



**SWITCH**   
LIFECHURCH.TV

RENEW



## PREFACE - 40: RENEW

In your hands, you are holding a 40-day Bible study journal. Your challenge is to complete this 40-day experience as you spend time with God through His Word and through prayer.

You may be wondering why this study is designed to last 40 days. I am so glad you asked! It may surprise you to know how often the number “40” has played an important role in the lives of God’s people throughout history:

- It rained for 40 days and 40 nights when God decided to renew the world and start over.
- Noah waited another 40 days after it rained before he opened a window in the ark.
- Moses was on a mountain with God for 40 days – twice!
- It took the spies 40 days to search out the Promised Land and bring back fruit.
- The Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness, one year for each day they explored the Promised Land.
- Goliath taunted the Israelites for 40 days before being killed by David. God gave the victory after 40 days.
- Ezekiel spent 40 days lying on his side to prepare to prophesy.
- Elijah spent 40 days on Mount Horeb when the Lord passed by and he heard the voice of God.
- Jonah warned the City of Nineveh they had 40 days to be renewed until God would overthrow the city. They repented.
- Jesus was taken to the temple 40 days after His birth to be renewed or purified.
- Jesus fasted for 40 days in the wilderness to prepare for public ministry.
- Jesus was seen in the earth for 40 days after His crucifixion.

So you see, the number “40” often plays a pivotal role in the plans of God - and it is no coincidence that you hold a 40-day Bible study journal in your hands right now! God wants to prepare you for the plans He has for your life!

You’ll notice as you progress through the journal that the letters “RE” appear over and over. “RE” is a prefix that simply means “again.” Through this study, you will do “again” what God has called His people to do from the very beginning. You will dedicate 40 days for the purpose of knowing God and His Word in a new way. While we could not include every important story from the Bible in this study, this journal is designed to give you an overview of scripture from Genesis to Revelation.

We are so excited about the next 40 days! We believe God is going to show you things about Himself that will RENEW you! It is time to be a part of what God is doing “again.”

## Here is how 40: RENEW works:

We will provide you with a quick REWIND to give you some brief background about a passage of scripture. You will then READ the selected passage and RELATE it to your life. Then you will RESPOND to God in a written prayer. Last but not least, we will provide you with a few RETHINK questions to consider. We expect the experience to take you about 15-20 minutes each day.

Here is a glimpse of the 40 days:

- |                    |                     |                        |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. God Made        | 11. People Wandered | 21. Prophets Warned    | 31. Peter Restored |
| 2. Adam Bit        | 12. Promise Landed  | 22. Jesus Born         | 32. Spirit Flamed  |
| 3. Cain Killed     | 13. Gideon Fought   | 23. John Baptized      | 33. Church Born    |
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| 9. Pharaoh Refused | 19. Isaiah Spoke    | 29. Hope Died          | 39. Heaven Shown   |
| 10. Tablets Guided | 20. Daniel Read     | 30. Love Rose          | 40. God Remains    |

By the time you are finished, you will have an easy way to remember the Bible in 80 words. In fact, we challenge you to memorize this list! Each one of these stories will teach you a valuable lesson for life.

One more bonus... as you REWIND, READ, RELATE, RESPOND, and RETHINK about each of these passages of scripture, you will also learn a very effective Bible study method – one that will benefit you as a follower of Christ far into the future!

**Are you ready?** Let's RENEW!



40 RENEW

## DAY 01: God Made

**REWIND:** “In the beginning...” Those famous first words of the Bible set up an amazing story. The Bible tells two versions of the creation story—a poem in chapter one and a personal story in chapter 2. This is our first glimpse at our creative, mysterious, indescribable and loving God. He spoke and there was light. He breathed life into man. Then, He called it good.

**READ:** Genesis 1-2

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How does being a special creation make you feel?
2. How does knowing you were created in God’s image inspire you to be creative?
3. What is your favorite part of God’s creation?

DAY  
02

40 RENEW

## DAY 02: Adam Bit

**REWIND:** It really was all good, until Adam and Eve began questioning whether God could be trusted. Then things started to fall apart. The trouble began with a serpent, an apple, and a man and woman who too easily let go of the things God had told them. Sin entered the world that day, and none of us have been the same since.

