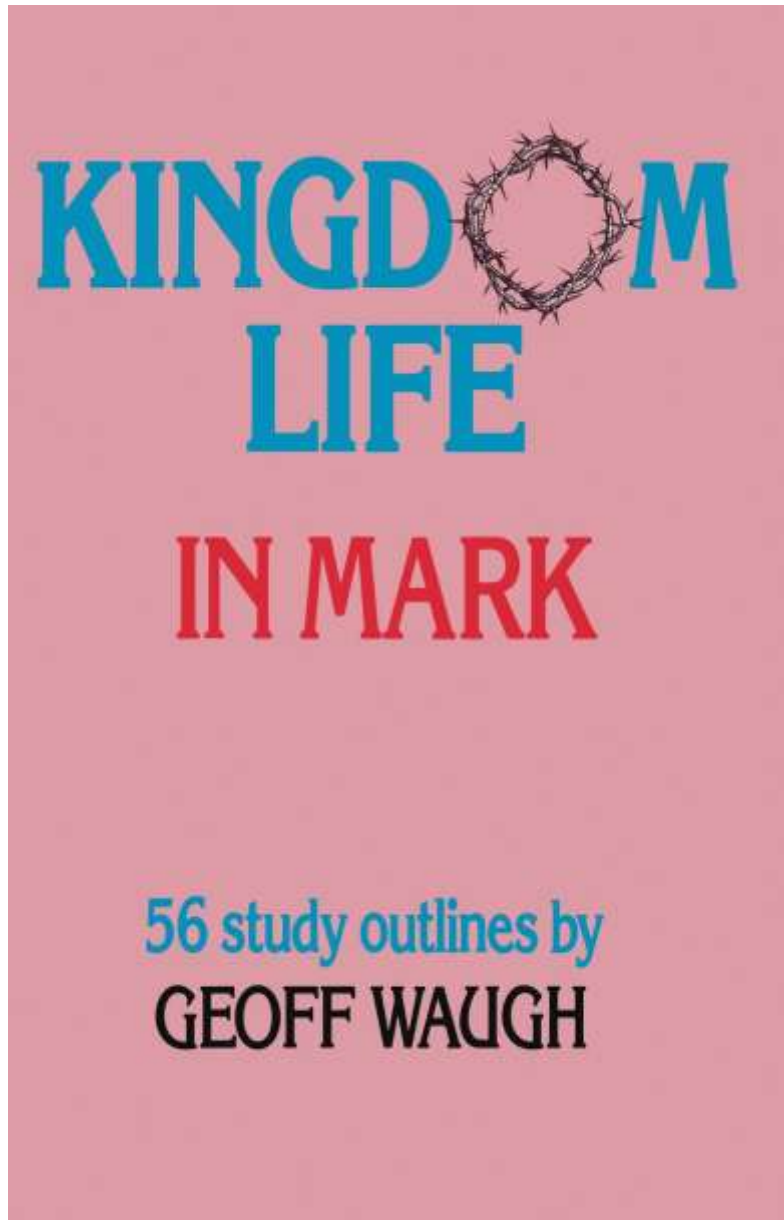


# *Kingdom Life in Mark*

*Study Outlines from Mark's Gospel*



**Geoff Waugh**

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**Bible quotations are from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated**

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**Logo: lamp & scroll,  
basin & towel,  
in the light of the cross**

# KINGDOM LIFE IN MARK

## Relational Bible studies using lectionary readings

### INTRODCUTION

### PART I THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS

#### **Preparation: The coming of Jesus the Messiah**

- |                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The coming of the Lord            | Mark 13:32-37     |
| 2. John the Baptist                  | Mark 1:1-8        |
| 3. The Messiah                       | John 1:6-8, 19-28 |
| 4. Mary's Son                        | Luke 1:26-38      |
| 5. Infancy and childhood of Jesus    | Luke 2:22-40      |
| 6. Reflections on the birth of Jesus | John 1:1-18       |

#### **Commencement: The figure of Jesus the Messiah**

- |                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 7. The baptism of Jesus              | Mark 1:4-11  |
| 8. The call of Andrew and his friend | John 1:35-42 |

#### **The mystery of the Son of God**

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 9. The call of the first disciples           | Mark 1:14-20    |
| 10. A Sabbath day in Capernaum (1)           | Mark 1:21-28    |
| 11. A Sabbath day in Capernaum (2)           | Mark 1:29-39    |
| 12. The cure of a leper                      | Mark 1:40-45    |
| 13. The cure of a paralytic                  | Mark 2:1-12     |
| 14. The question of fasting                  | Mark 2:18-22    |
| 15. Violation of the Sabbath                 | Mark 2:23-3:6   |
| 16. Serious criticism of Jesus               | Mark 3:20-35    |
| 17. The parables of the kingdom              | Mark 4:26-34    |
| 18. The calming of the storm                 | Mark 4:35-41    |
| 19. Jairus' daughter; a woman's faith        | Mark 5:21-43    |
| 20. Jesus rejected at Nazareth               | Mark 6:1-6      |
| 21. The mission of the twelve                | Mark 6:7-13     |
| 22. Compassion for the crowds<br>(interlude) | Mark 6:30-34    |
| 23. The feeding of the five thousand         | John 6:1-15     |
| 24. The bread of life (1)                    | John 6:24-35    |
| 25. The bread of life (2)                    | John 6:35,41-51 |
| 26. The bread of life (3)                    | John 6:51-58    |
| 27. Incredulity and faith                    | John 6:55-69    |
| 28. Jewish customs                           | Mark 7:1-23     |
| 29. The cure of a deaf mute                  | Mark 7:31-37    |

#### **The way of the Son of Man**

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 30. Peter's confession | Mark 8:27-38 |
|------------------------|--------------|

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 31. Passion and resurrection prophesied | Mark 9:30-37  |
| 32. Instructions for the disciples      | Mark 9:38-50  |
| 33. What God has joined together        | Mark 10:2-16  |
| 34. The problem of wealth               | Mark 10:17-3  |
| 35. The sons of Zebedee                 | Mark 10:35-45 |
| 36. The cure of Bartimaeus              | Mark 10:46-52 |
| 37. The first commandment               | Mark 12:28-34 |
| 38. The scribes; the widow's mite       | Mark 12:38-44 |
| 39. The last things                     | Mark 13:24-32 |

**Conclusion: The fulfilment of the mystery**

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 40. Christ the King | John 18:33-37 |
|---------------------|---------------|

**PART II THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

**Preparation for the Passion of Jesus**

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The transfiguration             | Mark 9:2-9                   |
| 2. The temptations                 | Mark 1:9-15                  |
| 3. The meaning of the cross        | Mark 8:31-38                 |
| 4. Teaching about the cross (1)    | John 2:13-22                 |
| 5. Teaching about the cross (2)    | John 3:14-21                 |
| 6. Teaching about the cross (3)    | John 12:20-33                |
| 7. Palm Sunday and the crucifixion | Mark 11:1-11<br>Mark 15:1-39 |

**Resurrection Appearances of Jesus**

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 8. The empty tomb     | Mark 16:1-18  |
| 9. Easter evening     | John 20:19-31 |
| 10. Emmaus postscript | Luke 24:35-48 |

**Observations about Jesus**

- |                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 11. Jesus the Good Shepherd        | John 10:11-18 |
| 12. Jesus the true vine            | John 15:1-8   |
| 13. Jesus present among his people | John 15:9-17  |
| 14. Jesus prays for his people     | John 17:11-19 |

**The coming of the Holy Spirit**

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 15. The day of Pentecost | John 15:26-27; 16:4-15 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|

**Conclusion: The Godhead**

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|-----------------|-------------|
| 16. The Trinity | John 3:1-17 |
|-----------------|-------------|

**Appendix 1: Studies arranged according to lectionary readings**

**Appendix 2: Studies arranged according to gospel readings**

**Appendix 3: Books**

# Introduction

Mark gives a vigorous, concise account of Jesus. The narrative moves swiftly. A brief prologue leads immediately into Jesus' ministry as he appears proclaiming and demonstrating the kingdom of God. Kingdom life fills the pages.

Central to that drama is the cross. Mark has been described as a passion narrative with an introduction. Jesus is introduced as the Son of God in the first verse. Chapters 1-8 reveal the mystery of the Son of God seen in Jesus' three year ministry based in Galilee.

Then the drama shifts in chapter 8 with Peter's confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah. Jesus immediately predicts his death and prepares his disciples for it (8:31; 9:30-31; 10:32-34). The Messiah must sacrifice his life. The way of the Son of Man is the way of the cross. Chapters 11-16 describe that final week in Jerusalem.

This book follows the story of Jesus using lectionary readings from the year of Mark (Year B). The readings include passages from other gospels as well, especially John.

## Relational Bible studies

These relational Bible studies help you explore and live kingdom life: to love God with your whole being and to love others. At best, our love for God and for one another is but a small reflection of God's love for us. These studies can help that love to grow. Choose the sections most suitable to you or your group.

You can use this book for both personal and group study:

Personal study, which may be in preparation for a group session or just for your own interest, will involve reading the Bible passages and thinking about the questions for yourself. You may want to keep a note book or journal of your insights or discoveries. If these readings are used in your church on Sundays you may want to reflect on the study after the Sunday and also read the next study in preparation for the following Sunday. You may have a friend, or friends, with whom you would like to discuss some of the issues, and these studies give you plenty of ideas for doing that as well.

Group study involves you with others. These studies invite you to relate together at the beginning, to respond to the Bible material in personal ways and to reflect on its meaning in your own lives and circumstances.

The studies help you share your ideas and discoveries as you study the Bible together. These relational studies invite you to interact at both a content and a personal level. You can share your pilgrimage with others. You journey together. You support and encourage one another.

The New International Version as well as the Revised Standard Version were used in writing these studies, so it will be helpful for group leaders to refer to those in preparing for each study.

The Serendipity Bible (NIV) is another a very useful resource. Any versions of the Bible can be used with the studies, of course, and comparison of different translations and study notes often adds helpful insights.

Your group will be able to move more freely through each study if you all read the passages at home first. That will make you familiar with the Bible material so that you can then interact on it together in the group. The gospel reading is the focus. The other readings are referred to during the study and can be included that way.

A rough time guide for each study would be to allow about 15 minutes for the Relate section, about 30 minutes for the Respond section and another 15 minutes for the Reflect section.

Sometimes you will go

longer than that, especially at the end. Allow adequate time to conclude in prayer together or in other appropriate ways.

If you have a group of more than five or six people, you will usually gain more from these studies by working in small sub-groups of about three to five. This can be done in many ways. One good way is to begin in the whole group for the Relate section, read the scripture together in the whole group, and then move into small sub-groups for the rest of the study.

Sometimes you may want to start in small sub-groups of two or three, then study the Response section together in the whole group, and finish by following the Reflect section in smaller groups.

### **Using the lectionary**

These group studies may be used following the lectionary dates or may be used independently, in full or in part, at any time. You could try one section to see if it suits your group or meets your needs, such as studies for Lent (see Appendix 1). Some groups may choose to select passages from Mark only and omit studies from other gospels used in the lectionary readings (see Appendix 2).

Appendix 1 gives you an outline of the lectionary year. For groups following the set dates of Sunday readings the studies from Part II on the death and resurrection of Jesus will fit into Part I at the Lent to Pentecost seasons.

Study 1, The Coming of the Lord, forms a bridge between the previous lectionary year (which concludes with Christ the King) and the new lectionary year. So the first study both looks toward the fulfillment of the coming of the Lord as King and introduces the advent of Jesus.

# Part I: The Life and Ministry of Jesus

## 1. The coming of the Lord

Mark 13:32-37

Other readings:

Isaiah 63:16-64:8

Psalm 80:1-7

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

God's ways are usually unexpected and mysterious. We cannot tie them down to our ideas or plans. They remain veiled or hidden until they are revealed in surprising simplicity and majestic splendour. So it was, and will be, with the coming of the Lord.

Relate

1. Introduce yourselves in pairs telling about something you like doing, or have achieved, perhaps a hobby, a reward, or a skill you have. Then briefly introduce your partner to the whole group.
2. When, if ever, did God become real to you personally?

Respond

1. Read Mark 13:32-37, someone reading verses 32-34 and another reading verses 35-37.
2. What is your picture of Jesus Christ our Lord now? Note verse 26.
3. What does it mean for us to be on guard, to be alert, to keep watch, and to watch (verses 33,35,37)?
4. How might our watching be expressed? Consider Psalm 80:3,7 and Isaiah 64:3-5,8.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you personally to eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed? Note 1 Corinthians 1:7-9.
2. Is it possible for us to not lack any spiritual gift, to be strong, to be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to be in fellowship with God's Son? Compare Psalm 80:3,7 and Isaiah 64:8 with 1 Corinthians 1:9.
3. Claim that in prayer with faith.

## **2. John the Baptist**

Mark 1:1-8

Other readings:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark tells the greatest news story ever, the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God (1:1), God incarnate. Mark plunges quickly into his incredible story: John the Baptist fulfills prophecy as he announces the Lord's coming. Therefore, everyone is called to repent, to turn from sin, to be ready.

### Relate

1. How did you get involved in the church originally?
2. What preacher, speaker or leader has had a strong influence in your life? How?

### Respond

1. Read Mark 1:1-8, different people reading verses 1,2-3,4-6,7-8.
2. How did John prepare the way for the Lord? Consider 2 Kings 1:8, Isaiah 40:3-5, Malachi 3:1; 4:5, and Luke 1:17.
3. Why is repentance so important? Compare John's preaching with Psalm 85:8-13 and 2 Peter 3:8-15a.
4. How did John contrast Jesus' ministry with his (verses 7-8)?

### Reflect

1. How does repentance or turning to God prepare us to be baptized in or with the Holy Spirit?
2. What does this mean for you and your ministry to others?
3. Pray about that for one another.



### **3. The Messiah**

John 1:6-8,19-28

Other readings:

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Luke 1:46b-55

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The light shines. The glory of God appeared in a man. John the Baptist announced this mystery, then rapidly faded from the scene. Jesus is the true light, the light of the world. He takes centre stage. He is revealed to those who welcome him, to those who believe in him. They live in the light.

Relate

1. What characteristics of Jesus do you most admire?
2. What is your idea of the glory of God?

Respond

1. Read John 1:6-8,19-28, someone narrating, others reading the words of John and the priests and Levites.
2. Why is the coming of the Messiah so unexpected, mysterious and yet glorious? Consider John 1:5,9,14,18,26-27.
3. How did Jesus fulfil the expectations and promises concerning the Messiah? See Isaiah 61:1-4,11 and Luke 1:46-55.
4. Why do people reject God's surprises?

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to be ready for God's surprises as you wait for the Lord's coming? Compare 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 with 1 Corinthians 1:8-9 and 2 Peter 3:14.
2. What surprises might happen if you live according to 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22.
3. Pray for one another about that.

#### **4. Mary's Son**

Luke 1:26-38

Other readings:

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Psalm 89:1-4,19-24

Romans 16:25-27

God exalts the lowly and brings low the mighty. The Lord turns things upside down and inside out. We are constantly reminded that God is sovereign. Our thoughts and motives are wide open to God who chooses to bless us all. God's blessings are especially welcomed by humble people who love the Lord. Mary was such a person.

#### Relate

1. When has some unexpected good news affected your life?
2. What are some life-changing choices you have made?

#### Respond

1. Read Luke 1:26-38, one person reading verses 26-27 and 29, another reading verses 28,30-33,35-37, and another reading verses 34 and 38.
2. What do you learn about God from this passage? Note 2 Samuel 7:8-9,16 and Psalm 89:1-4,19-24.
3. What do you learn about Jesus from this passage? Consider Mark 1:1 and Romans 16:25-27.
4. What do you learn about Mary from this passage? Compare verse 38 with Luke 1:18-20.

