

The Compass of Scripture: My Dad's Lifelong Journey with Jesus

The entire bible, especially The Gospel, was the compass that guided my dad's lifelong journey with Jesus Christ. Its message of grace, identity, and transformation became the foundation on which he built his faith. As he read the Gospels and later the letters of Paul, he encountered a God who was not distant or demanding, but present, personal, and overflowing with love. These Scriptures did more than inspire him—they reshaped the way he understood God, himself, and what it meant to live as a follower of Jesus.

The teachings of Jesus also guided how my dad approached relationships. Verses that spoke of forgiveness, sacrificial love, and the power of the Holy Spirit reminded him that the Christian life is lived from the inside out. He came to see the Spirit not as a distant helper but as the source of strength, guidance, and comfort in everyday life. This awareness drew him into a deeper walk with God—one marked by authenticity, surrender, and an ongoing conversation with the Lord.

These New Testament Scriptures were not merely teachings to my dad; they became the voice that steady-handed him through joy and sorrow, clarity and confusion. They shaped his view of God as endlessly faithful and shaped his life as a testimony to grace.

The Most Impactful and Meaningful Scriptures for My Dad – Kent Hanby

John 20:30-31 - The purpose of John's Gospel, according to my dad.

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Psalms 23 – A psalm of David

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.

John 7:37-39

On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture had said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive.

Psalm 91:11

For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

John 9:3-5

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned. This happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. As long as it is day, we must do the work of Him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Psalm 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Isaiah 40:29-31

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

John 13:12-17

When He had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

Isaiah 43:19

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.

Romans 8:6-11

The mind of a sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

John 16:12-15

“I have much more to say to you., more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”

Acts 2:23-25 – *A Scripture from Luke*

This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross. But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.

Romans 5:12-14

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Mose, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

John 16:33

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Acts 5:41-42

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Romans 1:17

For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

John 17:9

“I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those who have given me, for they are yours.”

Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.