**READ:** Genesis 3

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What is your biggest temptation?
2. How do you deal with temptation when it presents itself?
3. If you were Adam, how would you have handled the situation differently?

DAY  
03

40 RENEW

## DAY 03: Cain Killed

**REWIND:** When the time came for the world's first two brothers to offer sacrifices to God, the world's first sibling rivalry quickly led to the world's first murder. So much for brotherly love...

**READ:** Genesis 4:1-15

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you consider yourself a jealous person?
2. How are you getting along with your family members right now?
3. Are you suffering any consequences of sin you haven't confessed?



40 RENEW

## DAY 04: Noah Built

**REWIND:** Things continued to go downhill. The world became full of violent and corrupt people. Noah was the only man who still walked with God. God honored Noah and his family with a rescue plan that ended with a great promise.

**READ:** Genesis 6:9-9:17

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you think you have the kind of faith Noah had?
2. What are some “faith blockers” in your life?
3. What promises has God made to you? Do you believe Him?



40 RENEW

## DAY 05: Job Questioned

**REWIND:** Have you ever questioned God? Job was a very good man who, after some very difficult tests and painful losses, wanted some answers. God's reply wasn't what Job expected.

**READ:** Job 38:1-21, 42:1-6

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you value your stuff more than you value your God?
2. How do you respond when bad things happen in your life?
3. How do you think God's perspective of your problems might be different from your own?



40 RENEW

## DAY 06: Abram Trusted

**REWIND:** God told Abram to leave everything he knew to go to another place. He promised to tell Abram where he was going...en route. God also told Abram about a great future He had planned for him. Would Abram believe God? Would you?

**READ:** Genesis 11:27-12:9

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Has God ever asked you to do anything that seemed unreasonable?
2. What would be the hardest thing for you to leave behind?
3. Are you willing to give up all that is familiar to follow God?



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## DAY 07: Abraham Obeyed

**REWIND:** God decided to give Abram a new name and make him the father of a great nation. Now known as Abraham, he was a man who had pleased God with his great faith. But that faith would face the ultimate test.

**READ:** Genesis 22:1-18

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Have you ever been confused about something God has asked you to do?
2. How is your relationship with your earthly father?
3. Do you trust God to provide for you?

# DAY 08

40 RENEW

## DAY 08: Moses Called

**REWIND:** Moses did not have a normal childhood. Born a Hebrew slave, he was placed in a basket, floated down the Nile, found by a princess, and raised in a palace. But Moses never forgot his people. After killing an Egyptian guard, he fled into the wilderness, got married, and tended sheep. But God still had a plan for Moses. When he least expected it, God found Moses in the wilderness and called to him in a very unusual way.

**READ:** Exodus 3-4

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Has God ever spoken to you through special circumstances?
2. Would you say that you have a healthy fear of God?
3. What excuses are you making for not obeying God?

DAY  
09

40 RENEW

## DAY 09: Pharaoh Refused

**REWIND:** Moses went to Pharaoh and told him to “let his people go.” But Pharaoh wouldn’t listen. God sent plagues to convince Pharaoh to do the right thing – including frogs and flies and the biggest hailstones the world has ever seen. Still, Pharaoh refused. So God unleashed the final plague, saving the big one for last. Would Pharaoh finally give in? Would the children of Israel finally be free?

**READ:** Exodus 11:1-12:32

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you think it is easy for God to work with you, or do you tend to be stubborn?
2. Why do you think God hardened Pharaoh’s heart?
3. Has God instructed you to do anything specific for Him? Have you obeyed Him?



40 RENEW

## DAY 10: Tablets Guided

**REWIND:** God gave a list of instructions to the children of Israel in the wilderness. He gave Moses two flat stone tablets containing the 10 Commandments. These rules became the cornerstone of Hebrew law, and they lay the foundation for our legal system even today. Through them, God teaches us how to live a life that pleases Him.