#### Reflect

1. How is your faith or obedience being stretched at present?
2. How can others in the group help you respond to God in faith?
3. Pray about that for each other.

## 5. Infancy and childhood of Jesus

Luke 2:22-40

Other readings:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 111

Galatians 4:4-7

God often entrusts divine purposes to us. We participate with God in those purposes. Our availability counts in God's plan more than our ability. God acts. We respond. Then, often to our amazement, we find ourselves caught up in God's great purposes, even while doing our normal tasks. Mary, Joseph, Simeon and Anna discovered this.

Relate

1. Who are the oldest and youngest people you know?
2. How do old and young people add to your faith development?

Respond

1. Read Luke 2:22-40, a paragraph each.
2. How were routine tasks transformed by Jesus' presence? Consider verses 22,27, and 38.
3. How can we connect more fully with God's purposes? Note verses 25-27 and 37.
4. How are God's purposes linked with this child? Compare verses 30-32 with Psalm 111:9-10, Isaiah 62:1-3, and Galatians 4:4-7.

Reflect

1. How does the presence of God's Spirit in us link us with God's purposes? Note verses 25b-27a and Galatians 4:6-7.
2. How can you be more responsive to the Spirit?
3. Claim that inheritance together in prayer.

## **6. Reflections on the birth of Jesus**

John 1:1-18

Other readings:

Jeremiah 31:7-14      Psalm 147:12-20      Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

We see God revealed in Jesus. The light of God shone brightly in Jesus, and the darkness could not put it out. That light still shines in our lives and in the world. We are bearers of the light in our world. Kingdom life is lived in the light of God.

Relate

1. What do you value most about your beginnings?
2. How have your beginnings helped shape your life?

Respond

1. Read John 1:1-18 silently and meditate on key verses for you.
2. What lights up or has special meaning for you in that passage?
3. What do you learn about Jesus from the passage? See also Ephesians 1:18-23.
4. How might the awesome greatness of Jesus Christ affect our lives? Consider Psalm 147:12-14, Jeremiah 31:12-14 and Ephesians 1:3-6.

Reflect

1. What aspects of Jesus' grace and truth mean most to you? Note John 1:14.
2. What aspects of grace and truth do you see in each person in your group? Each person can remain silent as others comment on them.
3. Thank God for this as you ask to grow in grace and truth.

## 7. The baptism of Jesus

Mark 1:4-11

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7

Jesus transforms everything. He accepted John's baptism but gave it new meaning. John baptised in water for repentance. Jesus identified with us in his obedience to his Father's will but did not need to repent. He received the Spirit and is the one who baptizes in or with the Spirit. The new era of the Spirit is inaugurated and demonstrated in Jesus, the Son of God.

### Relate

1. Were you baptised, and why?
2. What is the significance of baptism for you?

### Respond

1. Read Mark 1:4-11, different people reading verses 4-6,7-8,9-11.
2. How did John contrast his ministry with Jesus' ministry?
3. What did Jesus' baptism begin for him? Compare the Spirit's presence and God's pleasure in Genesis 1:1-5 with Mark 1:10-11.
4. Why are we baptized in or into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Consider Acts 19:4-6 and Matthew 28:19.

### Reflect

1. In what way is baptism an initiation into God's purposes for you?
2. What link, if any, do you see between baptism and forgiveness and the Spirit's presence in our lives? See Acts 2:38.
3. Conclude with prayer acknowledging God's purposes for you. Note Psalm 29:1-2,10-11.

## **8. The call of Andrew and his friend**

John 1:35-42

Other readings:

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)    Psalm 63:1-8    1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Jesus welcomed the sincere enquiry from Andrew and his friend. The Lord invites us into significant relationship with himself and others. Our desire for that intimacy in relationship is fulfilled in Jesus, the source of life abundant. United in Jesus the Christ, we have unlimited potential for the deepest possible relationships.

Relate

1. What do you look for in a friend?
2. What do you offer others in a friendship?

Respond

1. Read John 1:35-42, a verse each.
2. What did Andrew and his friend really want? Note Psalm 63:1-8.
3. What amazing discovery did they make and how did it affect them? See John 1:41-42.
4. How might God's revelation affect us? Look at 1 Samuel 3:10,19-20 and 1 Corinthians 6:18-19.

Reflect

1. What do you want from Jesus?
2. What do you really want in your life now?
3. Pray for one another about that.

## **9. The call of the first disciples**

Mark 1:14-20

Other readings:

Jonah 3:1-5,10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-35

The Lord chooses us, we don't choose him (John 15:16). Simon, Andrew, James and John discovered this. God is sovereign. We merely respond to God's claim on us. That always has radical implications for us. As we live out our kingdom life our priorities or choices are branded with that stamp of God's claim on us.

### Relate

1. How has the good news of Jesus affected your life?
2. How does that good news affect your choices now?

### Respond

1. Read Mark 1:14-20, a paragraph each.
2. What response to God's rule did Jesus ask of everyone? Consider Jonah 3:1-5,10 and Psalm 62:11-12.
3. What specific response did Jesus ask of some people? Compare with 1 Corinthians 7:29-31.
4. How does the Lord's power and love motive us to respond to the claims of God's kingdom?  
Note Psalm 62:11-12.

### Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to repent and believe the good news?
2. What specific choices are involved in this for you just now?
3. Pray for one another concerning your obedience and faith.

## **10. A Sabbath day in Capernaum (1)**

Mark 1:21-28

Other readings:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

God's kingdom confronts evil. Since evil taints all aspects of personal and social life, the rule of God continually confronts us in every aspect of life. Jesus has authority to deal with evil. He did. He still does. We can know freedom in his name. Kingdom life sets captives free as the demonized man discovered.

Relate

1. What authority figures influenced you positively?
2. What qualities do you admire in people using authority well?

Respond

1. Read Mark 1:21-28, two verses per person.
2. How did the words and works of Jesus demonstrate his authority?
3. Why would Jesus' teaching provoke or unmask evil powers?
4. How does our submission to God's rule free us from evil? Consider Deuteronomy 18:10-13,17-20, Psalm 111:1,10 and 1 Corinthians 8:1-3, 11-13.

Reflect

1. How have you known freedom through deliverance by Jesus?
2. How can you help others to know freedom this way?
3. Pray about that together.



## 11. A Sabbath day in Capernaum (2)

Mark 1:29-39

Other readings:

Job 7:1-7

Psalm 147:1-11

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

As Jesus' fame spread people in need crowded around him. He turned no one away. He continually responded to cries for help. His ministry included everyone and every kind of need. He cared for the whole person. Through his close union with God he exercised authority over destructive powers in body and soul. He still does.

Relate

1. When has someone's need led you to do something about it?
2. When have others done something to help you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 1:29-34, two people reading three verses each.
2. How would those who came to Jesus for help feel before and after his help? Consider Job 7:1-7 and Psalm 147:1-3,10-11.
3. What kind of ministry does God's compassion and power produce?
4. What compulsion does compassion produce in us. Note Mark 1:38-39 and 1 Corinthians 9:16-18,22-23.

Reflect

1. What needs do you want to do something about?
2. What needs in your life would you like met just now?
3. Pray in faith about these together.

## **12. The cure of a leper**

Mark 1:40-45

Other readings

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 32

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Everywhere Jesus went he found people in need. The demand for his help was constant. He stayed in lonely places away from towns as he moved on, fulfilling his mission. Still the crowds followed him. His compassion reached out to all, especially the most needy, even to touching lepers. He calls us to this inclusive care.

Relate

1. What human need do you find it easiest to respond to?
2. What human need do you find it hardest to respond to?

Respond

1. Read Mark 1:40-45, someone narrating and others reading the words of the leper and Jesus.
2. What guided and motivated Jesus in his ministry? Consider verses 35,38,41,44.
3. What attitude in people enabled God's power to meet their needs? Compare verse 40 with 2 Kings 5:9-14.
4. How can we know God's compassion and power in our lives? Note Psalm 32:1-2,8-11 and 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Reflect

1. How can you reach out to others more effectively?
2. What help do you need in doing that?
3. Pray about that.

### 13. The cure of a paralytic

Mark 2:1-12

Other readings:

Isaiah 43:18-25

Psalm 41

2 Corinthians 1:18-22

When Jesus returned to his base at Capernaum the crowds swelled. So did opposition. Much of what he said and did was controversial. Already he was accused of blasphemy. Vested interests in doctrine and practice were confronted by God's grace expressed in Jesus' ministry.

Relate

1. When have innovations captured your interest or support?
2. When have innovations have rung alarm bells for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 2:1-12, a paragraph each.
2. What does this passage say about caring and community? Consider Psalm 41:1-3.
3. What does this passage say about Jesus' authority to forgive and heal then and now? Note Isaiah 43:18-21,25 and 2 Corinthians 1:20-22.
4. Why does all orthodoxy hang on Jesus' divinity? See verse 7.

Reflect

1. What ministry of Jesus today challenges your vested interests?
2. What ministry of Jesus today stretches your obedience and faith?
3. Pray about that in repentance and faith.

## 14. The question of fasting

Mark 2:18-22

Other readings:

Hosea 2:14-20

Psalm 103:1-13

2 Corinthians 3:1-6

Jesus, the Son of God, fulfils in himself all the laws of God. The new fulfils and replaces the old in him. The old covenant pointed to him; the old laws prepared the way for him. His living presence, then and now, transforms our laws and rituals by his Spirit in us. Religious rules such as fasting took on new meaning in him.

Relate

1. What family rules have become obsolete for you?
2. How did those rules prepare you for your present freedom?

Respond

1. Read Mark 2:18-22, a verse each.
2. How do Jesus' three pictures answer the people's question?
3. Why is relationship with the Lord a cause for celebration? Consider Psalm 103:1-13 and Hosea 2:16,19-20.
4. How does the Spirit of the Lord in our lives fulfil the law? Note 2 Corinthians 3:3,6.

Reflect

1. What church traditions have been transformed for you?
2. How might the Spirit transform your present traditions?
3. Pray about the Spirit's leading in these.

## 15. Violation of the Sabbath

Mark 2:23-3:6

Other readings:

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 20

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Jesus constantly challenged the legalism and prejudice of religious people. He gives life and freedom. The laws which were meant to help had become idols and barriers. The means became an end. Traditions became burdens. Jesus could easily refrain from healing on the Sabbath. There were plenty of other days. But he would not.

Relate

1. What traditions have you had which you do not have now?
2. What made those traditions obsolete for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 2:23-3:6, a verse each.
2. How are these two events similar?
3. Why was Jesus so angry?
4. How does God transform the old with the new? Consider 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,11-13, Psalm 20:6-9, and 2 Corinthians 4:5-7.

Reflect

1. What traditions might the Spirit of the Lord be changing for you?
2. Why is it difficult for us to respond fully to the Spirit?
3. Pray about that in repentance and faith.

## 16. Serious criticism of Jesus

Mark 3:20-35

Other readings

1 Samuel 16:14-23

Psalm 57

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

As Jesus' fame increased so did the opposition. Even his family wanted to stop him. Theologians accused him of using demonic power. Conflict became intense. Assassination plots were made. The reign of God confronted entrenched evil in individuals (3:11) and in religious and political systems (3:23). Jesus could not be ignored.

Relate

1. When have you been criticised for doing good?
2. How did you cope with that?

Respond

1. Read Mark 3:20-35, a paragraph each.
2. Why did Jesus provoke such hostility? Note verses 6,20-22.
3. Why did Jesus so strongly warn people not to identify the Holy Spirit with evil spirits? See verses 28-30.
4. How does God's Spirit renew and transform us? Consider 1 Samuel 16:14,23, Psalm 57:1,9-11, and 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to be part of God's kingdom in which the king regards his servants as his friends and family? Compare 3:34-35 with John 15:14-17.
2. What do you want to ask the Father in Jesus' name?
3. Do that together.

## **17. The parables of the kingdom**

Mark 4:26-34

Other readings:

2 Samuel 1:1,17-27      Psalm 46      2 Corinthians 5:6-10,14-17

The kingdom of God invades the world's kingdoms from within, transforming people and systems from the inside out. It is hidden and powerful. It keeps growing, directed by God, like the smallest of seeds that grows into the largest of plants. God is the gardener.

Relate

1. When has something small become something big for you (such as learning to talk, write or drive)?
2. What past dream or goal have you seen achieved?

Respond

1. Read Mark 4:26-34, a paragraph each.
2. What do these two stories say about the growth of God's kingdom?
3. How do God's purposes ripen whether we participate or not? Note 2 Samuel 1:1,17-18,23-27 and Psalm 46.
4. How do God's purposes ripen in us? See 2 Corinthians 5:9-10,14-17.

Reflect

1. What kingdom dream or goal have you seen achieved?
2. What kingdom dream or goal do you have now?
3. Pray about its progress and fulfilment.

## **18. The calming of the storm**

Mark 4:35-41

Other readings:

2 Samuel 5:1-12

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2

Jesus was exhausted and slept in the storm. When his frightened disciples woke him he spoke with the authority of the creator and stopped the storm. Everything is subject to him. Kingdom life affects all creation and all of life. Nothing lies outside the realm of God's reign. Jesus demonstrated this awesome authority in his words and actions. He still does.

Relate

1. When have you seen the glory of God reflected in nature?
2. When have you seen nature in chaos?

Respond

1. Read Mark 4:35-41, someone narrating, others reading the words of Jesus and the disciples.
2. What did the disciples learn about Jesus that night? Consider John 1:3 and Hebrews 1:2.
3. How does the Lord's authority further his purposes? See 2 Samuel 5:1-4,9-10 and Psalm 48:1-2,14.
4. How does the Lord's authority ensure our salvation? Note 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2.

Reflect

1. When has the Lord's authority surprised you or filled you with awe?
2. Where is the Lord leading you in God's awesome purposes?
3. Pray about that together in faith.



## **19. Jairus' daughter; a woman's faith**

Mark 5:21-43

Other readings:

2 Samuel 6:1-15

Psalm 24

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Across the lake Jesus brought sanity to a madman and then returned. His awesome authority gave healing with a touch and called the dead to life. God's power surged through Jesus to bring health to sick bodies and life to the dead. His word restored wholeness in his creation. People were continually amazed and astonished (5:20,42).

Relate

1. How do you feel in the presence of someone famous?
2. Has anything ever surprised or amazed you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 5:21-43, a paragraph each.
2. Why did Jesus commend and encourage faith? See verses 34,36.
3. Why does God's awesome power cause both fear and wonder. Compare Mark 4:41 and 5:42 with 2 Samuel 6:6-12 and Psalm 24.
4. How are the grace and glory of God revealed in Jesus' actions? Consider also 2 Corinthians 8:9.

Reflect

1. When has an answer to prayer shown you God's power or purposes?
2. How can you connect more fully with God's power or purposes?
3. Pray in faith about that together.

## **20. Jesus rejected at Nazareth**

Mark 6:1-6

Other readings:

2 Samuel 7:1-17

Psalm 89:20-37

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

People in Jesus' home town were amazed at him. They could not see beyond the human family ties. So Jesus could do no miracles there and only healed a few sick people. He was amazed at them. We can be confronted with the mighty works of God, but it may not compute for us. So we deny it or refuse to believe it can happen to us.

