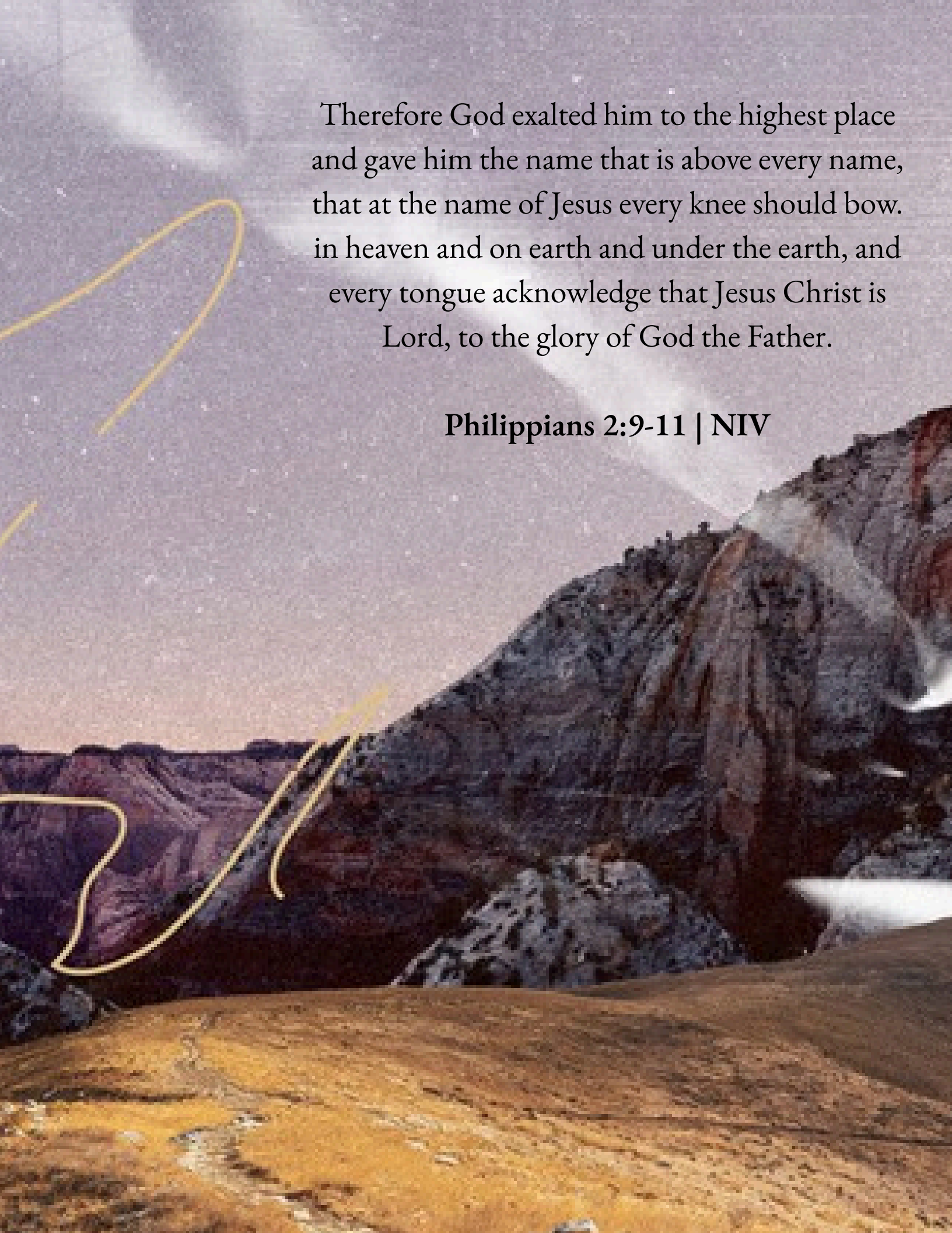



A surreal landscape painting. The sky is a deep, textured purple and blue, with a bright, yellow, comet-like streak arcing across it. Below the sky, a dark, rocky, and jagged landscape stretches across the horizon. The foreground is a dark, textured surface, possibly a rocky outcrop or a body of water, with some lighter, yellowish-brown patches. The overall mood is mysterious and otherworldly.

LENT

A dramatic landscape with a purple and blue sky, dark mountains, and a yellow rope. The rope is coiled on the left side of the image, and the mountains are in the background. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and
every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11 | NIV



During Advent, we reflected on the promised names of Christ in Isaiah 9:6 and celebrated the coming of our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Those names invited us to behold who Jesus is. Lent now invites us to consider what it means to follow Him.