**READ:** Exodus 20:1-17

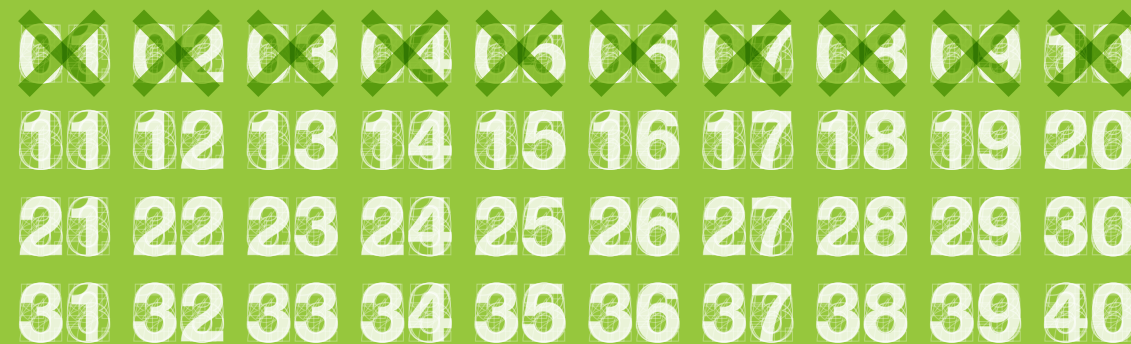
**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How seriously do you take the 10 commandments?
2. Which one of the 10 commandments do you struggle with the most?
3. Why do you think God has certain expectations of us? Do you think He wants to control us or to set us free?

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40 RENEW

## DAY 11: People Wandered

**REWIND:** God delivered His people from Egypt with great signs, wonders, and miracles. You'd think going through something like that would give the children of Israel huge faith. Instead, their time in the wilderness turned them into fearful complainers. God came down heavy on them, but kept His promises.

**READ:** Numbers 14

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you find yourself complaining more than necessary?
2. Are you thankful God is slow to anger?
3. Do you feel like you are wandering right now, or do you have a clear sense of direction?



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## DAY 12: Promise Landed

**REWIND:** Finally, the time came for the children of Israel to enter the land God had promised to them. They had wandered far and seen great miracles. But God wasn't finished yet!

**READ:** : Joshua 3-4

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you walking toward what God has for you, or are you running away?
2. How have you seen the power of God in your life? Do you remind yourself of what God has done for you?
3. What kinds of emotions do you think the children of Israel experienced after they finally arrived in the Promised Land?



40 RENEW

## DAY 13: Gideon Fought

**REWIND:** Time had gone by, and all of the Israelites who had been alive when Joshua led them into the Promised Land had died. This generation had forgotten the wonderful signs and miracles God had performed in the past. They began to worship other gods and live according to whatever felt good. God called out judges, rulers who declared God's truth. One judge, Gideon, was a mighty warrior...but doing things God's way, he fought his battle in a way you would never expect.

**READ:** Judges 7

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you involved in anything right now that requires God to show up?
2. Do you tend to focus more on the facts or on your faith?
3. Are you fighting any battles right now that seem hopeless?



40 RENEW

## DAY 14: Samuel Heard

**REWIND:** Judges led Israel for a few hundred years. A woman named Hannah had wanted children for a very long time. When she finally had a baby boy, she dedicated him to the Lord. Her son, Samuel, went to live with Eli, the priest. A funny thing happened one night that would change Samuel, and eventually all of Israel, forever.

**READ:** 1 Samuel 3

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How well do you really listen?
2. Have you ever had a time in your life where you presented yourself to God and said “Here I am”?
3. How have you heard God speak to you?



40 RENEW

## DAY 15: Saul Fell

**REWIND:** The people of Israel cried out to God for a king. God tried to talk them out of it, but eventually, He gave them what they thought they wanted. Samuel anointed Saul the first king of Israel, and for awhile, things were good...but it all turned sour when King Saul made a terrible choice.

**READ:** 1 Samuel 15

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Have you ever done something that you felt was unforgivable?
2. Are you still experiencing the consequences of bad choices you made in the past? What did you learn from those choices?
3. Do you need to confront a friend who is not listening to God?