Relate

1. What childhood stories do people remember about you?
2. What do you remember most about your childhood?

Respond

1. Read Mark 6:1-6, a verse each.
2. Why would Jesus' hometown take offence at him?
3. How does our faith in God's word connect us with God's purposes and actions? Consider 2 Samuel 7:4,8-12 and Psalm 89:20-24.
4. How do God's mighty actions show in our weaknesses? See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

Reflect

1. What is a growing edge for your faith at present?
2. How might your weakness be a means for God's power to be seen?
3. Pray about your response to God in faith.

## **21. The mission of the twelve**

Mark 6:7-13

Other readings:

2 Samuel 7:18-29      Psalm 132:11-18      Ephesians 1:1-10

Jesus not only ministered in authority but passed that authority on to his followers. They had seen him minister. Now they in turn ministered to others with that same authority. They too called people to repent, to turn from their sins to God, and demonstrated the grace and power of God in their mission.

Relate

1. What did you learn from someone who showed you how to do it?
2. How did you feel when you did that yourself?

Respond

1. Read Mark 6:7-13, a paragraph each.
2. Why would Jesus send the disciples two by two and without supplies? Compare with verse 6.
3. How were their words and actions like Jesus'? See 1:14-15,27,34.
4. How are God's purposes fulfilled in our lives? Consider 2 Samuel 7:18-20, Psalm 132:11-12, and Ephesians 1:3-10.

Reflect

1. How is our mission like the ministry of Jesus and his disciples?
2. What does that mean for you now?
3. Pray about that in faith.

## 22. Compassion for the crowds

Mark 6:30-34

Other readings:

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 53

Ephesians 2:11-22

After their mission the disciples reported to Jesus about what they had done. Jesus wanted time away with them to rest. But the crowds followed them. So Jesus continued to minister to people because of his compassion for them. Always his actions were an expression of his compassion for people.

Relate

1. What are some of your favourite picnics?
2. What kind of holidays do you prefer?

Respond

1. Read Mark 6:30-34, one person reading one version, another reading another version.
2. Why would time out with the disciples be especially significant after their mission?
3. What powerful lesson would Jesus' compassion teach his disciples?
4. Why does God persist with us? Consider 2 Samuel 11:2-5, Psalm 53:1-3, and Ephesians 2:19-22.

Reflect

1. How might the Lord's compassion, through his Spirit in us, affect our actions? Note Ephesians 2:19-22.
2. How does that compassion affect your actions?
3. Pray about that together.

### **23. The feeding of the five thousand**

John 6:1-15

Other readings:

2 Samuel 12:1-14

Psalm 32

Ephesians 3:14-21

Jesus' ministry blessed people but was politically dangerous. Mark tells how Herod, who had imprisoned and killed John the Baptist, heard about Jesus (Mark 6:14). Now Jesus' disciples were doing what Jesus did (Mark 6:7,12-13,30). A great crowd followed them (Mark 6:34, John 6:2,5). John tells how Jesus involved his disciples in his ministry. He fed the crowds, but refused to be the kind of king the people wanted.

Relate

1. When have you faced something beyond you?
2. How did you cope?

Respond

1. Read Mark 6:34-44 and John 6:1-15, two people reading one account each.
2. What details does John add to the story and how did Jesus involve the disciples? Compare John 6:9,14 with with 2 Kings 4:42-44.
3. Why was this miraculous sign both a blessing and a problem? Note Jesus' attitude to the temptations (Matthew 4:3-10).
4. When we are overwhelmed or mess up, how can we cope? Consider 2 Samuel 12:13 and Psalm 32:1-2,8-11.

Reflect

1. What difficult task or overwhelming situation faces you?
2. How can you help one another in that? Note Ephesians 3:14-21.
3. Claim those realities in prayer together.

## **24. The bread of life (1)**

John 6:24-35

Other readings:

2 Samuel 12:15b-24      Psalm 34:11-22      Ephesians 4:1-6

John 6 gives a significant commentary on Jesus, the bread of life. The discussion is sparked off by Jesus feeding the crowd but refusing to be the king they want. This caused crisis. Many followers left him when he showed them a much deeper reality: he himself is our food, our eternal nourishment (6:66).

Relate

1. When has some ordinary thing or object reminded you of God?
2. What symbols remind you most of Jesus (e.g., cross, fish)?

Respond

1. Read John 6:24-35, a paragraph each.
2. How did Jesus challenge the crowd's shallow motives? Look at verses 27,29,35.
3. How does spiritual reality transcend and transform the physical? Consider Ephesians 4:1-6.
4. How can God transcend and transform our failure to understand or do his will? Note 2 Samuel 12:15-16,22-24 and Psalm 34:17-18,22.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to believe in Jesus? See verses 29,35.
2. How can that faith grow stronger? Note Mark 9:24.
3. Pray about that.

## **25. The bread of life (2)**

John 6:35,41-51

Other readings:

2 Samuel 18:1,5,9-15      Psalm 143:1-10      Ephesians 4:25-5:2

The cross continually confronts us. Jesus becomes our bread of life by giving his own life. The Word who became flesh (John 1:14) must give that flesh for us and to us. We live because he died, and then conquered death for us all. Those who see him as only another human being and not divine, the Father's Son, cannot accept this mystery.

Relate

1. When has someone you know done something that was extra-ordinary?
2. Has anything unusual happened when you have done something?

Respond

1. Read John 6:35,41-51, a paragraph each.
2. How does Jesus contrast temporary events with the eternal life he gives? Note verses 35,44,47-51.
3. Why is the cross essential? Compare verse 51 with Ephesians 5:2.
4. What is our hope, even in distress? Consider 2 Samuel 18:12-15, and Psalm 143:1-2,8-10.

Reflect

1. What aspects of Jesus' life do you see growing in you? Reflect on Ephesians 4:25-32.
2. What aspects of Jesus' life do you see in others in your group?
3. Pray for one another about that.

## **26. The bread of life (3)**

John 6:51-58:

Other readings:

2 Samuel 18:24-33      Psalm 102:1-12      Ephesians 5:15-20

The offence of the cross is central to the gospel. We declare this and participate in it in communion: the eucharist or thanksgiving. John uses that word in 6:11,23. He shows how Jesus, teaching in the Capernaum synagogue, contrasted the temporary benefits of bread and manna (6:26,58) with the eternal benefits of eating his flesh and drinking his blood. It was offensive then, as now.

Relate

1. What does communion or the eucharist mean for you?
2. When has communion or the eucharist been especially meaningful for you?

Respond

1. Read John 6:51-58, a verse each.
2. How does this passage relate to communion or the eucharist?
3. Why would this teaching be so offensive? Note verse 52.
4. How does Jesus' death give us life and hope? Consider 2 Samuel 18:33, Psalm 102:1-2,9-12 and Ephesians 5:20.

Reflect

1. How might your participation in Jesus' death transform your life? Note Ephesians 5:15-20.
2. What further transformation would you like see in your life?
3. Pray for one another about that.



## 27. Incredulity and faith

John 6:55-69

Other readings:

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Psalm 67

Ephesians 5:21-33

Jesus keeps challenging his audience to believe in him alone. That is difficult. It is even more difficult to believe that his death is our life. To express that in terms of eating his flesh and drinking his blood is especially offensive. Yet Jesus presses the point. Consequently, many of his disciples could no longer follow him.

Relate

1. When have you been incredulous or doubting about Jesus' claims?
2. What claims of Jesus do you still find hard to believe fully?

Respond

1. Read John 6:55-69, a paragraph each.
2. How did Jesus answer his offended followers? See verses 62-63.
3. What satisfied Jesus' loyal followers? Compare verses 64 and 68-69.
4. How can our union with God in Christ satisfy us? Consider 2 Samuel 23:1-2, Psalm 67 and Ephesians 5:21,29-33.

Reflect

1. What satisfies you most about belonging to Christ?
2. What stretches you most in belonging to Christ?
3. Pray about that with thanks and faith.

## 28. Jewish customs

Mark 7:1-23

Other readings:

1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12

Psalm 121

Ephesians 6:10-20

Jesus clashed with the leaders about traditions. Traditions can help preserve values, but they can easily become gods or grow obsolete. We tend to hang tightly to religious traditions because they are linked with our deepest values. Jesus continually pointed to the inner realities and values rather than the external tradition.

Relate

1. What family tradition do you value?
2. What church tradition do you value?

Respond

1. Read Mark 7:1-23, a paragraph each.
2. How did tradition nullify God's word in Jesus day? See verses 7-8,13.
3. Why is the heart more important than traditions? Note verses 20-23.
4. How can traditions be kept helpful through a right heart or good attitudes? Consider 1 Kings 2:2-4 and Psalm 121.

Reflect

1. Which traditions do you want to keep and which can you discard?
2. What attitudes keep you strongly on course? See Ephesians 6:10-18.
3. Pray together about those attitudes.

## **29. The cure of a deaf mute**

Mark 7:31-37

Other readings:

Proverbs 2:1-8      Psalm 119:129-136      James 1:17-27

Jesus journeyed north to Tyre and Sidon, and then to the Decapolis, a league of ten free cities with Greek culture stretching from Damascus to Amman. These neighbouring Gentiles were considered outcasts or unclean by orthodox Jews. Jesus continually helped those considered outcasts or unclean. He demonstrated the love and power of God by meeting people's needs everywhere he went.

Relate

1. Who would be considered unclean by your church?
2. When have you seen such people transformed by Jesus?

Respond

1. Read Mark 7:31-37, different people reading verses 31-32, 33-35, 36-37.
2. How does this passage and the preceding one relate to Jesus' clash with the Jewish leaders? Note 7:15,24-30.
3. How does this passage demonstrate the nature of God's kingdom?
4. What indicates a right relationship with God? Consider Psalm 119:132-136, Proverbs 2:1-5, and James 1:17,21-22,26-27.

Reflect

1. Who might you see as unclean or outcast?
2. What can you or your group do about that?
3. Pray together about it.

### **30. Peter's confession**

Mark 8:27-38

Other readings:

Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9

Psalm 125

James 2:1-5,8-10,14-17

The way of the Son of Man (the title Jesus used of himself) was the way of the cross, identifying totally with sinful humanity. Yet here was more than a man. Peter's radical confession was blasphemy to Jews, for which a person could be killed. Jesus was. This awesome claim marks a mid-point turn in the gospel narrative. Now the drama moves into that final journey, to death. Jesus took his disciples into the hills north of Galilee to prepare them for the inevitable.

Relate

1. What do you find shocking or surprising about Jesus?
2. What excites or grabs you most about Jesus?

Respond

1. Read Mark 8:27-38, a paragraph each.
2. How did Peter's two strong responses to Jesus contradict each other? See verses 29,32-33.
3. How is our cross linked with Jesus' cross? Note verse 34.
4. How does faith in God's Christ produce action? Consider Psalm 125:4-5, Proverbs 22:8-9 and James 2:14-17.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to deny yourself and take up your cross and follow Jesus?
2. How can the group help you do that?
3. Pray for one another about that.

### **31. Passion and resurrection prophesied**

Mark 9:30-37

Other readings:

Job 28:20-28

Psalm 27:1-6

James 3:13-18

Jesus kept away from the crowds as he trekked with his disciples in the Galilee hills, preparing them for his death and resurrection. His death featured in the transfiguration (Luke 9:30-31; Mark 9:9-10) and their discussions together (Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34). Yet the disciples could not understand. They still thought in terms of political greatness and power, arguing about this on their way back to their base in Capernaum.

Relate

1. What puzzles you about greatness in God's kingdom?
2. What excites you about greatness in God's kingdom?

Respond

1. Read Mark 9:30-37, different people reading verses 30-32, 33-37.
2. How does Jesus' attitude to his death graphically illustrate his teaching about greatness? See verses 31 and 35.
3. How does the first being last, everyone's slave, show the rugged, radical nature of God's kingdom?
4. What is true wisdom? Note Job 28:20-24,28, Psalm 27:4-6 and James 3:13-17.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to be the servant of all?
2. How can you do that in obedience to the Lord, not just to people's demands?
3. Pray about that for one another.

## **32. Instructions for the disciples**

Mark 9:38-50

Other readings:

Job 42:1-6

Psalm 27:7-14

James 4:13-17; 5:7-11

The ministry of Jesus was spreading. Not only did his disciples do what he did, but others were doing the same in his name. Jesus welcomed that. He warned his disciples not to stop it. Anyone who gives even a cup of water in Jesus' name will be rewarded. The kingdom of God cannot be tied to any one group, especially those who see themselves as the in-group or privileged.

Relate

1. When has some small act of kindness meant a lot to you?
2. When has some small act of yours meant a lot to someone?

Respond

1. Read Mark 9:38-50, someone reading verses 38-41, another reading 42-50.
2. How does Jesus encourage new believers? Compare verse 42 with verse 38.
3. How does Jesus welcome commitment and diversity? See verse 50.
4. How does a big view of God free us to encourage others who are different from us? Consider Job 42:1-6, Psalm 27:13-14 and James 4:13-17; 5:7-11.

Reflect

1. When has someone's encouragement helped you to obey God?
2. What encouragement can you give each person in your group now?
3. Do that for each person in turn and pray for each other.

### **33. What God has joined together**

Mark 10:2-16

Other readings:

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 128

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:9-11

As he journeyed toward Jerusalem, Jesus challenged the leaders and his own disciples with the cost of discipleship. He strongly defended women and children, especially as they were often ill treated or ignored. People used bible texts to support their own interests, but Jesus showed God's greater purpose which cuts right across our selfish interests.

Relate

1. What do you like most about weddings?
2. What do you like most about children?

Respond

1. Read Mark 10:2-16, a verse each..
2. How does Jesus cut right across self-interest and legalism? Compare verses 5-9 with John 8:3,7,10-11, and verse 13 with Mark 9:36-37.
3. Why was Jesus' position politically dangerous? Note Mark 6:17-19.
4. How does Jesus stress God's purpose for us? Consider Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 128.

Reflect

1. How does knowing Jesus help to overcome legalism for you? Comment on Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:9-11.
2. How can the group help you receive Jesus' help? See Hebrews 2:18.
3. Pray for one another about that.

### **34. The problem of wealth**

Mark 10:17-30

Other readings:

Genesis 3:8-19

Psalm 90:1-12

Hebrews 4:1-3,9-13

Discipleship costs. Jesus challenged sincere seekers with the total reign of God over every area of life. The radical nature of Jesus' claims came sharply into focus as he faced the cross. His followers would need to lay down their lives also, many to face martyrdom. Many still face that, but all of us are called to the same commitment. Kingdom life turns priorities around: the first will be last, the last first.

Relate

1. What hero from history do you especially admire?
2. What qualities of heroes or leaders do you want to adopt?

Respond

1. Read Mark 10:17-30, a paragraph each.
2. Why would Jesus drive home the lesson that no one is good, except God, and that the kingdom of God cannot be earned? Note verses 15 and 23.
3. Why did Jesus both love this fine young man and expose his priorities? See verses 21,24-27.
4. Why does God expose our thoughts, bringing us into the light? Consider Genesis 3:8-11, Psalm 90:8,11-12 and Hebrews 4:12-13.

Reflect

1. What priorities do you want to adjust or change?
2. How can the group or others help you do that?
3. Pray about that for one another.



### **35. The sons of Zebedee**

Mark 10:35-45

Other readings:

Isaiah 53:7-12

Psalm 35:17-28

Hebrews 4:14-16

The serving and suffering Son of Man insisted on the same attitude and lifestyle in his followers. Kingdom life calls the disciple to serve and suffer as the master does. Still they missed it. Their messianic hopes included sharing political power. Jesus turned that upside down: not so with you. The great must be a servant, the first must be a slave.