In the world of Scripture, a name was never just a label. A name was bound up with identity, character, and calling. Names revealed something true about a person's nature and purpose. God changed Abram's name to Abraham to mark covenant promise. He revealed His own Name to make His character known to His people. To know a name was to know something real about the one who bore it.

This makes the name of Jesus especially significant. His name comes from the Hebrew Yeshua, meaning "The LORD saves." Scripture makes this explicit when the angel tells Joseph, "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). From the beginning, His name declared His mission.

Jesus does not merely bring salvation; He is God's salvation for His people. His name announces the rescue He came to accomplish.

Lent is the season when we slow down to remember that rescue, to trace again the path Jesus walked toward the cross and to consider what His saving work means for our lives today.

Lent is the forty-day season leading up to Easter, a time when the Church slows down to pray, repent, and remember the saving work of Christ. It is a season of honest reflection and renewed dependence on the Lord. These forty days echo Jesus' own forty days in the wilderness after His baptism. After passing through the waters, He was led by the Spirit into testing. Where Israel failed in the wilderness after passing through the waters of the Red Sea, Jesus remained faithful after passing through the waters of baptism. Where humanity gives in to temptation, Jesus trusted the Father and answered with the Word of God.

Lent reminds us that our hope does not rest on our faithfulness, but on His. The One whose very name means "The LORD saves" walked the road to the cross to accomplish exactly that. He was obedient where we are not, steadfast where we waver, and faithful in love all the way to Calvary.

Throughout this devotional, we will reflect on several of the names and titles given to Christ in the New Testament. These names are not merely theological ideas or poetic descriptions. They reveal His authority, His mission, and His heart for His people. They invite us not only to learn about Jesus, but to know Him, trust Him, and worship Him.



The Faithfulness of Jesus

As we begin this Lenten journey, Scripture invites us into honest reflection. Before we consider the faithfulness of Jesus, it is good to pause and examine our own hearts.

Faithfulness to the Lord is not about flawless performance. It is about loyalty, trust, and a willingness to depend on Him. It grows from the recognition that we are not self-sufficient and that we are in need of a Savior. Faithfulness begins with trust.

A helpful way to reflect on our faithfulness is using the Faith Man illustration. This simple picture reminds us of several postures that mark a life growing in faithfulness. As you read, resist the urge to measure yourself. Instead, prayerfully ask the Lord where He may be inviting you to grow.

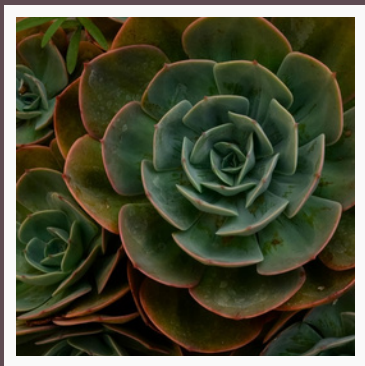
*“Many a man proclaims his own loyalty,
But who can find a trustworthy man?”*

Proverbs 20:6 | NASB 1995



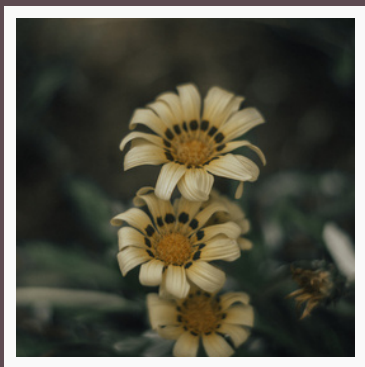
FAITHFUL

Faithfulness is to be loyal, dependable, and true to one's commitments to the Lord. Faithfulness is the bonding that preserves our faith so we can be dependable and trusting to the LORD. Faithfulness comes from a place of trust and loyalty and requires us to submit our ways to God. It comes from a place of realizing that we are in need of a Savior and that He is in control of our lives



AVAILABLE

It doesn't take great skill or gift to serve God, it just takes someone that is available and is willing to serve. If they are faithfully available, then God will find a place in His work and in His Body, the church. A posture of availability is convinced that God is active, and, as His agents, we should be aware of opportunities that will come onto our path.



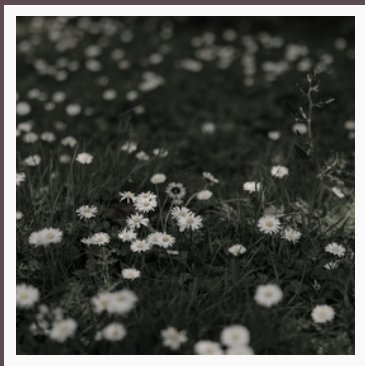
INTENSE (VISION FOR MINISTRY)

Scripture calls us to build our goals on things of lasting value and to fix our eyes on Christ and the joy that is to come. Living life aimlessly is a far cry from a purposeful Christian walk!