40 RENEW

## DAY 16: David Sang

**REWIND:** After Saul fell, God chose David to be the next king of Israel. Then David killed the giant Goliath, won great military battles, and lived a pretty amazing life. David made mistakes, but he always turned back to God with his entire heart, and God saved him from his enemies again and again. With that kind of God, David just had to break into song from time to time. In fact, he wrote a whole book of songs about his relationship with God. Let's check out the first tune...

**READ:** Psalm 1

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What kind of fruit are people picking from your life?
2. Have you stopped to thank God for His protection over you lately?
3. What are you meditating on today? Who or what has your attention?



40 RENEW

## DAY 17: Solomon Asked

**REWIND:** King David had a son named Solomon. When Solomon became king, God asked him a very important question. Solomon's answer would change his life, impact the world, and make him a legend forever.

**READ:** 1 Kings 3

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. If you could ask God for one thing, what would it be?
2. Do you think you make wise choices?
3. Are you praying over a difficult decision you have to make?



40 RENEW

## DAY 18: Jonah Sailed

**REWIND:** Jonah was a prophet with a problem. God told him to go to Nineveh, a place where people didn't even believe in Him, and deliver a message. Jonah didn't want to go - so he made plans of his own. He jumped on a boat going the opposite direction. God went to great lengths to get Jonah back on track. He sent a storm, and even a whale to swallow Jonah! God finally had his attention. Jonah decided to obey God. He went to Nineveh with an important message.

**READ:** Jonah 3

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you avoiding something God has asked you to do?
2. Do you think the Ninevites deserved to be forgiven for their wickedness?
3. Why do you think it is so difficult to point out sin in other people's lives?



40 RENEW

## DAY 19: Isaiah Spoke

**REWIND:** Isaiah was a prophet who foresaw the future and delivered warnings to the Nation of Israel. Isaiah called the Israelites out for pretending to do things for God while their hearts were far from Him. He described what true worship looks like and how we can please God.

**READ:** Isaiah 58

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What words do you need to speak to someone on God's behalf?
2. When was the last time you fasted? Have you ever?
3. What kind of fasting does God desire?



40 RENEW

## DAY 20: Daniel Read

**REWIND:** Daniel was a Hebrew slave held captive in Babylon. The Babylonians had a long history of worshipping false gods, and their king tried to force the Hebrew slaves to do the same. Daniel and his friends refused. God gave Daniel great wisdom and the ability to interpret dreams and mysteries. This ability saved Daniel more than once, especially when the “writing was on the wall.”

**READ:** Daniel 5

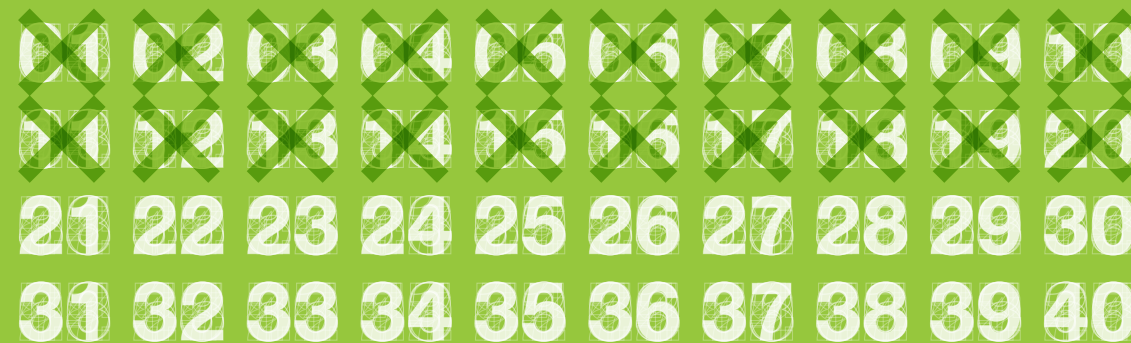
**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What is your reputation? How can you be known as someone who has the Spirit of God in you?
2. Do you find it difficult to speak the truth in love?
3. Have you ever been rewarded for serving Jesus?

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40 RENEW

## DAY 21: Prophets Warned

**REWIND:** Sometimes prophets warned about events that would take place right away. Sometimes they warned about events far into the future. Joel warned about the judgment day of the Lord, which is still yet to come. This is bad news for people whose hearts are far from God – but we are reminded that He is a God who is slow to anger, and He longs for us to turn our hearts back to Him. There is still time, but the time is now!