Relate

1. When have you wanted authority or position?
2. When have you seen authority used well in serving others?

Respond

1. Read Mark 10:35-45, a verse each.
2. Why did James and John miss the point? Compare verses 42-45 with 8:31-32, 9:31-32 and 10:32-34.
3. Why did Jesus point to the cup of his suffering and the baptism of his death? See verses 38-39.
4. How does Jesus' suffering help us in our discipleship? Consider Isaiah 53:7-12, Psalm 35:26-28 and Hebrews 4:14-16.

Reflect

1. What tough bit of discipleship challenges you just now?
2. How can you help each other face that?
3. Pray about that together.

### **36. The cure of Bartimaeus**

Mark 10:46-52

Other readings:

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm 126

Hebrews 5:1-6

The journey to Jerusalem passed through Jericho in the Jordan valley. Jesus still met the needs of those who called for help, especially those who were oppressed and hindered by others. A blind man saw, and followed Jesus. Yet many who can see are blind to Jesus' mission. God's love and power are available to all, for all in need.

Relate

1. How do you usually respond to collectors for charities?
2. How do you usually respond to beggars, blind or seeing?

Respond

1. Read Mark 10:46-52, a verse each.
2. What is a typical response to those who don't fit the norm? See verse 48.
3. What is Jesus' response to need? Note Psalm 126.
4. What does this mean for us? Consider Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Hebrews 5:1-6.

Reflect

1. What changes does Jesus' attitude and action mean for you?
2. How can the group help you make any changes?
3. Pray about that for one another.

### **37. The first commandment**

Mark 12:28-34

Other readings:

Deuteronomy 6:1-9      Psalm 119:33-48      Hebrews 7:23-28

Jesus came to Jerusalem in great popularity. Was he the Messiah, the deliverer from oppression? Vested interests were challenged. The leaders wanted Jesus killed (11:18; 12:12). Tension mounted. Debate flared in attempts to trap him. Yet Jesus firmly stood his ground and emphasised the kingdom essentials such as loving God and others.

Relate

1. What motto do you like?
2. What is a guiding principle in life for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 12:28-34, a paragraph each.
2. How was this leader's attitude different from many others? Note 11:28; 12:13,18.
3. Why was this leader close to God's kingdom? See verses 32-34.
4. How does Jesus both demonstrate and fulfil the law in himself? Consider Deuteronomy 6:4-7, Psalm 119:33-37 and Hebrews 7:24-27.

Reflect

1. What does this commandment in its two parts mean for you?
2. How does this relate to kingdom living in your life?
3. Pray together about your response to this commandment.

### **38. The scribes; the widow's mite**

Mark 12:38-44

Other readings:

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146

Hebrews 9:24-28

Jesus confronted and unmasked the hypocrisy and ambition of religious and political leaders and at the same time commended and praised those whose hearts were right with God. The confrontation led directly to his arrest, trial and execution. Yet the kingdom of God came powerfully this way, the way of giving everything over to God.

Relate

1. When has someone's small gift meant a lot to you?
2. When have you given something small that meant a lot for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 12:38-44, someone reading verses 38-40, someone else verses 41-44.
2. How does the double reference to widows sharpen Jesus' contrast? See verses 40 and 42.
3. Why are position and power so dangerous and corrupting?
4. Why does God show special favour to the poor and oppressed? Consider 1 Kings 17:8-9,15-16 and Psalm 146:5-10.

Reflect

1. How can you keep a heart soft toward God and others?
2. What does giving everything to God mean for you?
3. Pray for each other in this regard.

### **39. The last things**

Mark 13:24-32

Other readings:

Daniel 7:9-14

Psalm 145:8-13

Hebrews 10:11-18

Sitting with his four apostles on the Mount of Olives directly opposite the huge temple buildings, Jesus tells of the end of all things (13:1-4). The old order is passing; the new has come. Jesus withdrew from the mounting conflict in Jerusalem to his friends in Bethany (14:1-3) before returning for the Passover and his passion, death and triumph. Here he speaks of that ultimate triumph in the new era.

Relate

1. When have you had deep talks with someone before they left you?
2. What was significant about that for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 13:24-32, a verse each.
2. Why does the Lord's coming in power and glory transform everything else? See verses 26 and 31.
3. How did the resurrection and ascension announce this new era?
4. Why is the ultimate triumph of the Son of Man so significant? Consider Daniel 7:13-14, Psalm 145:8-13 and Hebrews 10:12-14.

Reflect

1. What is your picture of Jesus now? Note Revelation 1:12-16.
2. How might this picture affect the way you live?
3. Pray in faith with vision.

## **40. Christ the King**

John 18:33-37

Other readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

The people wanted a king, the Messiah. He came. Yet his kingdom was not of this world. It is far greater. Eternal. The ultimate. Jesus the Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords. He shall reign for ever. He won this kingdom in his death and resurrection, his total triumph over all other kingdoms. Every knee shall bow to him.

Relate

1. What was one of your favourite childhood stories?
2. What is your picture of Jesus' final kingdom?

Respond

1. Read John 18:33-37, two people reading alternate verses including verse 37 a and b.
2. What kind of king did Jesus claim to be?
3. How does his kingdom permeate and transform all other kingdoms? See verse 37.
4. Where are we headed? Note Psalm 93:1-2,5, Jeremiah 23:5-6 and Revelation 1:4b-8.

Reflect

1. How do you want to repond to the kingly reign of Jesus?
2. Give symbolic gifts in words to each person in your group to help each one respond to Jesus' reign.
3. Pray for each person in the group?

## Part II: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

### 1. The transfiguration

Mark 9:2-9

Other readings:

2 Kings 2:1-12a      Psalm 50:1-6      2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark's gospel narrative takes a sharp turn with Peter's astounding confession that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus taught them what that meant in terms of his death and resurrection, and what is involved in discipleship (8:27-38; 9:30-31; 10:32-33). He prepared his disciples for the end of his ministry as he spent time with them in the hills north of Galilee. The last journey to Jerusalem started there with his transfiguration. His glory was revealed.

Relate

1. What is a favourite place of retreat or R & R (rest and recreation) for you?
2. When have you felt especially close to God?

Respond

1. Read Mark 9:2-9, one narrating and two others reading verses 5-6 and 7.
2. What is the connection of this story with seeing God's kingdom come with power? Note 9:1?
3. Why would the transfiguration be important to Jesus and to his disciples? See Luke 9:30-31 and Mark 8:31-32.
4. How might we have glimpses of God's glory? Consider 2 Kings 2:9-12, Psalm 50:1-3 and 2 Corinthians 4:6.

Reflect

1. What are some glimpses of God's glory you have known?
2. Why might those encouraging glimpses not remain yet? See Mark 9:5.
3. Give thanks as you move on in anticipation.

## **2. The temptations**

Mark 1:9-15

Other readings:

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Jesus' mission included the cross. He chose to give his life. He lived in full obedience. He alone could proclaim and demonstrate God's kingdom rule in its fulness. We only glimpse it. The way of the cross is the hardest way of all. Temptations divert us. They did not divert Jesus from his total obedience to God's will.

Relate

1. What is some way in which you chose to obey God?
2. What blessing resulted from that?

Respond

1. Read Mark 1:9-15, three people reading verses 9-11, 12-13, and 14-15.
2. What did obedience mean for Jesus? Note 1:11-12 and 9:7.
3. What does obedience mean for us? See 1:15.
4. How does Jesus' obedience open God's new covenant to us? Consider Genesis 9:12-16, Psalm 25:1-10 and 1 Peter 3:18-22.

Reflect

1. How can you have a good conscience toward God?
2. How can the group help you obey God?
3. Pray for one another about that.



### **3. The meaning of the cross**

Mark 8:31-38

Other readings:

Genesis 17:1-10,15-19    Psalm 105:1-11    Romans 4:16-25

Mark records how Jesus prepared his disciples for the end of his ministry by teaching them three times about his death and resurrection (8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34). They could not understand. It did not make sense. Their concept of the Messiah and the reign of God remained tied to a political kingdom. Jesus pointed out that the way of the cross means self-denial and losing life for him and his followers. Losing life is the only way to find it.

Relate

1. When has letting something go set you free?
2. What does freedom mean for you?

Respond

1. Read Mark 8:31-38, a verse each.
2. What did the cross mean for Jesus? Compare 9:31-33,38 with Daniel 7:13-14.
3. What does the cross mean for us? Note 9:34-37.
4. How does God's covenant to us transform losing life to finding life? Consider Genesis 17:1-10, Psalm 1-11 and Romans 4:16-25.

Reflect

1. What does losing your life involve for you just now?
2. How can that free you to serve God more faithfully?
3. Pray about that for one another and others.

#### **4. Teaching about the cross (1)**

John 2:13-22

Other readings:

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19:7-14

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Jesus' zeal for God's glory clashed with evil in all its forms. Trading of animals at the temple had been introduced as a means of helping people to make sacrifices required by the law. It easily became corrupt, favouring the rich who sold stock to the temple, providing profits for temple administration and cheating the poor who had to buy there. Jesus' own death fulfilled and ended all sacrifices.

Relate

1. What are you enthusiastic or zealous about?
2. What makes you feel like singing or dancing?

Respond

1. Read John 2:13-22, someone narrating and others reading the words of Jesus and the Jews.
2. Why did anyone, and especially Jesus, have the right to challenge the racket in the temple? See Mark 11:17.
3. How was Jesus' authority directly linked with the Passover and his death? Compare verses 13,18-22 with 1 Corinthians 1:22-25.
4. How is God's covenant fulfilled in Jesus? Consider Exodus 20:1-17 and Psalm 19:7-14.

Reflect

1. How does Jesus' zeal on our behalf affect you?
2. How is Jesus' death an invitation to life for you?
3. Respond to that in prayer together.

## 5. Teaching about the cross (2)

John 3:14-21

Other readings:

2 Chronicles 36:14-23    Psalm 137:1-6    Ephesians 2:4-10

The Son of Man must be lifted up - to die. What a paradox! The title Son of Man, like Messiah, spoke of authority, glory and power (Daniel 7:13-14). Yet Jesus interpreted it in terms of giving life through his death. The most loved and memorised gospel statement in the Bible comes in that context.

Relate

1. What version of John 3:16 do you know from memory?
2. What does that verse mean to you?

Respond

1. Read John 3:14-21, a verse each.
2. Why does Jesus compare himself with the snake on a pole? See Numbers 21:8-9.
3. Why does God not condemn the world? Note John 3:17; 8:11 and Ephesians 2:4-10.
4. Can we be condemned? Consider John 3:18-21, 2 Chronicles 36:14-17 and Psalm 137:1-6.

Reflect

1. What do you appreciate most about John 3:16.
2. How would you use that verse in talking with people?
3. Pray about the implications of that for your group.

## **6. Teaching about the cross (3)**

John 12:20-33

Other readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:10-17

Hebrews 5:7-10

Jesus' death means life for us. Even Gentiles, those outside God's covenant people, are included in the new covenant. In that one death the whole world lies embraced in God's love and forgiveness. A grain of wheat dies, and produces life. So with Jesus. So with us in following him.

Relate

1. What does the cross mean to you?
2. Why is the cross the chief Christian symbol?

Respond

1. Read John 12:20-33, a paragraph each.
2. How does the wheat seed parable apply to Jesus? See verses 24,32-33 and Hebrews 5:7-10.
3. How does that parable apply to us? See verses 24-26.
4. How do we participate in the new covenant? Consider Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Psalm 51:10-17.

Reflect

1. What does it mean for you to know the Lord? Note Jeremiah 31:34.
2. How can the group help you know the Lord more fully?
3. Pray about that together.

## 7. Palm Sunday and the Crucifixion

Mark 11:1-11; 15:1-39

Other readings:

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 118:19-29; 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11

Holy Week! No other week in all history can touch it. Jerusalem saw the cosmic drama of the universe enacted then. Yet no one there but Jesus knew what really happened. From hosannas to 'crucify him'; from the disciples highest hopes to their deepest despair; from triumph to tragedy. The end? No. The beginning.

### Relate

One approximate scenario for that week could be:

Day 1 - triumph; entry into Jerusalem (11:1-11).

Day 2 - authority; temple cleansed (11:12-19).

Day 3 - conflict; clash with leaders (11:20-13:37)

Day 4 - preparation; anointing (14:1-10)

Day 5 - farewell; passover begins (14:12-31)

Day 6 - passion; Gethsemane, trials and crucifixion (14:32-15:47)

Day 7 - silence; sabbath till sundown (16:1).

Day 8 - conquest - resurrection (16:2-20).

What dramatic day intrigues you most from that week?

### Respond

1. Read Mark 11:1-11 and 15:21-39 and comment on its impact on you.
2. Comment on Psalm 31:9-16 and 118:19-29.
3. Comment on Isaiah 50:4-9a.
4. Comment on Philippians 2:5-11.

### Reflect

Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:11):

Comment on what this means for you and respond in prayer.

## **8. The empty tomb**

Mark 16:1-18 and John 20:1-18

Other readings:

Isaiah 25:6-9 (Acts 10:34-43) Psalm 118:14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Resurrection! Hope. Doubt. Reports. Rumours. Confusion. Glimpses. Angels? Miracles? Stone rolled away? The tomb empty? A spirit? A real body? Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Relate

1. What is your favourite Easter hymn or song?
2. What do you like about Easter?

Respond

1. Read John 20:1-18 and Mark 16:1-18.
2. How does the resurrection declare God's ultimate victory? Note Isaiah 25:6-9.
3. How were the witnesses' lives changed? See Acts 10:34-43 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-11.
4. What does the resurrection confirm about God? Consider Psalm 118:14-24.

Reflect

1. What does the resurrection mean for you?
2. How can the resurrection affect your daily life?
3. Celebrate in prayer and worship.

## **9. Easter evening**

John 20:19-31

Other readings:

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1-2:2

The incredible was true. Jesus had conquered even death. God's Messiah was vindicated. The new order had begun. The king reigned. The mystery deepened. This king lives in his people by his Spirit. He imparted his own Spirit to his followers. Even doubters began to believe. Kingdom life flourished.

### Relate

1. What doubts have you struggled with?
2. What answers have you found?

### Respond

1. Read John 20:19-31, a paragraph each.
2. What does believing in Jesus involve? Note verses 29-31.
3. Why did Jesus breathe the Holy Spirit into his disciples? See verses 21-23.
4. How is the risen Lord present among us? Consider Psalm 133, Acts 4:32-35 and 1 John 1:1-3.

### Reflect

1. What difference does the risen Lord make in your life?
2. What more do you think the Lord's presence can mean for you?
3. Pray about that.

## 10. Emmaus postscript

Luke 24:35-48

Other readings:

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Jesus' mission continued. He reassured his followers of his presence and imparted his Spirit to them. Although he could materialise at any time and place, he prepared them for his physical absence and his powerful presence in the Holy Spirit. He lives on in his people. Kingdom life is Jesus' life in us.

### Relate

1. When have you had evidence of the Lord's presence with you?
2. Why does that evidence require faith?

### Respond

1. Read Luke 24:35-48, someone narrating and someone reading Jesus' words.
2. How did Jesus encourage his disciples? See verses 36,39,43,45.
3. How did Jesus' mission continue? Note verses 47-49 and Acts 3:15-16.
4. How may the Lord's presence affect our lives? Consider Psalm 4 and 1 John 3:1-7.

### Reflect

1. What does the Lord's presence mean for you just now?
2. What do you want the Lord to do in your life and work?
3. Pray about that for one another.



## 11. Jesus the Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18

Other readings:

Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:18-24

John recorded many discourses which give further insights into the claims and nature of Jesus. Those claims are astounding, and relate to his authority and divinity. A good shepherd! Shepherds in those days were disregarded as unwashed country bumpkins. Jesus not only identifies himself with them, but transforms the image into a noble one. He is the shepherd who gives his own life for his sheep.