TEACHABLE

We are called to learn from Scripture (Acts 17:11-12), learn from prayer (Heb 5:7-8), learn from people teaching us about God (Prov 23:12), and learn from life's experiences (Prov 3:13).



HEART FOR GOD

The word heart (kardia) in the Bible refers to the authentic you, who you really are—where you desire, deliberate and where you decide. It's the place of spiritual activity—the seat of your inner spiritual life. The heart is the place where God meets you, the place of our fellowship with Him, the place God reveals Himself to us.

Reflection

Where do you sense the Lord inviting you to grow in faithfulness right now, and what might it look like to trust Him in that area?

[illegible]

Scan QR Code to Watch
Pastor Tom's Sermon Series
on the Faith Man



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. On this day, many believers receive ashes in the shape of a cross and hear the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” These words are not meant to discourage us, but to tell the truth about our need.

We are finite. We are not self-saving. We are people in need of mercy.

Ash Wednesday invites us to humility and repentance, to return to the Lord with honest hearts. It reminds us that our hope is not in our strength, but in the One whose name means “The LORD saves.” The same Jesus whose name declares salvation is the One who meets us in our weakness and leads us toward life.

But returning to the Lord is not only a moment; it is a posture. One of the primary ways we return to Him is through His Word. Scripture is where we come to know the heart, character, and faithfulness of the One we follow.

This is the very pattern we see in Jesus. After His baptism, when He was led into the wilderness and faced temptation, Jesus did not rely on willpower alone. He answered each temptation with the Word of God. Again and again, He responded, “It is written.” In His hunger, weakness, and testing, He trusted what the Father had spoken. The faithful Son met temptation with Scripture.

If Jesus, the Son of God, held to the Word in His time of testing, how much more do we need to hold fast to it in ours? One simple tool to help us build a steady rhythm in God’s Word is called the Word Hand.



The Word Hand



Scan QR Code to Watch
Pastor Tom's Teaching on the
Word Hand

The “Word Hand” represents five very important methods of learning from the Bible.

HEAR

Romans 10:17

Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides insight into others’ study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating your own appetite for the Word.

READ

Revelation 1:3

Reading the Bible gives an overall picture of God’s Word. Many people find it helpful to use a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.

STUDY

Acts 17:11

Studying the Scriptures leads to personal discoveries of God’s truths. Writing down these discoveries helps you organize and remember them.

MEMORIZE

Psalms 119:9,11

Memorizing God’s Word enables use of the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations...to have it readily available for witnessing or helping others with a “word in season.”

MEDITATE

Psalms 1:2,3

Meditation is the thumb of the Word Hand for it is used in conjunction with each of the other methods. Only as you meditate on God’s Word — thinking of its meaning and application in your life—will you discover its transforming power at work within you.

A Firm Grip on the Word



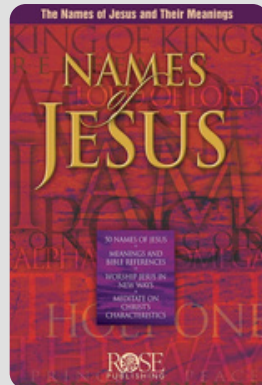
Just as a hand needs all its fingers to grip firmly, our lives grow stronger when we engage Scripture in more than one way. This is not about checking boxes, but about making space for God’s voice in our lives. As we begin digging deep into the Name Above All Names, we will follow Jesus’ faithful lead by using the Word Hand to grasp firmly what the Holy Spirit is revealing to us through the Word.

2RC

RECOMMENDS



BOOKS YOU CAN'T MISS



Interested in deeper study of the names of Christ? We recommend these books to supplement your Lenten study.