**READ:** Joel 2

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you need to return to the Lord? If so, how?
2. How would you like to have the job of a prophet?
3. Why do you think God takes sin so seriously?



40 RENEW

## DAY 22: Jesus Born

**REWIND:** The New Testament begins with the story of how God became a baby boy. His name was Jesus. He came to make a way for us to be right with God and live with Him forever. It all began with one ordinary woman and one ordinary man who were used by God in an extraordinary way!

**READ:** Matthew 1:18-2:23

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How significant is the birth of Jesus in your life?
2. What would you be thinking if you were Mary?
3. What would you be thinking if you were Joseph?



40 RENEW

## DAY 23: John Baptized

**REWIND:** Before Jesus began teaching and performing miracles, God sent a man to tell the people He was coming. The people, especially the religious leaders, didn't quite know what to make of this messenger.

**READ:** John 1:6-34

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. As a follower of Jesus, have you been baptized yet?
2. How does your life pave the way for others to find Jesus?
3. Do you get uncomfortable talking to your friends about Jesus?



40 RENEW

## DAY 24: Disciples Called

**REWIND:** As Jesus began ministering to the people, He called men to join Him in His work. These twelve disciples left lives and jobs and families to set off on an adventure that would eventually change the world!

**READ:** Mark 1

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What “nets” have you left behind to follow Jesus?
2. What would it have been like to be one of the twelve disciples who traveled with Jesus?
3. How can your life make a difference for others?



40 RENEW

## DAY 25: God Walked

**REWIND:** Jesus went to the people. He walked from town to town, healing the sick and teaching those who would listen about who God really is, what He is really like and how we can know Him.

**READ:** Luke 18

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Why do you think Jesus went to where the people were? What does that say to you about God?
2. Where is God asking you to go for Him?
3. Are there any specific steps God is asking you to take right now? Are you willing to take the first step before He tells you the second one?



40 RENEW

## DAY 26: Leaders Challenged

**REWIND:** Jesus was a friend to sinners, but posed a challenge to religious leaders. They lived by the law. Jesus preached the good news of God's grace. This was not what people expected from the Messiah. Then again, Jesus was anything but predictable!

**READ:** John 8

**RELATE:** How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How would you feel if you were the woman who Jesus didn't condemn?
2. How would you feel if you were the religious leaders who accused her when Jesus let her go?
3. Have you ever been accused of something? Have you ever been someone's accuser?



40 RENEW

## DAY 27: Jesus Prayed

**REWIND:** Just before Jesus was arrested and crucified, He knew His time on earth would soon come to an end. He prayed to God the Father and asked for protection and purpose for His followers on earth. In His prayer, we see the heart of a Savior and Son asking His Father to take care of those He deeply loved - including you!

**READ:** John 17

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. How important is prayer in your life?
2. How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus prays for you?
3. Do you think how the church behaves today is what Jesus had in mind?



40 RENEW

## DAY 28: Blood Spilled

**REWIND:** Jesus shared the Passover feast with the twelve disciples who were closest to Him. Afterward, the disciples went to the garden of Gethsemane with Jesus, where He was arrested and betrayed by one of His own.

**READ:** Mark 14

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Does it bother you when someone innocent takes the blame for others?
2. What would you have said to Jesus if you had been at the Last Supper?
3. Have you ever denied Jesus the way Peter did?



40 RENEW

## DAY 29: Hope Died

**REWIND:** Once arrested, Jesus endured brutality, mockery, and a gruesome death on a cross. It looked as if all He had promised and everything His followers had hoped for died along with Him. The sky turned black as night in the middle of the day, and as Friday evening came, it seemed very dark indeed.

**READ:** Mark 15

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Does the death of Jesus inspire you to live for Him?
2. If you had to endure the crucifixion, which part would have been the worst for you?
3. Are you thankful Jesus took your place?



40 RENEW

## DAY 30: Love Rose

**REWIND:** Just when it seemed all they had hoped for had come to an end, God's power changed everything! The two women who went to Jesus' tomb that Sunday morning experienced the biggest surprise of their lives - one that would change the world forever!