Relate

1. When has someone gone out of their way to help you?
2. How did you respond to that?

Respond

1. Read John 10:11-18, a verse each.
2. How does Jesus contrast himself with the Jewish leaders? Compare verses 11-13 with Psalm 23.
3. How does Jesus look worldwide in his mission? See verses 14-18.
4. How does Jesus continue his shepherd ministry through us? Consider Acts 4:8-12 and 1 John 3:18-24.

Reflect

1. When has Jesus ministered directly to you through another person?
2. How can Jesus minister through you to others?
3. Pray about that.

## **12. Jesus the true vine**

John 15:1-8

Other readings:

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-12

Jesus' radical claims show up again in the image of the true vine. The Old Testament uses the vine as a symbol for Israel. Now Jesus claims to be the true Israel. Life is found only in union with him. This will show by the fruit in our lives. The life and nature of Jesus will be evident in us, and will give glory to God as Jesus' life did.

Relate

1. Who is someone who seems especially Christlike to you?
2. What do you see as Christlike qualities?

Respond

1. Read John 15:1-8, two people reading four verses each.
2. Why would Jesus emphasise remaining in him so much?
3. How can we remain in him? See verses 4 and 7 and 1 John 4:7-12.
4. How might God's glory and love be seen in us? Consider Psalm 22:25-31 and Acts 8:26-40.

Reflect

1. What Christlike qualities do you see in each person in your group?
2. What Christlike qualities do others see ripening in you?
3. Pray with thanks and faith.

### **13. Jesus present among his people**

John 15:9-17

Other readings:

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

Jesus emphasised the importance of being united to him. He told his disciples that when he had gone he would still be present with them, and with all who believe in him. We share his life. His Spirit lives in us. We know him. This will show in the fruit of his life in us. That essential fruit is love for one another.

Relate

1. When have you felt closest to God?
2. When have you known God's care even without feeling close to God?

Respond

1. Read John 15:9-17, a verse each.
2. How can we show love for God? Compare this passage with 1 John 5:2-3.
3. How does God show love for us? Note verses 13-16 and Acts 10:44-48.
4. How might this intimate friendship with God affect us? See Psalm 98.

Reflect

1. What does friendship with the Lord mean for you?
2. How might it affect your living and praying? Note verse 16.
3. Pray about that.

## 14. Jesus prays for his people

John 17:11-19

Other readings:

Acts 1:15-17,21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

Jesus' farewell discourse ends with a prayer. His disciples must live amid opposition as Jesus did. So Jesus prays specifically for their protection. They are sent into the world as Jesus was sent into the world. They will live in another kingdom while still in the world. They will march to the beat of another drum. They belong to God.

Relate

1. Who has prayed for you (e.g. parents, relatives, friends)?
2. What happened?

Respond

1. Read John 17:11-19, one person reading the prayer.
2. Why did Jesus pray for unity? See verse 11.
3. What does it mean to be set apart for God? Note verses 17-19.
4. How does belonging to God make a difference? Consider Psalm 1, Acts 1:21-22 and 1 John 5:11-13.

Reflect

1. How would you like Jesus to intercede for you? See Hebrews 7:25.
2. What intercessions do you want to bring to God now?
3. Do that.

## 15. The day of Pentecost

John 15:26-27; 16:4-15; Acts 2:1-21

Other readings:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-34

Romans 8:22-27

In his farewell discourse Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his disciples. During the forty days in which he appeared to them after his resurrection he spoke about the kingdom of God and renewed his promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit. They were filled with the Spirit at the Pentecost harvest festival. The promised dynamic of the Spirit empowered them. Three thousand were added to their community that day. The church was launched. God's kingdom grew.

Relate

1. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your life?
2. What is most significant about the Spirit's presence for you?

Respond

1. Read John 15:26-27; 16:4-15 and Acts 2:1-21, a section each.
2. What did Jesus promise about the Holy Spirit? See also Romans 8:26-27.
3. What did Pentecost mean for the believers? Consider Ezekiel 37:1-14.
4. What does Pentecost mean for us? Note Psalm 104:30-34.

Reflect

1. What does being filled with the Spirit mean for you?
2. What empowering do you need for service or ministry?
3. Pray for that.

## 16. The Trinity

John 3:1-17

Other readings:

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

God reigns. The love and glory of God was revealed in Jesus. We are united with God the Father through Jesus the Son of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. The kingdom of God has come in Jesus, is coming in us by his Spirit, and in the end will come in all its fulness when God's reign is complete. We are kingdom people. Our God reigns.

Relate

1. What has been significant in these studies for you?
2. What is significant about the kingdom of God for you?

Respond

1. Read John 3:1-17, two people reading the verses in which Nicodemus and Jesus speak.
2. What is the link between being born again or born of the Spirit and kingdom life? Compare verses 3-8 with Romans 8:12-17.
3. Why is believing or trusting in God's Son essential for kingdom life? See verses 16-17.
4. How is God's glory revealed in kingdom life? Consider Isaiah 6:1-8 and Psalm 29:1-2,10-11.

Reflect

1. What does kingdom life mean for you?
2. What kingdom blessings does your group want to give each person in your group?
3. Express those blessings in prayer together.

# Appendix 1: Studies arranged according to lectionary readings

## PART I THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS

### Preparation: The coming of Jesus the Messiah

1. The coming of the Lord           Mark 13:32-37     Advent 1
2. John the Baptist                 Mark 1:1-8        Advent 2
3. The Messiah                     John 1:6-8, 19-28   Advent 3
4. Mary's Son                     Luke 1:26-38     Advent 4
5. Infancy and childhood of Jesus   Luke 2:22-40     Christmas 1
6. Reflections on the birth of Jesus   John 1:1-18     Christmas 2

### Commencement: The figure of Jesus the Messiah

7. The baptism of Jesus             Mark 1:4-11     Sunday 1
8. The call of Andrew and his friend   John 1:35-42     Sunday 2

### The mystery of the Son of God

9. The call of the first disciples    Mark 1:14-20     Sunday 3
10. A day in Capernaum (1)           Mark 1:21-28     Sunday 4
11. A day in Capernaum (2)           Mark 1:29-39     Sunday 5
12. The cure of a leper             Mark 1:40-45     Sunday 6
13. The cure of a paralytic          Mark 2:1-12     Sunday 7
14. The question of fasting          Mark 2:18-22     Sunday 8
15. Violation of the Sabbath         Mark 2:23-3:6    Sunday 9
16. Serious criticism of Jesus        Mark 3:20-35     Sunday 10
17. The parables of the kingdom      Mark 4:26-34     Sunday 11
18. The calming of the storm         Mark 4:35-41     Sunday 12
19. Jairus' daughter; a woman's faith   Mark 5:21-43     Sunday 13
20. Jesus rejected at Nazareth        Mark 6:1-6       Sunday 14
21. The mission of the twelve        Mark 6:7-13     Sunday 15
22. Compassion for the crowds         Mark 6:30-34     Sunday 16  
(interlude)
23. The feeding of the five thousand   John 6:1-15     Sunday 17
24. The bread of life (1)             John 6:24-35     Sunday 18
25. The bread of life (2)             John 6:35, 41-51   Sunday 19
26. The bread of life (3)             John 6:51-58     Sunday 20
27. Incredulity and faith             John 6:55-69     Sunday 21
28. Jewish customs                  Mark 7:1-23     Sunday 22
29. The cure of a deaf mute          Mark 7:31-37     Sunday 23

### The way of the Son of Man

30. Peter's confession                Mark 8:27-38     Sunday 24
31. Passion and resurrection prophesied   Mark 9:30-37     Sunday 25
32. Instructions for the disciples      Mark 9:38-50     Sunday 26

- |                                   |               |           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| 33. What God has joined together  | Mark 10:2-16  | Sunday 27 |
| 34. The problem of wealth         | Mark 10:17-30 | Sunday 28 |
| 35. The sons of Zebedee           | Mark 10:35-45 | Sunday 29 |
| 36. The cure of Bartimaeus        | Mark 10:46-52 | Sunday 30 |
| 37. The first commandment         | Mark 12:28-34 | Sunday 31 |
| 38. The scribes; the widow's mite | Mark 12:38-44 | Sunday 32 |
| 39. The last things               | Mark 13:24-32 | Sunday 33 |

**Conclusion: The fulfilment of the mystery**

- |                     |               |           |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------|
| 40. Christ the King | John 18:33-37 | Sunday 34 |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------|

**PART II THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

**Preparation for the Passion of Jesus**

- |                                    |               |                    |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. The transfiguration             | Mark 9:2-9    | Sunday before Lent |
| 2. The temptations                 | Mark 1:9-15   | Lent 1             |
| 3. The meaning of the cross        | Mark 8:31-38  | Lent 2             |
| 4. Teaching about the cross (1)    | John 2:13-22  | Lent 3             |
| 5. Teaching about the cross (2)    | John 3:14-21  | Lent 4             |
| 6. Teaching about the cross (3)    | John 12:20-33 | Lent 5             |
| 7. Palm Sunday and the crucifixion | Mark 11:1-11  | Lent 6             |
|                                    | Mark 15:1-39  |                    |

**Resurrection Appearances of Jesus**

- |                       |               |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 8. The empty tomb     | Mark 16:1-18  | Easter Sunday |
| 9. Easter evening     | John 20:19-31 | Easter 2      |
| 10. Emmaus postscript | Luke 24:35-48 | Easter 3      |

**Observations about Jesus**

- |                                    |               |          |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| 11. Jesus the Good Shepherd        | John 10:11-18 | Easter 4 |
| 12. Jesus the true vine            | John 15:1-8   | Easter 5 |
| 13. Jesus present among his people | John 15:9-17  | Easter 6 |
| 14. Jesus prays for his people     | John 17:11-19 | Easter 7 |

**The coming of the Holy Spirit**

- |                          |                        |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 15. The day of Pentecost | John 15:26-27; 16:4-15 | Pentecost Sunday |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------|

**Conclusion: The Godhead**

- |                 |             |                |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|
| 16. The Trinity | John 3:1-17 | Trinity Sunday |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|



## **Notes**

### **Part I THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS**

These studies include the Sundays for Advent and Christmas and the Other Sundays of the lectionary year except for the period of Lent to Pentecost.

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. The Christmas season includes the Sundays from Christmas Day (25 December) to 5 January. Other Sundays commence with Epiphany from 6 January and continue till the Sunday before Lent which is on the Transfiguration each year. Other Sundays then continue after Pentecost and Trinity Sunday through to Sunday 34, Christ the King, the Sunday before Advent.

The readings for Christmas 2 are omitted if there is only one Sunday between Christmas and Epiphany. Other Sundays will be omitted each year from the lectionary readings because of the varying dates of Easter. Those are usually some of the Sundays 6 to 9.

### **PART II THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

These studies cover the period of Lent and Easter to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, forty days before Easter Sunday. The lectionary reading for the Sunday before Lent each year is on the Transfiguration. The Easter season concludes with Pentecost Sunday, which is followed by Trinity Sunday.

A calendar of dates and readings for the lectionary year is available from many Christian bookshops.



## Appendix 2: Studies arranged according to gospel readings

I 2. John the Baptist	Mark 1:1-8
II 2. The temptations	Mark 1:9-15
I 9. The call of the first disciples	Mark 1:14-20
I 10. A day in Capernaum (1)	Mark 1:21-28
I 11. A day in Capernaum (2)	Mark 1:29-39
I 12. The cure of a leper	Mark 1:40-45
I 13. The cure of a paralytic	Mark 2:1-12
I 14. The question of fasting	Mark 2:18-22
I 15. Violation of the Sabbath	Mark 2:23-3:6
I 16. Serious criticism of Jesus	Mark 3:20-35
I 17. The parables of the kingdom	Mark 4:26-34
I 18. The calming of the storm	Mark 4:35-41
I 19. Jairus' daughter; a woman's faith	Mark 5:21-43
I 20. Jesus rejected at Nazareth	Mark 6:1-6
I 21. The mission of the twelve	Mark 6:7-13
I 22. Compassion for the crowds	Mark 6:30-34
I 28. Jewish customs	Mark 7:1-23
I 29. The cure of a deaf mute	Mark 7:31-37
I 30. Peter's confession	Mark 8:27-38
II 3. The meaning of the cross	Mark 8:31-38
II 1. The transfiguration	Mark 9:2-9
I 31. Passion and resurrection prophesied	Mark 9:30-37
I 32. Instructions for the disciples	Mark 9:38-50
I 33. What God has joined together	Mark 10:2-16
I 34. The problem of wealth	Mark 10:17-30
I 35. The sons of Zebedee	Mark 10:35-45
I 36. The cure of Bartimaeus	Mark 10:46-52
II 7. Palm Sunday	Mark 11:1-11
I 37. The first commandment	Mark 12:28-34
I 38. The scribes; the widow's mite	Mark 12:38-44
I 39. The last things	Mark 13:24-32
I 1. The coming of the Lord	Mark 13:32-37
II 7. The crucifixion	Mark 15:1-39
II 8. The empty tomb	Mark 16:1-18
I 4. Mary's Son	Luke 1:26-38
I 5. Infancy and childhood of Jesus	Luke 2:22-40
II 10. Emmaus postscript	Luke 24:35-48
I 3. The Messiah	John 1:6-8,19-28
I 6. Reflections of the birth of Jesus	John 1:1-18
I 8. The call of Andrew and his friend	John 1:35-42
II 4. Teaching about the cross (1)	John 2:13-22

II 16. The Trinity	John 3:1-17
II 5. Teaching about the cross (2)	John 3:14-21
I 23. The feeding of the five thousand	John 6:1-15
I 24. The bread of life (1)	John 6:24-35
I 25. The bread of life (2)	John 6:35,41-51
I 26. The bread of life (3)	John 6:51-58
I 27. Incredulity and faith	John 6:55-69
II 11. Jesus the Good Shepherd	John 10:11-18
II 6. Teaching about the cross (3)	John 12:20-33
II 12. Jesus the true vine	John 15:1-8
II 13. Jesus present among his people	John 15:9-17
II 15. The day of Pentecost	John 15:26-27; 16:4-15
II 14. Jesus prays for his people	John 17:11-19
I 40. Christ the King	John 18:33-37
II 9. Easter evening	John 20:19-31

## *Appendix: Books*

### Renewal Journal Publications

See

[www.renewaljournal.com](http://www.renewaljournal.com)

for Blogs on each book

PDF Books, eBooks, and Paperbacks

Available on

Amazon and Kindle

Most Paperbacks in both

Basic Edition and

Gift Edition (colour)

## **[Renewal Journal Publications](https://renewaljournal.blog/)**

**<https://renewaljournal.blog/>**

**[PDF Books, eBooks, and Paperbacks](#)**

**[Most Paperbacks are in both](#)**

**[Basic Edition and](#)**

**[Gift Edition \(colour\)](#)**

### **Revival Books**

**[Flashpoints of Revival](#)**

**[Revival Fires](#)**

**[South Pacific Revivals](#)**

**[Pentecost on Pentecost & the South Pacific](#)**

**[Great Revival Stories](#)**, comprising:

**[Best Revival Stories](#)** and

**[Transforming Revivals](#)**

**[Renewal and Revival](#)**, comprising:

**[Renewal: I make all things new](#)**, and

**[Revival: I will pour out my Spirit](#)**

**[Anointed for Revival](#)**

**[Church on Fire](#)**

**[God's Surprises](#)**

## **Renewal Books**

*Body Ministry*, comprising:

