth knowing, He is worth being made known. Let us rejoice both in knowing Christ and in making Him known.

*Lord, help us complete our joy in you by making you known through 3:16 on 3-16.  
Please draw all those who have been invited to come hear your gospel tomorrow.*

## DAY SIXTEEN

# NOT EVERYONE KNOWS

**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."**

John 3:16

There are 31,102 verses in the Bible, but none sweeter than John 3:16! It has been called the Bible's most famous verse. John Piper said, "It is not hard to see why John 3:16 is one of the most famous, most often memorized, most cherished verses in the Bible. Packed into this verse are the greatest realities that exist. God. Love. The world. The Son of God. Faith. Perishing forever. Living forever. Whoever — you, or not. These are the greatest things that can be. What could be more important?"

Although John 3:16 is one of the most cherished verses in the Bible, there are still those that haven't heard! When Tim Tebow played football at the University of Florida, he decided to write Bible verses on his eye blacks. One Saturday, he chose to write John 3:16. During that televised game 94 million people Googled John 3:16. Apparently, 94 million people did not know!

Numbers can be special reminders. When I see the numbers 11 or 26, I immediately think of my wife because we were married on November 26. When I see the numbers 8 or 28, I always think of Romans 8:28. When I see 10 or 31, I think of 1 Corinthians 10:31, "Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

However, there are few numbers that stand out like 316! This one verse sums up the entire Bible in a single sentence! It is the Gospel in a verse! Someone taught me to read John 3:16 by placing my name in it.

***"For God so loved (Your Name), that He gave His only begotten Son, that (Your Name) believing in Him shall not perish, but (Your Name) would have eternal life."***

***Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your amazing love! Thank you for giving Jesus so that I could experience eternal life through faith in Him. Please draw many people to believe in Jesus' name today. Amen.***