**READ:** Matthew 28

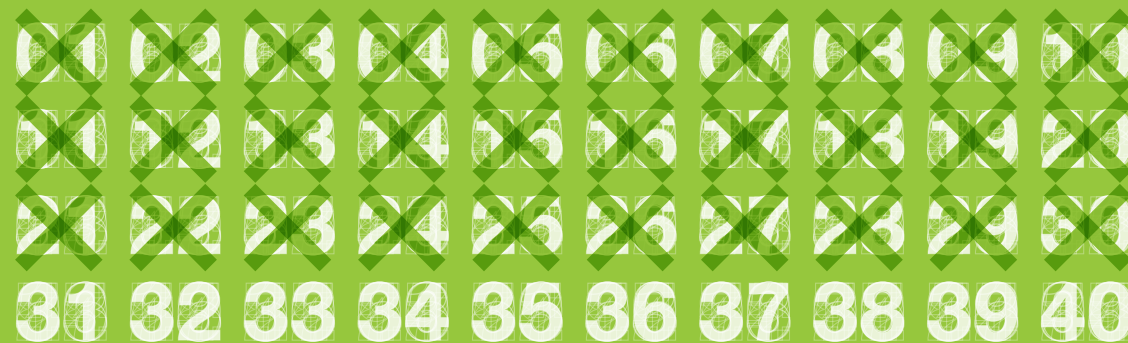
**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. What if the resurrection had never happened?
2. Are you living in the victory of the resurrection or under the defeat of death?
3. When was the last time you ran to tell someone about the resurrection of Jesus?

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|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. God Made        | 11. People Wandered | 21. Prophets Warned    | 31. Peter Restored |
| 2. Adam Bit        | 12. Promise Landed  | 22. Jesus Born         | 32. Spirit Flamed  |
| 3. Cain Killed     | 13. Gideon Fought   | 23. John Baptized      | 33. Church Born    |
| 4. Noah Built      | 14. Samuel Heard    | 24. Disciples Called   | 34. Stephen Spoke  |
| 5. Job Questioned  | 15. Saul Fell       | 25. God Walked         | 35. Message Spread |
| 6. Abram Trusted   | 16. David Sang      | 26. Leaders Challenged | 36. Paul Wrote     |
| 7. Abraham Obeyed  | 17. Solomon Asked   | 27. Jesus Prayed       | 37. Timothy Grew   |
| 8. Moses Called    | 18. Jonah Sailed    | 28. Blood Spilled      | 38. John Loved     |
| 9. Pharaoh Refused | 19. Isaiah Spoke    | 29. Hope Died          | 39. Heaven Shown   |
| 10. Tablets Guided | 20. Daniel Read     | 30. Love Rose          | 40. God Remains    |





40 RENEW

## DAY 31: Peter Restored

**REWIND:** After Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples set out on an all night fishing trip. It was just an average night with a less-than-average catch. Then morning came, and with it came something very unexpected!

**READ:** John 21

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Why do you think Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him?
2. How do you think Peter must have felt when he saw Jesus again?
3. Who are God's sheep? How can you feed them?



40 RENEW

## DAY 32: Spirit Flamed

**REWIND:** One night, the disciples and a crowd of believers were together. A sound like rushing wind filled the place, and an extraordinary guest showed up just like the prophet Joel had predicted long before. Still, no one could have guessed the signs and wonders that would soon take place!

**READ:** Acts 2

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. If you are a believer, how comfortable do you think the Holy Spirit is living in your body?
2. When people look at your life, are they filled with awe?
3. When have you been most aware of the Holy Spirit's presence?



40 RENEW

## DAY 33: Church Born

**REWIND:** The religious leaders tried to keep the good news of Jesus quiet. Still, more people came to believe in Him. As the number of Jesus' followers increased, they formed a community that would become the foundation for the church today.

**READ:** Acts 4

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you willing to share your stuff with others?
2. In what ways is the church in Acts similar to the church today? How is it different?
3. Would you like to have belonged to the early church? Why or why not?