*The Body of Christ, Part 1: Body Ministry*, and  
*The Body of Christ, Part 2: Ministry Education, with  
Learning Together in Ministry*

*Great Commission Mission* comprising:

*Teaching Them to Obey in Love*, and  
*Jesus the Model for Short Term Supernatural Mission*

*Living in the Spirit*

*Your Spiritual Gifts*

*Fruit & Gifts of the Spirit*

*Keeping Faith Alive Today*

*The Leader's Goldmine*

*Word and Spirit* by Alison Sherrington

### **Study Guides**

*Signs and Wonders: Study Guide*

*The Holy Spirit in Ministry*

*Revival History*

*Holy Spirit Movements through History*

*Renewal Theology 1*

*Renewal Theology 2*

*Ministry Practicum*

## **Devotional Books**

*Inspiration*

*Jesus on Dying Regrets*

*The Christmas Message – The Queen*

*Holy Week, Christian Passover & Resurrection* comprising:

*Holy Week*, and

*Christian Passover Service*, and

*Risen: 12 Resurrection Appearances*

*Risen: Short Version*

*Risen: Long version & our month in Israel*

*Mysterious Month – expanded version Risen: Long version*

*Kingdom Life series*

*Kingdom Life: The Gospels* – comprising:

*Kingdom Life in Matthew*

*Kingdom Life in Mark*

*Kingdom Life in Luke*

*Kingdom Life in John*

*A Preface to the Acts of the Apostles*



[The Lion of Judah series](#)

[The Titles of Jesus](#)

[The Reign of Jesus](#)

[The Life of Jesus](#)

[The Death of Jesus](#)

[The Resurrection of Jesus](#)

[The Spirit of Jesus](#)

[The Lion of Judah](#) - all in one volume

[Discovering Aslan](#) - comprising:

[Discovering Aslan in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe](#)

[Discovering Aslan in Prince Caspian](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Silver Chair](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Horse and his Boy](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Magician's Nephew](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Last Battle](#)

## **General Books**

[\*You Can Publish for Free\*](#)

[\*My First Stories\* by Ethan Waugh](#)

[\*An Incredible Journey by Faith\* by Elisha Chowtapalli](#)

### **Biographical:**

[\*God's Surprises\*](#)

[\*Looking to Jesus: Journey into Renewal & Revival\* - Geoff's autobiography](#)

[\*Journey into Mission\* - Geoff's mission trips](#)

[\*Journey into Ministry and Mission\*](#)

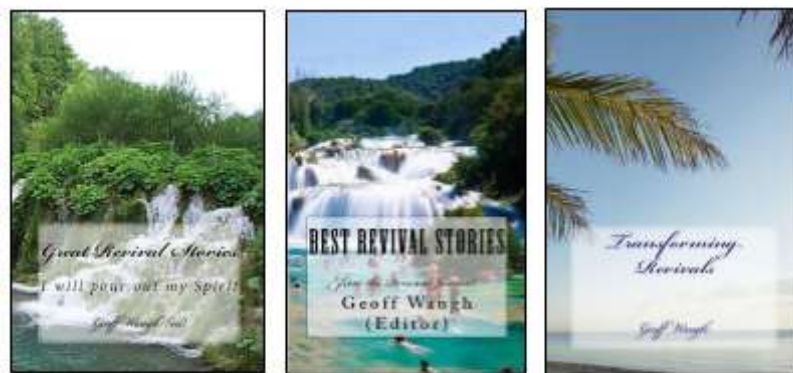
[\*King of the Granny Flat\* by Dante Waugh](#)

[\*Exploring Israel\* - Geoff's family's trip](#)

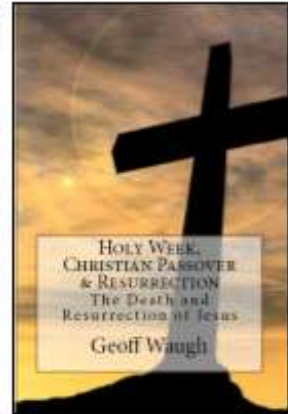
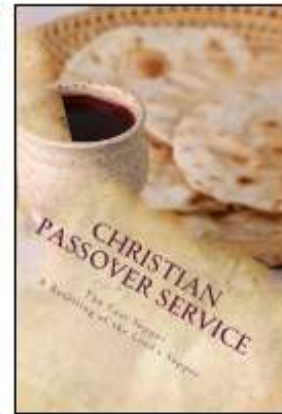
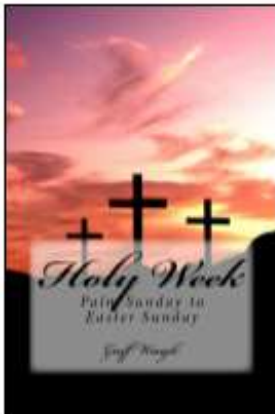
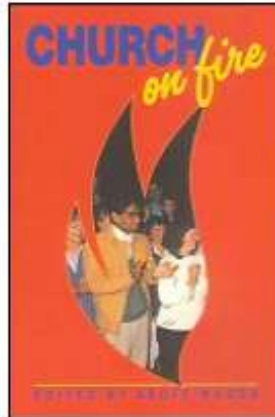
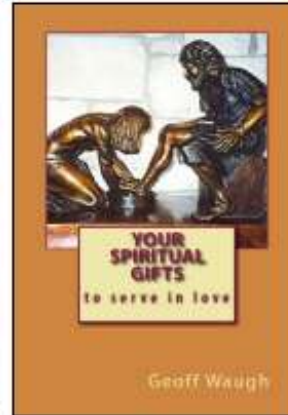
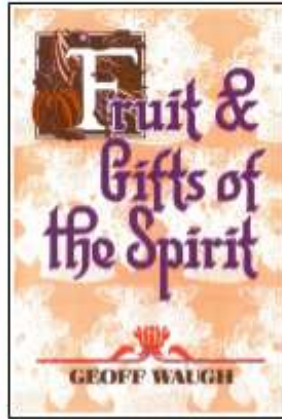
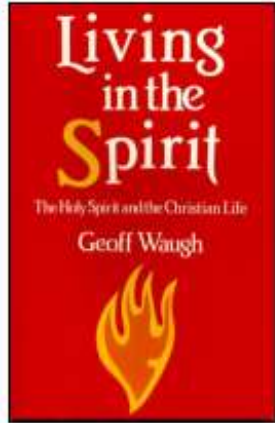
[\*Light on the Mountains\* - Geoff in PNG](#)

[\*Travelling with Geoff\* by Don Hill](#)

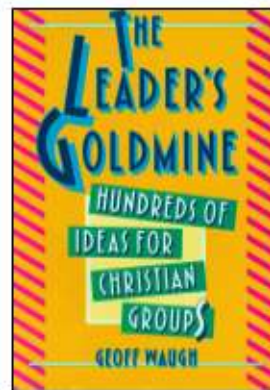
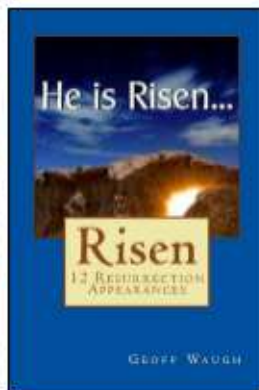
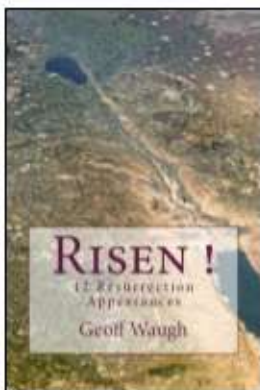
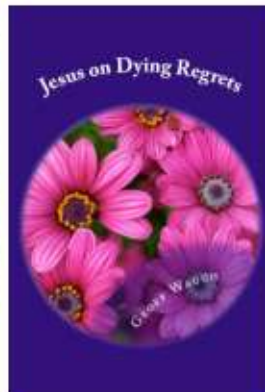
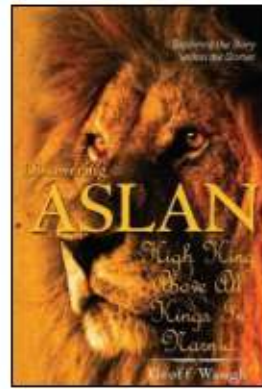
[\*By All Means\* by Elaine Olley](#)



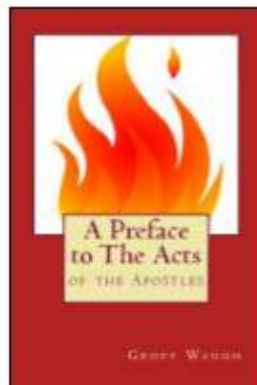
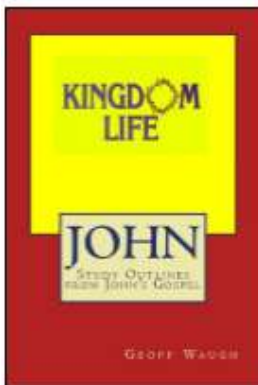
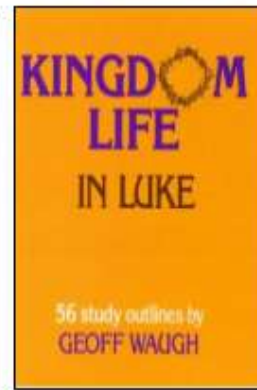
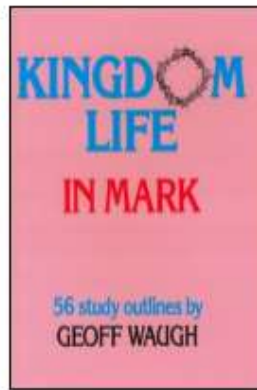
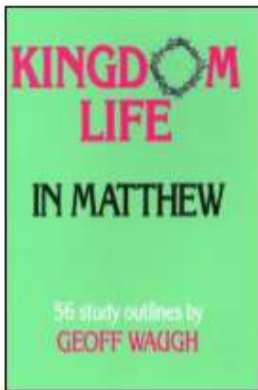
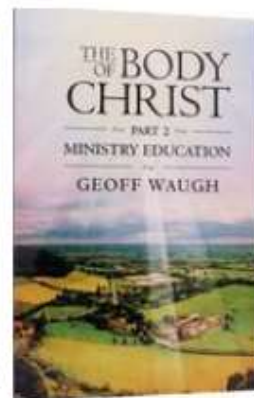
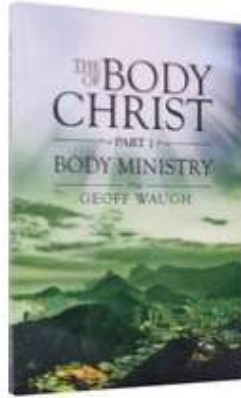
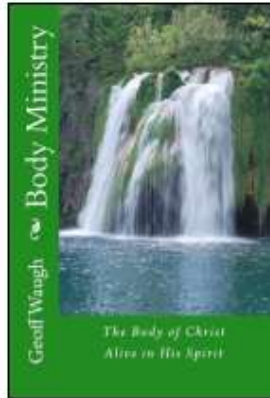
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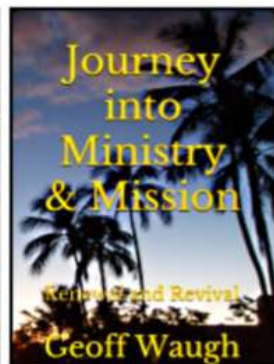
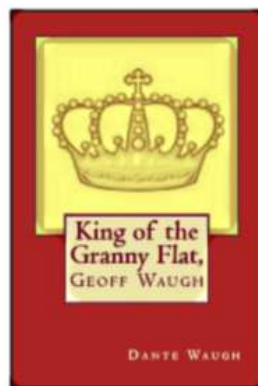
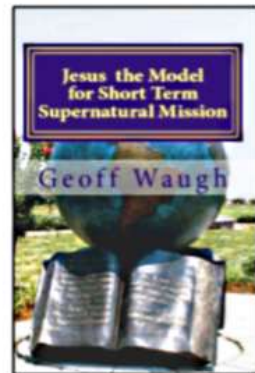
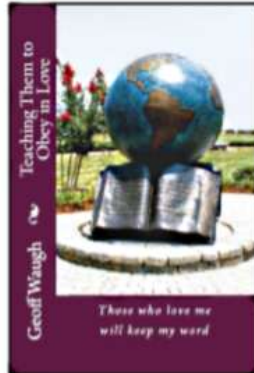
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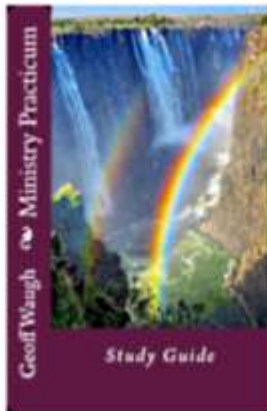
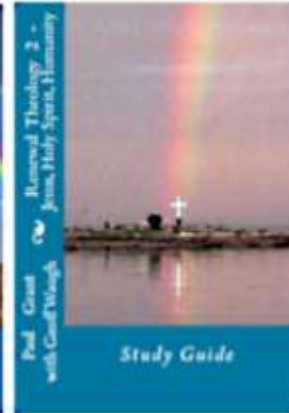
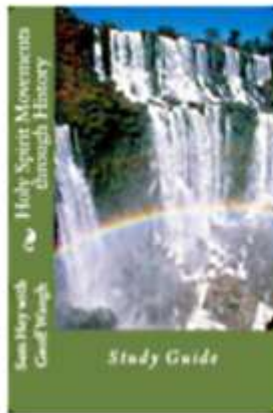
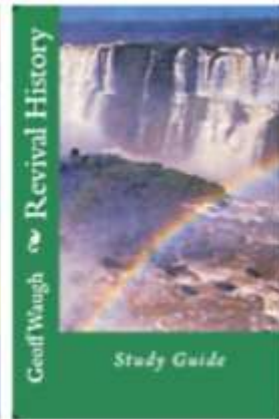
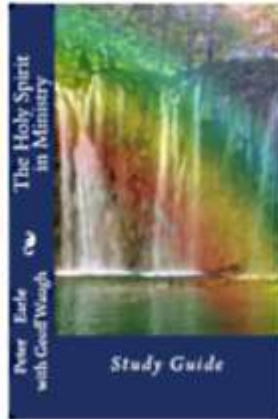
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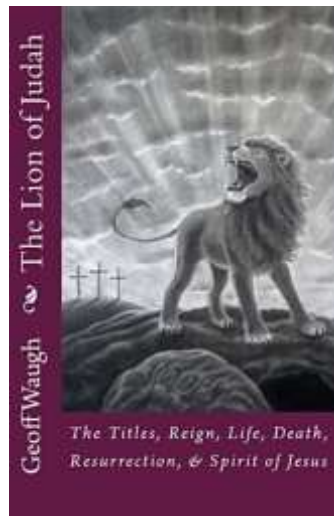
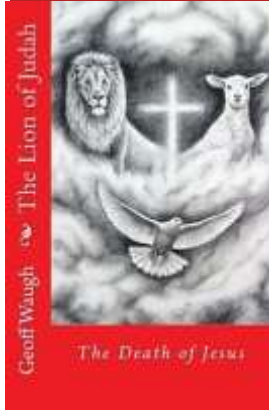
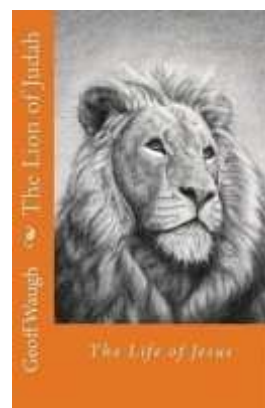
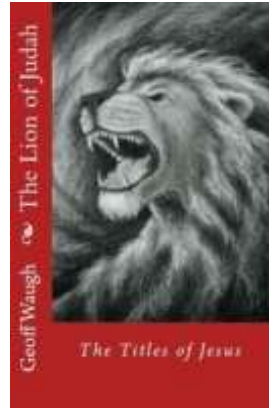


