

TOP PRIORITY  
MANNA

A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

**L**ook for God in the Bible! That shouldn't be difficult, should it? From beginning to end, the Bible is a revelation of the majesty and glory of God. Yet, seeing God in His Word is perhaps the most overlooked aspect of our personal Bible study! The Pharisees studied the Old Testament with a fervor few have had. They dissected every letter and word, but they failed to see what it was all about. Jesus rebuked them by saying that though they studied it diligently they didn't see Him in it (John 5:39). Sadly, they saw everything in the Old Testament but what they were supposed to see.

Can the same be said of us? We read passages to look for a verse to "help me get through the day," or to "help me live a better life." But that was not why God's Word was written! The Bible was ultimately written to reveal the Godhead in all of its splendor. The Bible is not simply a manual for living. Rather, it is a revelation of the splendor of God! My Bible study should cause me to deepen my love and awe of my glorious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The study form in *MANNA 4* is designed to do just that. You will read each short passage four times, each time looking for something different. The first reading we call Factual. You should read the passage fast in order to get a quick overview of exactly what happens in the passage (what it is all about) and then record the basic idea of the passage (i.e., Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath and was criticized for it). The second reading we call Theological. You should read the passage again, this time more slowly, and look for every truth you can find about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The third reading is called Doctrinal. Read the passage again to discover other truths that are there—perhaps something about salvation, spiritual growth, sin, Satan, the Church, prayer, etc. The fourth reading is called Practical. You now consider how the theology and doctrine in the passage ought to impact your own life today.

After each reading you should record your thoughts and insights in the appropriate section. The page to the right provides an example of what to look for in God's Word and how to use the forms. Our prayer is that through the faithful, daily practice of this form you will gain a richer and fuller understanding of God's Word and a growing love and admiration for His glorious person. Be God-focused in your approach to His revelation of Himself. Don't study the Word of God; study the God of the Word!

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#### TOP PRIORITY: MANNA 4

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Content Contributions: Frank Hamrick and Jason Wredberg

Layout and Design: Shannon Brown

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Passage: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

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**FACTUAL** (what the Bible states/what happens in this passage):

*All of us are born spiritually dead in our sins with no hope for salvation apart from God's grace.*

# SAMPLE PAGE

**THEOLOGICAL** (what I learn about the Father, the Son, or the Holy Spirit):

*Verse 4: God is rich in mercy and grace.*

*Verse 4: God loves us even before we love Him.*

*Verse 5: God is the giver of spiritual life.*

*Verse 7: God saves us to bring attention to Himself.*

*Verse 8: God offers salvation as a gift.*

*Verse 10: God created us.*

**DOCTRINAL** (truths I see about the Bible, sin and depravity, mankind, salvation and sanctification, Satan, the Church, prayer, last things, etc.):

*Verse 2: I was born a sinner, it is part of my nature, and it causes me to be spiritually dead.*

*Verse 3: Satan is now working in the world all around us.*

*Verse 3: All people are born sinners and are, by nature, "children of wrath."*

*Verse 5: Salvation is a work of God through which He literally makes me alive.*

*Verse 6: When we are saved we are placed "in Christ Jesus."*

**PRACTICAL** (lessons I should apply to how I live today):

*Verses 2-3: I need to make sure, through God's power, that my life no longer resembles the characteristics of the unsaved person.*

*Verses 5-6: I need to meditate often on the power, love, and grace of God, which I have experienced firsthand as a child of God.*

*Verse 9: I did nothing to earn my salvation so my spirit and attitude should be one of humility.*

*Because God has chosen to save me, I need to share this wonderful message of salvation with others.*

# MANNA 4 PASSAGES

Check off each day upon completion.

## WEEK 1

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 1:1–11
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 1:12–20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 1:21–34
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 1:35–45
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 2:1–12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 1:1–6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 6

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 8:1–10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 8:11–21
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 8:22–30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 8:31–9:1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 9:2–13
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 6:1–10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 2

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 2:13–22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 2:23–28
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 3:1–12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 3:13–19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 3:20–35
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 2:1–12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 7

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 9:14–29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 9:30–41
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 9:42–50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 10:1–16
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 10:17–31
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 7:1–17
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 3

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 4:1–9
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 4:10–20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 4:21–29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 4:30–41
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 5:1–8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 3:1–8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 8

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 10:32–45
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 10:46–52
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 11:1–11
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 11:12–19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 11:20–33
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 8:1–9
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 4

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 5:9–20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 5:21–29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 5:30–43
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 6:1–13
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 6:14–29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 4:1–8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 9

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 12:1–12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 12:13–17
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 12:18–34
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 12:35–44
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 13:1–8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 9:1–10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 5

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 6:30–44
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 6:45–56
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 7:1–23
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 7:24–30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 7:31–37
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 5:1–12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

## WEEK 10

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	Mark 13:9–23
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	Mark 13:24–37
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	Mark 14:1–11
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	Mark 14:12–21
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	Mark 14:22–31
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	Psalms 10:1–10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	Review

Passage:

Date:

**FACTUAL** (what the Bible states/what happens in this passage):**THEOLOGICAL** (what I learn about the Father, the Son, or the Holy Spirit):**DOCTRINAL** (truths I see about the Bible, sin and depravity, mankind, salvation and sanctification, Satan, the Church, prayer, last things, etc.):**PRACTICAL** (lessons I should apply to how I live today):

# REVIEW

Date:

This review section is designed to help you reflect on what you have read and written during the preceding week. As you review the previous six pages, answer these questions and spend some time praying that God will use your study of His Word this week to help you know Him better and become more like His Son:

1. What are the key lessons that you have learned from God's Word this week?

2. What is the most important truth about God that you have encountered this week? Why is it so important?

3. How did your life this week show that you still have room to grow in applying these truths?

4. How did your life this week show that you are growing with God's help?