A GIFT FROM OUR CHURCH

Free Access to +20,000 Bible Study
Videos—Anytime, Anywhere, from Any Device



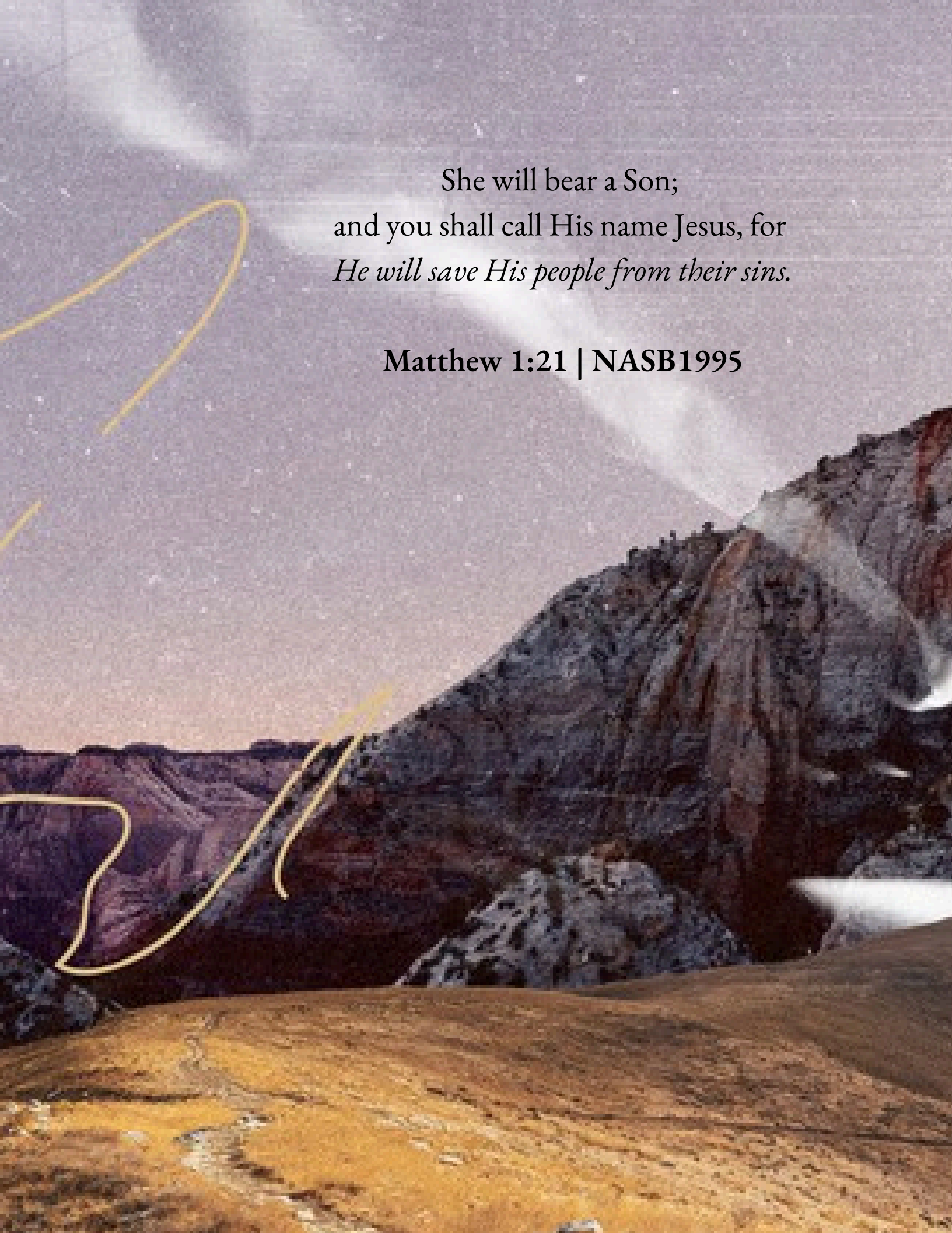
Scan the QR code
to create your
free account and
start browsing.



The background is a dramatic landscape painting of a desert canyon. The sky is a deep, dark purple with a large, thin yellow circle in the upper left. A yellow line starts from the bottom of the circle, loops around the text, and extends towards the right. The canyon walls are dark and rugged, with some reddish-brown rock formations visible. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

JESUS THE DELIVERER

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22



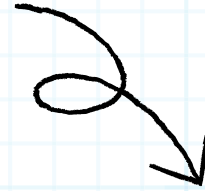
She will bear a Son;
and you shall call His name Jesus, for
He will save His people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21 | NASB1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION

HEAR

- Listen to each week's message.
- Use your Bible app and listen to the verse and its context several times.
- You can even read it out loud to yourself!



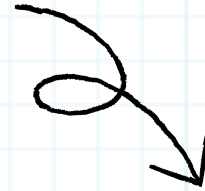
READ

- Read the verse in your Bible several times.
- Use *biblegateway.com* to read the verse in 2-3 versions.



STUDY

- Use the OICA Worksheet to do a deeper study of the verse.
- Use OpenBible.Info to quickly find correlations/cross-references.



MEMORIZE

- Spend the week memorizing the verse using our Lenten Scripture Memory cards or the Bible Memory App.



MEDITATE

- Think deeply on the verse, considering how God might want to you to apply it in your life.
- Allow the included reflection questions to help you meditate more deeply.