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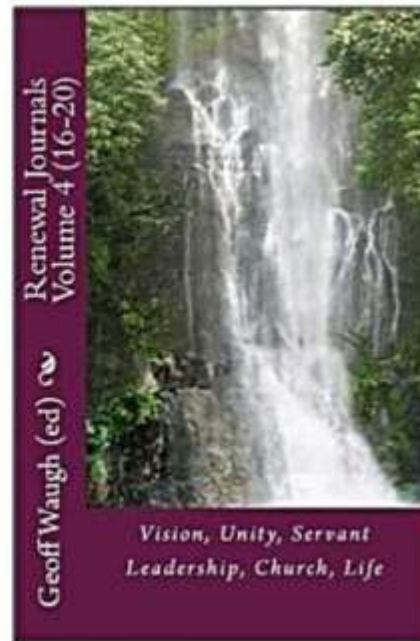
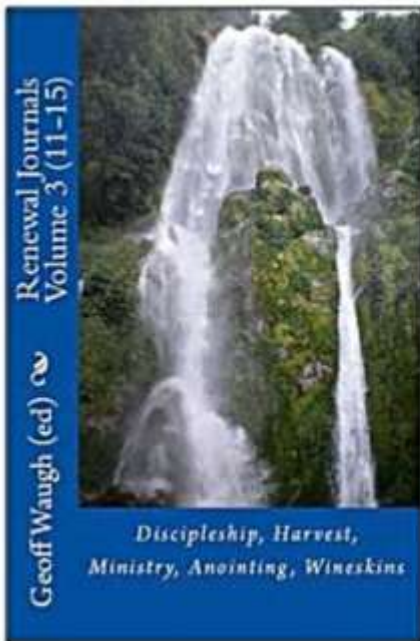
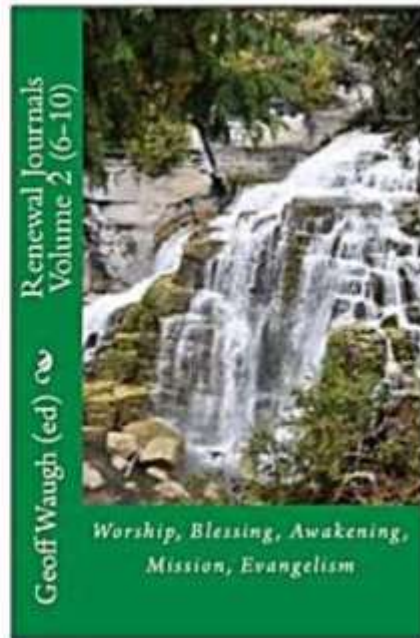
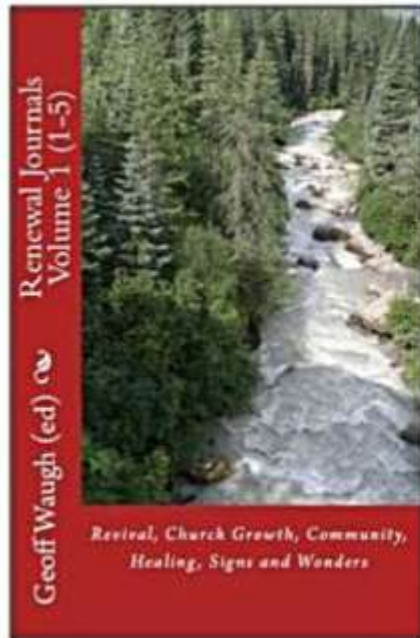


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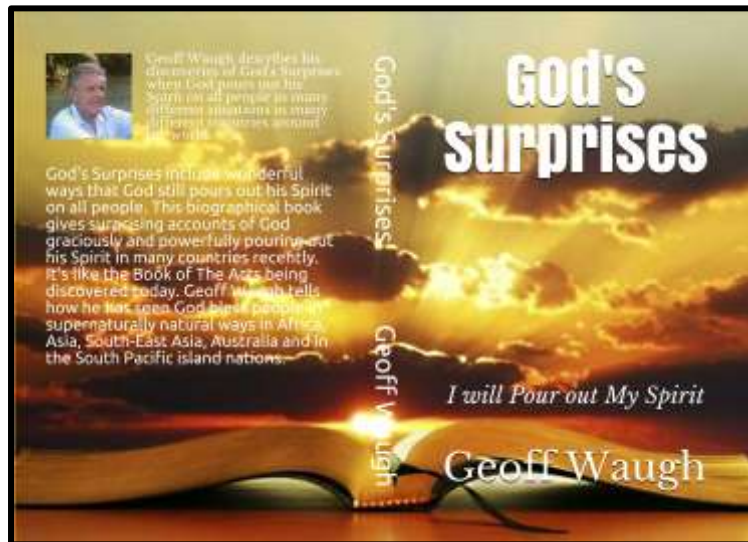
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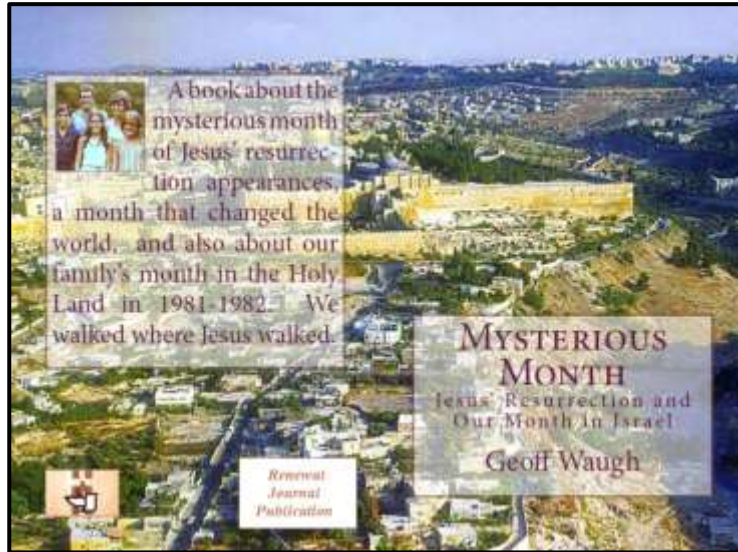
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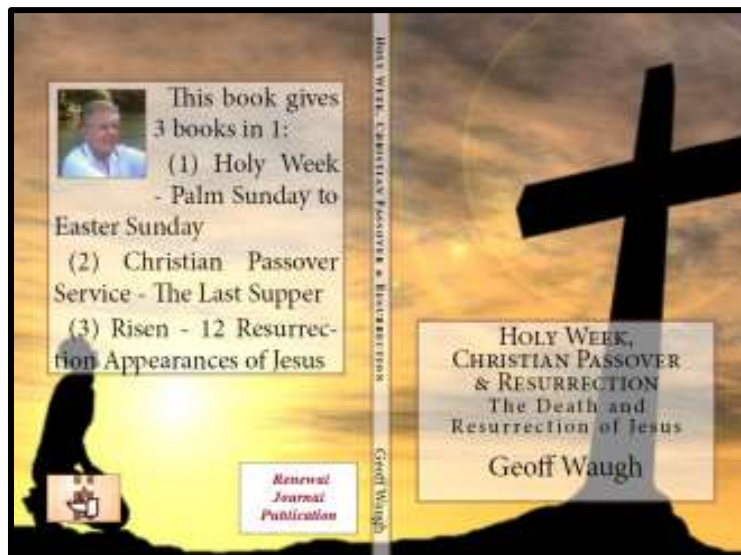
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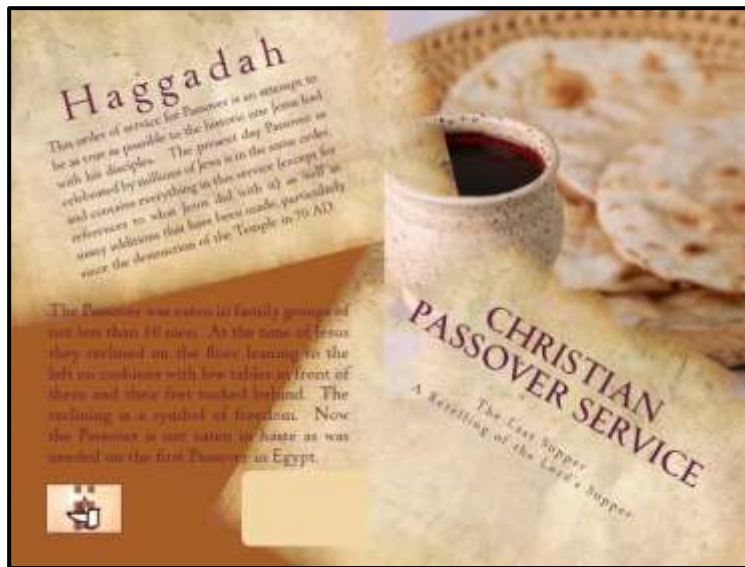
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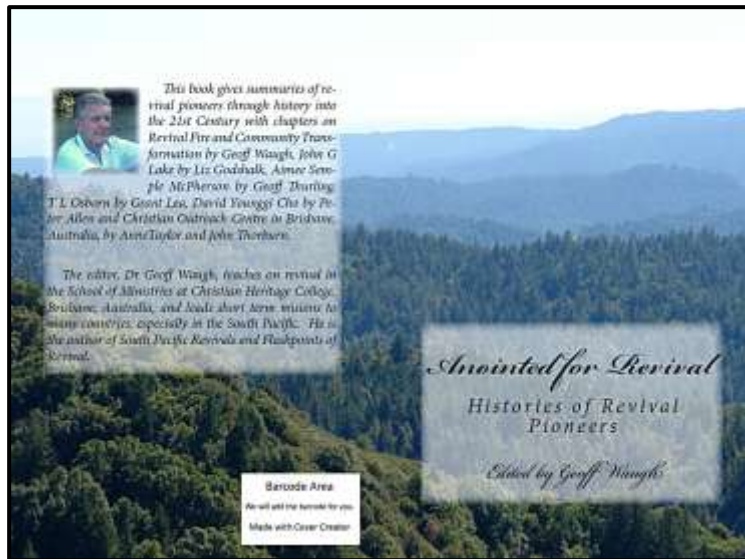
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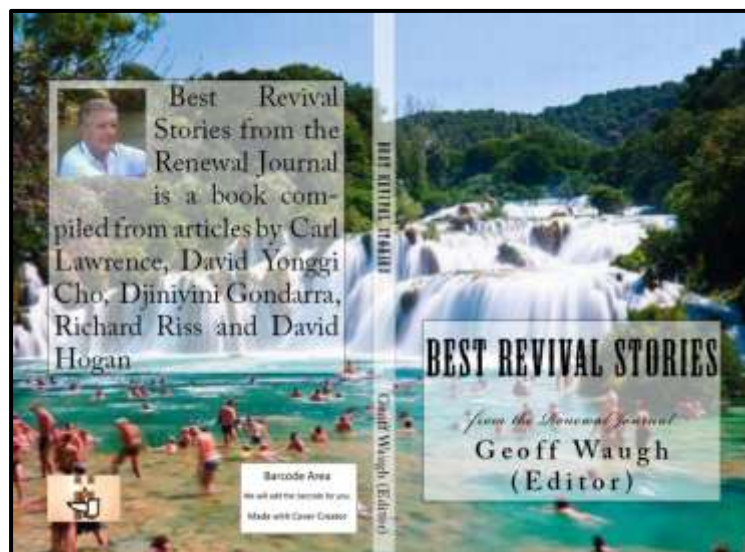
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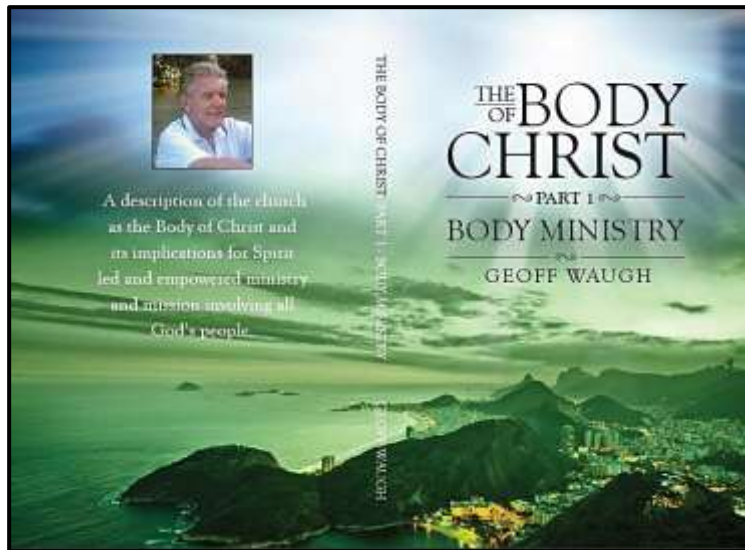
[The Christmas Message](#)



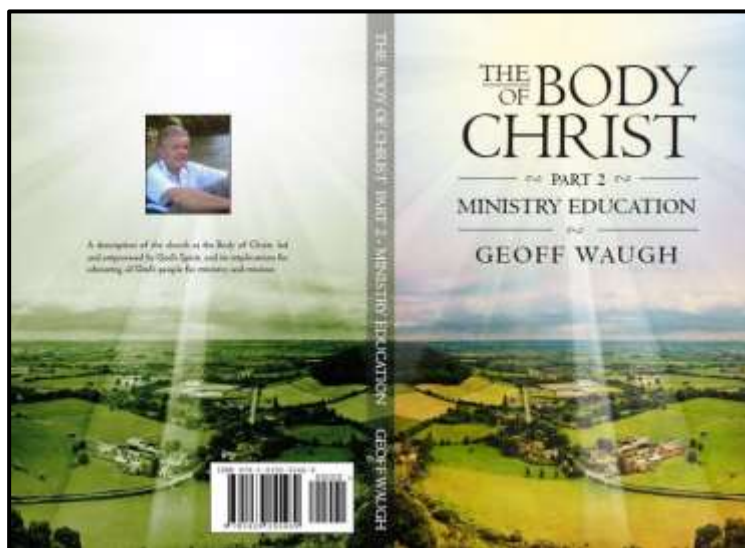
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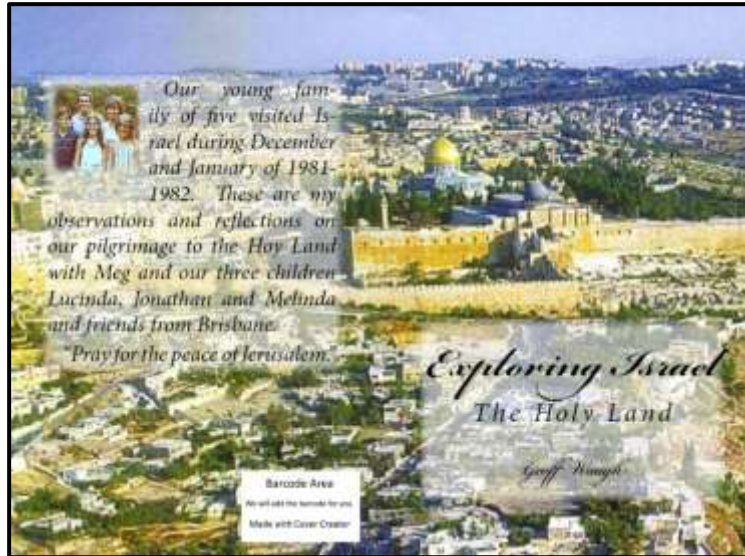
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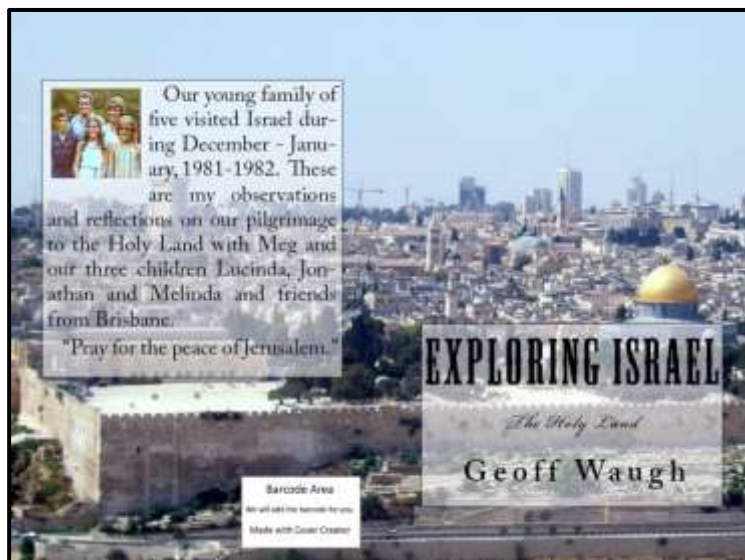
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[Exploring Israel \(colour\)](#)

