

THE BOOK OF JOHN

HOW TO HANDLE YOUR LIFE IN THE MIDST OF CRISIS

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Those who love their life will lose it, while those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. The crowd spoke up, "We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?" Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Those who walk in the dark do not know where they are going. Put your trust in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them. JOHN 12:20-36 TNIV

1. Admit your fears

Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? JOHN 12:27 TNIV

... the floods of destruction swept over me. The grave wrapped its ropes around me. Death itself stared me in the face. But in my distress I cried out to the Lord and, I prayed to my God for help. PSALM 18:4-6 NLT

Dr. Walter Cavert has done studies on your worries. He has discovered that:

40% of our worries never happen

30% of our worries concern the past

12% of our worries are needless worries about your health

10% of our worries are insignificant or petty concerns

8% of our worries are really legitimate concerns

2. Pray for spiritual strength

... Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge. PSALM 62:8 NLT

God is my savior. I will trust Him and not be afraid. The Lord gives me power and strength. ISAIAH 12:2 GNT

3. Resist the power of bitterness

Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you... it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives. HEBREWS 12:15 LB

4. Enjoy God's plan for your life

... Father, save me from this hour? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name! JOHN 12:27-28 TNIV

The LORD will work out his plans for my life—for your faithful love, O LORD, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me. PSALM 138:8 NLT

... life is not measured by how much you own. LUKE 12:15 NLT

For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 1 TIMOTHY 6:7 NIV

What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul. MATTHEW 16:26 NIV

5. Ask for help from others

Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.
ROMANS 12:5 NLT

6. Find others in need of your help

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? 1 JOHN 3:17 NIV

By helping each other with your troubles, you truly obey the law of Christ. GALATIANS 6:2 NCV

7. Trust that God will get you through this

God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.
PSALM 18:30 NLT

You, Lord, give true peace to those who depend on you, because they trust you. ISAIAH 26:3 NCV

... You are my shield, my wonderful God who gives me courage. PSALM 3:3 NCV

I will bless the Lord who counsels me; He gives me wisdom in the night. He tells me what to do. PSALM 16:7 LB