

## Friday

Read Romans 14:17–23. Paul is trying to shift the people's attention away from religious legalistic rules as a sign of God's kingdom. What does Paul say the kingdom of God is about? How does this correct some misconceptions that persist today?

*Ask God to help you reflect Holy Spirit-fueled righteousness, peace, and joy today!*

## Saturday

*Today read the intro and Day 0 of the Jesus Journey book!*



**TWIN LAKES**  
MINISTRIES  
www.tlc.org

# JESUS JOURNEY

40 DAYS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST

WEEK 0

## The Most Influential Man in the World

SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2012 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

*“Regardless of what anyone may personally think or believe about him, Jesus of Nazareth has been the dominant figure in the history of Western Culture for almost twenty centuries. If it were possible, with some sort of super magnet, to pull up out of history every scrap of metal bearing at least a trace of his name, how much would be left?” — Jeroslav Pelikan, Yale historian*

### The historical influence of Jesus Christ

*(See chapter 1 of John Ortberg’s “Who Is This Man?”)*

#### EQUALITY

*“Rank must be preserved.” —Cicero*

*“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” — Paul (Galatians 3:28)*

#### CHILDREN

*“We drown children at birth when they are weak and abnormal.”  
— Roman philosopher Seneca*

*“Let the little children come to me. . .” —Jesus*

#### WOMEN

*“If you are delivered of a child, if it is a boy, keep it; if a girl, discard it.”  
—Roman letter*

*“A large number of people followed [Jesus], including women. . .” — Luke 23:27*

#### COMPASSION

*“Christians established the first charitable hospitals; the first homeless shelters; the first homes for orphans; the first outreaches to prisoners, hospital patients, and soldiers; and the first societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals.”  
—Luis Palau, *God Is Relevant*, New York: Doubleday, pp. 177–178*

#### FORGIVENESS

*“The discoverer of the role of forgiveness in the realm of human affairs was Jesus of Nazareth.” —Hannah Arendt, first woman in full professorship at Princeton*

#### LITERATURE AND CULTURE

*Christ inspired classic works by Bunyan, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Pascal, Solzhenitsyn, Dickens, Milton, Defoe, Tennyson, Tolkien, l’Engle, C.S. Lewis, and many more. Plus musical works by Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Mozart, and many others, and great works of art by da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Rembrandt, etc.*

Who was this man? Where did he come from? What was his message?

## 4 Questions about the Life and Times of Jesus

### Why there?

Not a better spot on the planet from which to influence \_\_\_\_\_

### Why then?

- Greek \_\_\_\_\_
- Roman \_\_\_\_\_
- Jewish \_\_\_\_\_

These conditions overlapped only for about \_\_\_\_\_ years, from 4 BC to 66 AD.



### Why?

"The time has come. The **kingdom** of God is near. Repent and believe the good news." *Mark 1:15*

Jesus uses "gospel" \_\_\_\_\_ times

"salvation" \_\_\_\_\_ times

"church" \_\_\_\_\_ times

"kingdom" \_\_\_\_\_ times

\_\_\_\_\_ is coming \_\_\_\_\_ !

### Why should I care?

The same Jesus who changed the world \_\_\_\_\_

### JESUS JOURNEY FAQ

#### WHEN IS DAY 1?

The day after your small group meets! This way, you'll always be completing a full week when your study gets together for the rest of the series.

#### WHAT ARE THE SERVICE PROJECTS?

We suggest that your group participate in a Serve The Bay project (Sat., Oct. 20) and contribute to the Second Harvest Food Drive (ends Thanksgiving Weekend). But you can design your own service project, too!

#### HOW DO I FIND A SMALL GROUP?

Sign up today at a table outside, or at [www.tlc.org](http://www.tlc.org)

### Monday

Read Mark 1:15. How do you think the common person's concept of "kingdom of God" differed from the kingdom Jesus came to bring? How do these same misconceptions still persist today?

How does this theme of "the kingdom" help you better understand what it means to be a Christian?

*Ask God to help you better understand the idea of the kingdom of God.*

### Tuesday

Read Matthew 6:9–13. In what ways can God's kingdom and will be done on earth as it is in heaven — what does that look like? How can your life, in God's strength and by His grace, be a part of bringing God's kingdom and will to earth?

*Today make Jesus' prayer your prayer: "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

### Wednesday

Read Mark 4:26–34. How do these parables help explain what the kingdom of God is like? How does this differ from what most people were apparently expecting?

In what ways do you see the kingdom of God slowly growing from a tiny seed to a great tree? How does this encourage you?

*Ask God to help you value the kingdom of God even when it is still a tiny seed in a new believer's heart, or in a new ministry area.*

### Thursday

Read Luke 17:20–21, John 3:1–3, John 18:36. How does Jesus correct other people's perception of what the kingdom of God is? What are some of the important points in these verses?

What does it mean to be "born again"? Why is this an important aspect of citizenship in the kingdom?

*Ask God to help you to be a good ambassador for the kingdom today! Please ask Him to bless the Jesus Journey series.*



"The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news." *Mark 1:15*