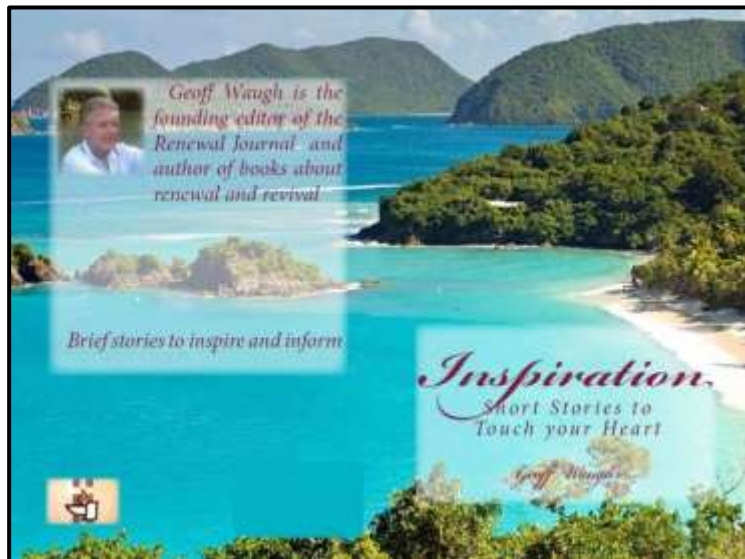


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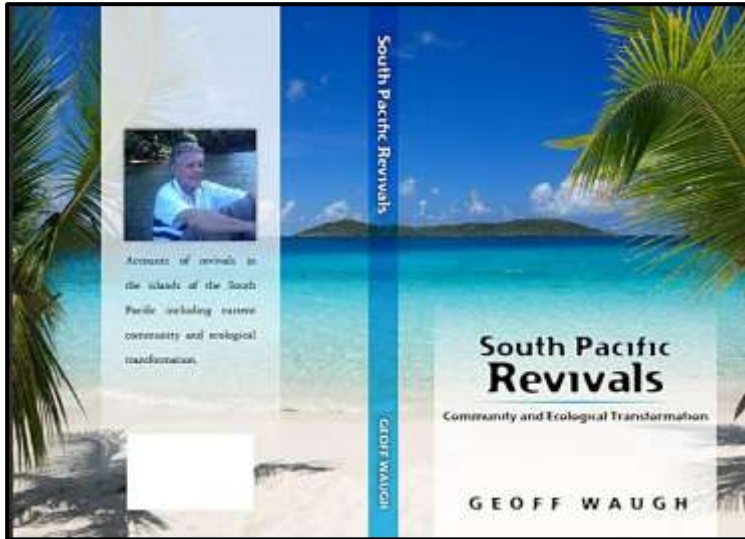
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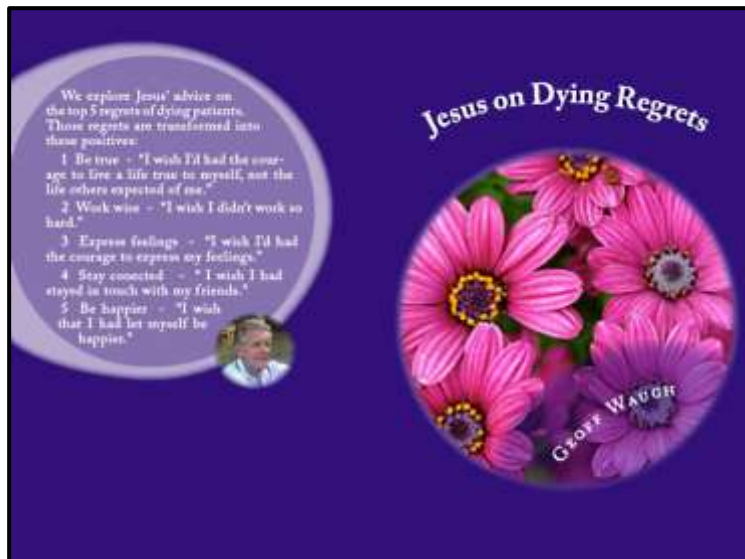
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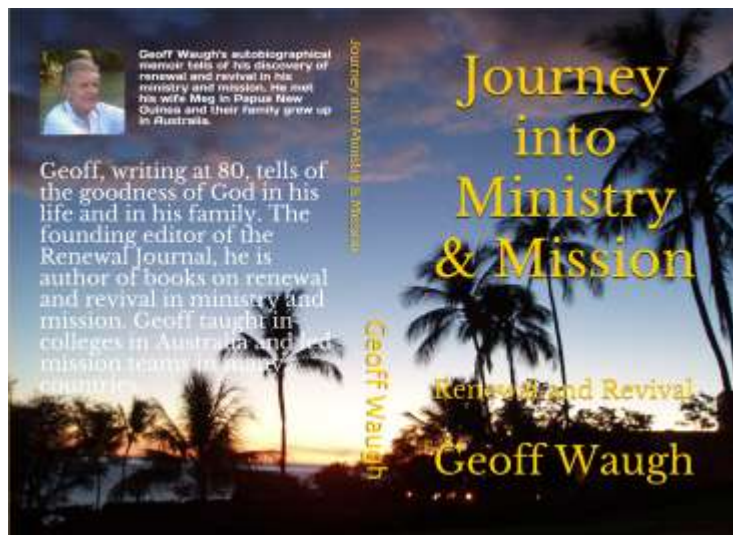
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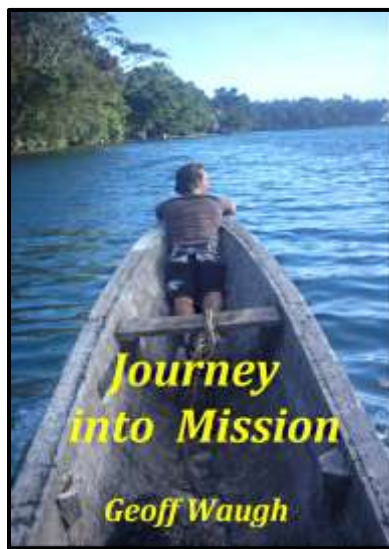


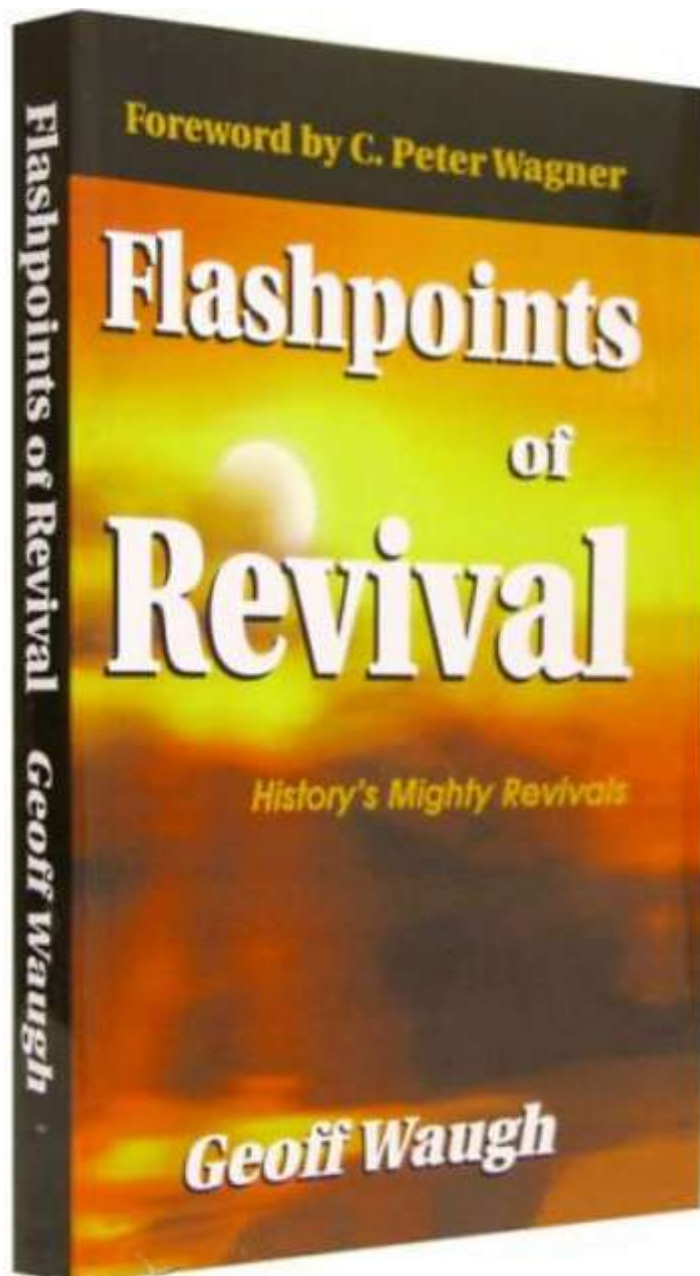
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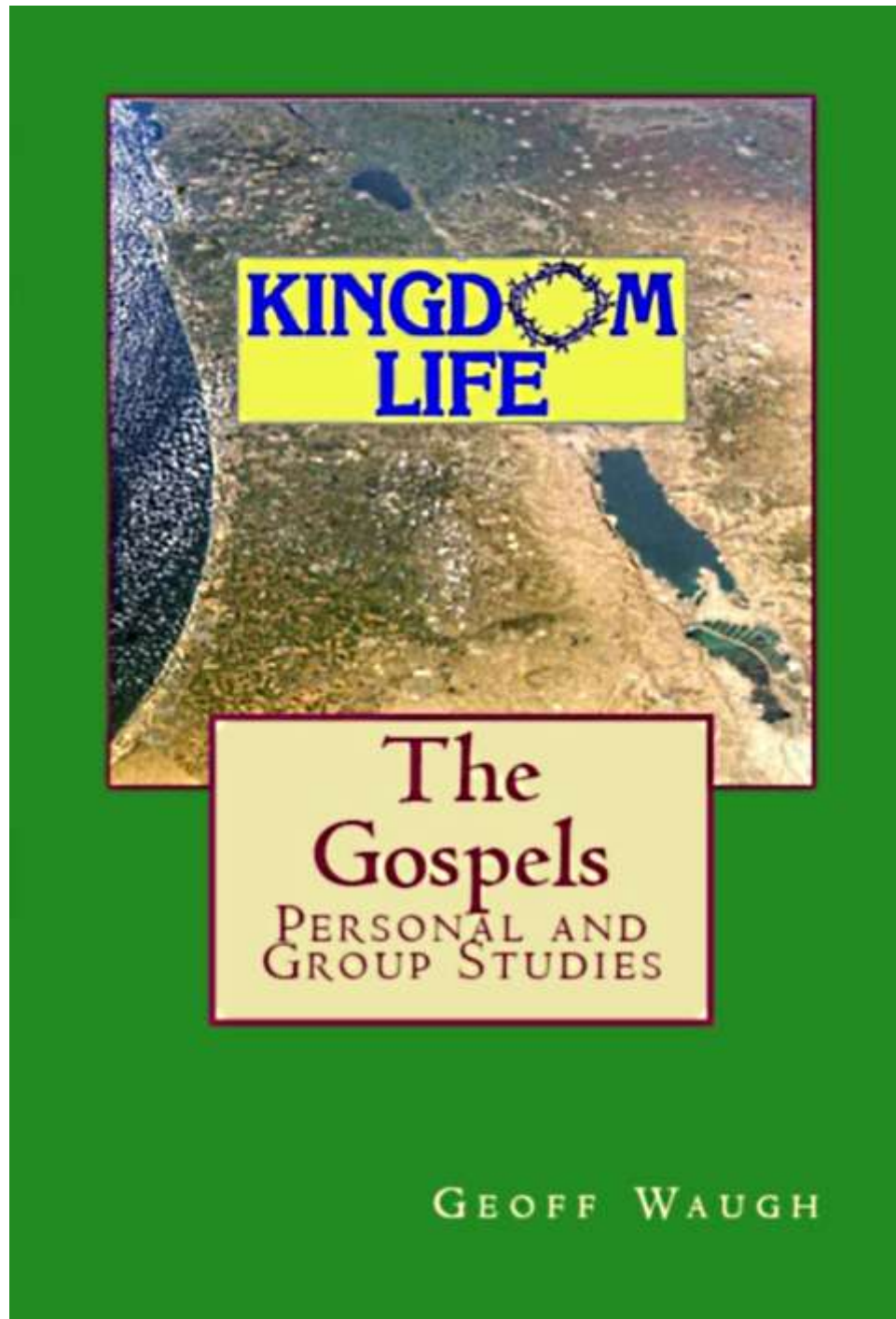
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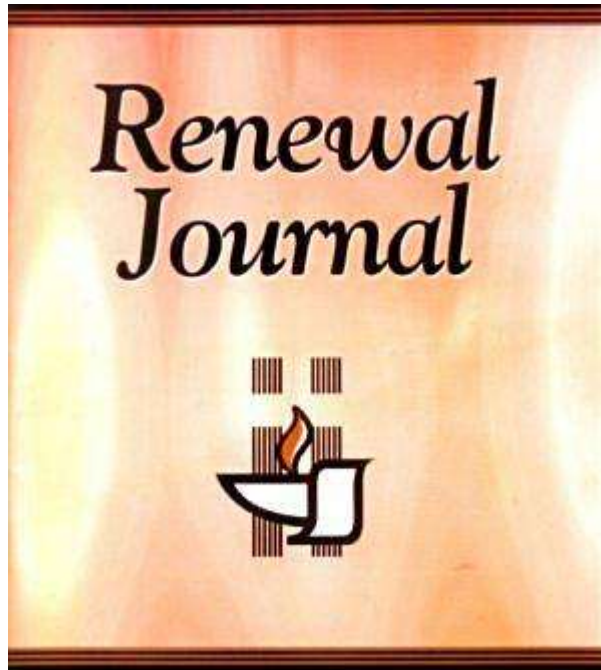


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