

Grace Guide



APRIL 13-19

“Who’s That Man?”

MONDAY
4/13

GENESIS 16:1-15

Hagar is alone, forsaken, overlooked, and on the run when the angel of the Lord finds her in the wilderness. She isn’t searching for God, yet God sees her, calls her by name, and speaks directly into her situation. In a moment that feels forgotten and unseen, Hagar realizes she has encountered the living God and names him “the God who sees me.” This passage reminds us that recognizing God’s presence doesn’t always begin with us seeking him out, but with the humbling awareness that he has already found us. In our ordinary, messy, or even painful moments, God is present, seeing, speaking, and inviting us to recognize him.

1. Hagar wasn’t looking for God. When have you become aware of God’s presence unexpectedly?
2. How does knowing that God sees you in your current circumstances – good and bad, joyful or frustrating – impact the way you respond to God?

TUESDAY
4/14

MALACHI 3:1-4

Malachi speaks of a coming moment when the Lord will arrive suddenly, unexpectedly, and not necessarily in the way people assumed. The people of Israel longed for God to show up, but when he did, it would involve refining, cleansing, and transformation. Often, we want to recognize Christ in ways that feel comfortable or familiar, but his presence in our lives is not just to reassure us. Christ comes to us to reshape us and transform us. Recognizing Christ in our everyday lives means being open to the ways he is at work in us, even when it challenges or refines us. His presence is not distant – it is active, purposeful, and deeply personal.

1. How might God be present in a situation right now that feels more refining than comforting?
2. What areas of your life might God be seeking to purify or reshape?

WEDNESDAY
4/15

JOHN 1:35-42

When Jesus first calls his disciples, he begins with a simple invitation: “Come, and you will see.” They spend time with him, and in that ordinary time together, their eyes begin to open to who he really is. Recognition doesn’t happen all at once, it grows through relationship, attention, and staying connected with Jesus. Andrew quickly goes and tells his brother, because encountering Jesus naturally leads to sharing him with others. This passage reminds us that recognizing Christ in our everyday lives often starts with a willingness to slow down, stay near to him, and pay attention. As we do, we begin to see him more clearly and we can’t help but respond.

1. What does it look like for you to “come and see” Jesus in your daily life right now?
2. Who in your life might need to hear about what you are discovering about Jesus?

THURSDAY
4/16

REVELATION 3:14-22

In this open letter to the church, Jesus gives dire warnings of sin and selfishness but also powerful promises of hope for those who repent. Jesus describes himself as standing at the door and knocking. He is not distant, he is not absent, but he is near and patiently pursuing relationship. The image is deeply personal: Jesus doesn't force his way in, he waits to be recognized and welcomed. So often, we assume that if we don't feel God's presence, he must not be there. But this verse reminds us that Christ is already closer than we realize, gently inviting us to open our lives to him. Recognizing his presence may begin with something as simple, and as profound, as responding to that quiet knock.

1. What does Jesus standing at the door and knocking mean to you in your life right now?
2. If Jesus is knocking on the door, that means we have closed it at some point. What are some areas of your life that you might have closed the door to Jesus and why?

FRIDAY
4/17

PSALM 139

These words, traditionally attributed to David, paint a powerful picture of God's constant presence. There is nowhere we can go where God is not already there. Whether in moments of clarity or confusion, joy or struggle, God is near, aware, and engaged. The psalmist doesn't describe a distant God to be found, but a present God to be recognized. This kind of awareness can transform the way we move through our daily lives. Instead of searching for rare spiritual moments, we begin to notice that every moment is already filled with God's presence.

1. Are you more likely to see God as a "distant God to be found" or a "present God to be recognized"? Why?
2. What part of this psalm speaks to you the most powerfully today? Why?