40 RENEW

## DAY 34: Stephen Spoke

**REWIND:** Standing up for what we believe isn't easy. It never has been. Stephen is described as a man who was full of grace and power. He was also a man who had enough strength to take a stand for Christ, even when the cost was high.

**READ:** Acts 6:8-7:60

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Would your life be described as a man or woman full of grace and power?
2. Have you ever thought about the long line of believers throughout history that you are a part of? Does that inspire you?
3. How does the way you follow Christ compare to Stephen's story?



40 RENEW

## DAY 35: Message Spread

**REWIND:** Before Jesus came, the people of Israel were the only ones who could claim the right to be God's chosen people. Through His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, there is now a place for everyone in God's family.

**READ:** Ephesians 2

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you doing your part to include others in the "household" of God?
2. Is it a comfort to know that you are a part of something eternal?
3. What would you say the message of Jesus really is?

DAY  
36

40 RENEW

## DAY 36: Paul Wrote

**REWIND:** Paul was an enemy of the early church. In fact, he hunted Christians down so they could be put on trial. Some were even killed. Paul came to believe in Jesus, and the direction of his life completely changed. He became one of the first missionaries and took the good news of Jesus to foreign lands. He started churches in far-off cities like Ephesus, Philippi, Corinth, and even Rome. After Paul left each city, he kept in touch with the churches by writing letters. In his letters, Paul reminded the early Christians of the grace they had received through faith and the truth to be found in Jesus.

**READ:** Romans 6

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you as passionate as Paul about spreading the message of Jesus?
2. Why do you think Paul was so focused on Jesus?
3. How is grace a difference maker in your life?



40 RENEW

## DAY 37: Timothy Grew

**REWIND:** As Paul traveled, he met a young believer named Timothy. Paul wrote letters to Timothy to encourage him to continue to grow in the faith. Two of these letters became 1 and 2 Timothy in the New Testament.

**READ:** 1 Timothy 4

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. As a young person, how are you setting an example to other believers?
2. Are you diligent when it comes to living a Godly life?
3. How are you growing in your walk with Jesus?



40 RENEW

## DAY 38: John Loved

**REWIND:** John was known among Jesus' followers as the "disciple whom Jesus loved." He knew a thing or two about loving because he learned from the best! John reminds us how truly loved we are as followers of Christ, and describes how we should love each other.

**READ:** 1 John 3-4

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you love people in words and actions?
2. How did Jesus prove His love for you? How has your life been changed because of this proof?
3. Is your love for God and your love for others consistent?



40 RENEW

## DAY 39: Heaven Shown

**REWIND:** Eventually, John was exiled to an island called Patmos for his belief in Jesus. While he was there, God revealed to him great truths about the future. Here, John gives us a sneak peek at the incredible and indescribable things that are in store for all who believe in Jesus.

**READ:** Revelation 21

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Do you think you spend enough time thinking about heaven?
2. What do you think is going to be the best thing to do in heaven?
3. Are you inviting your friends to join you in heaven?



40 RENEW

## DAY 40: God Remains

**REWIND:** God is the Alpha and Omega, the first and last, the beginning and the end. The same God who spoke light into being and who breathed life into Adam's lungs has always had a heart for us – His people! He has made a way for us through Jesus. We are still living His story today. He remains – and He is coming again!

**READ:** Revelation 22

**RELATE:** What does this passage say about God? How does this apply to my life?

**RESPOND:** Take a moment to write your thoughts to God.

**RETHINK:** Here are a few questions to think about.

1. Are you living more for temporary things or for eternal things?
2. As the bride of Christ, how can you get ready to meet the Bridegroom?
3. How does the return of Jesus in the future inspire you to live life to the fullest today?

## Congratulations!

You have completed the **40: RENEW** challenge!

Don't stop now! **RENEW** your commitment to know God better through His Word and through prayer by continuing to study scripture as you have these past 40 days! As you do, God will continue to **RENEW** you and **REVEAL** more of Himself and His purpose for your life!

One way to continue your journey with God is to go to [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com) and pick a Bible reading plan.

We hope you have been **RENEWED** through this experience. We know God will use this time of prayer and study of His Word to accomplish great things in you and through you in the days ahead!

