

John 2

ENGAGE FELLOWSHIP

*“The disciples...believed the Scripture and what Jesus had said.”
(John 2:22)*

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God has NOT left us without instruction but rather through His Word he had given us truth and His truth sets free (John 8:12). In these very early days of the ministry of Jesus, we see the imperative of living daily in believing faith and action based upon His Word. It was the words of Jesus that:

- Provided secure direction.
- Separated faith from unbelief.
- Served as ultimate authority for life and eternity.
- Brought unity out of division as His followers yielded to the Word.

Such as some of the many blessings from being a follower, who like these early disciples, “believed the word.” Pause to reflect and share your own testimonies of believing the Word:

- Recently the Word provided me direction regarding...
- A scripture promise that I’m now believing in faith become real would be...
- Even though everything around me says differently, I hold to the authority of scripture that...
- I’ve recently seen His Word bring unity out of division in my own life as I experienced the truth of ...

Share together with your small group or partner at least one of the above ways in which as His disciple you are “believing His Word.”

Then pray together that each day might be characterized by “walking in the light of His Word” (John 12:35, Psalm 119:105).

“Dear Holy Spirit, as the One who authored the Word, please lead me often into embracing by faith it’s life-giving power; might I reflect often that this day I brought You pleasure by being a “doer” of the Word” (James 1:22).

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ENCOUNTER JESUS

*“I am consumed with a fiery passion to keep your house pure!”
(John 2:17)*

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What are you truly *zealous* about? What stirs your waking moments and keeps you often awake or fuels your passion? Is it of this world or His? As you consider a response, review your thought life and time commitments, your generosity and compassionate involvement with others.

Being zealous for the things of God and His Kingdom gives meaning and legacy to the Christ-follower’s life. Christ’s response in the temple was not “politically correct” or without personal risk. Righteous anger prompted Him to action. His Father’s plans and purposes were given priority above mere man’s.

Pause quietly, asking His Spirit to reveal and refine the passions of your heart:

- In what ways has His Spirit recently led you counter to “political correctness” as a witness of Him?
- What risks of being misunderstood or rejected has He recently led you to take?
- What Kingdom actions ha His righteous anger led you to take?
- What eternal plans and purposes are parts of your daily priorities?

Now pray for a fresh encounter with Jesus and His zeal: *“Lord Jesus, make the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart and my actions each day, pleasing in Thy sight. Holy Spirit, fill me with fresh zeal for eternal things that others around me might take note that I have been with Jesus.”*

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EXPERIENCE SCRIPTURE

“Whatever Jesus tells you, make sure that you do it!” (John 2:5)

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What an awesome key to life abundant and a life pleasing to the Lord! This was the simple secret of Jesus’ love for the Father. Nowhere in Scripture does it speak of the Father obeying the Son but uniquely the Son loves the Father by “doing whatever the Father asks.”

Jesus would describe His own love of His Father with these words: “I am doing exactly what the Father destined for me to accomplish, so that the world will discover how much I love my Father.” (John 14:31)

The Son loves the Father by *yielding* to the Father’s every word and so it’s to be with His followers. Sometimes His speaking is through His Word or a fellow disciple; sometimes He speaks in prayer and at other times it’s the gentle impression of the Holy Spirit upon our spirit. Implicit to this life in the Spirit is:

- First, saying “yes” by faith even before we’ve heard Him speak
- Next, “hearing” the Lord as we faithfully yield to young Samuel’s prayer; *“speak Lord your servant is listening.” (1 Samuel 3:8-9)*
- Finally, is full and immediate obedience to what we hear.

The first miracle at the wedding feast of Cana illustrates the powerful simplicity of “doing what He says.” Our daily accountability to do the same will empower a fulfilling and impactful life.

Consider this discipline as you reflect on the close of each day:

*“Lord, today I heard you say _____ and
Your Spirit empowered me to _____.”*

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