LEARN
HOW TO
DO OICA
HERE



DON'T LIKE QR CODES? ALL VIDEOS CAN BE FOUND ON
OUR WEBSITE AT 2RIVERSCHURCH.ORG/EASTER2026
OR ON RIGHT NOW MEDIA!

PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Deliverer

VERSE:

Matthew 1:21

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to you that Jesus' very name is connected to His mission to save from sin?

2. Where have you experienced Jesus bringing freedom, healing, or deliverance in your life beyond initial salvation? Where might you still need His saving work?

3. How does believing that Jesus saves from sin and its effects shape the way you pray for yourself and for others when you encounter sin, struggle, or spiritual oppression?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others. Be specific about the area of deliverance you are praying for!

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

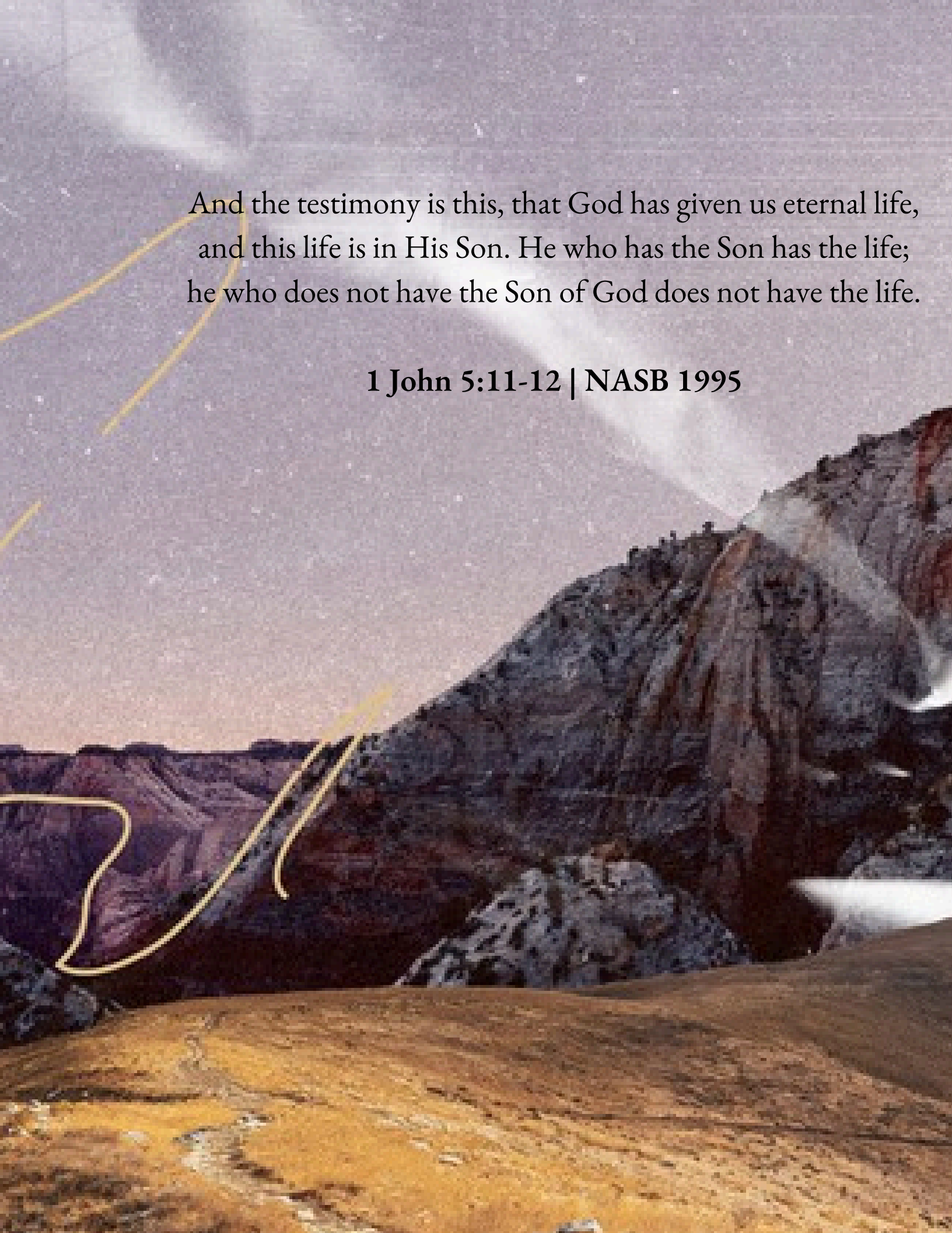
WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR



JESUS THE SON OF GOD

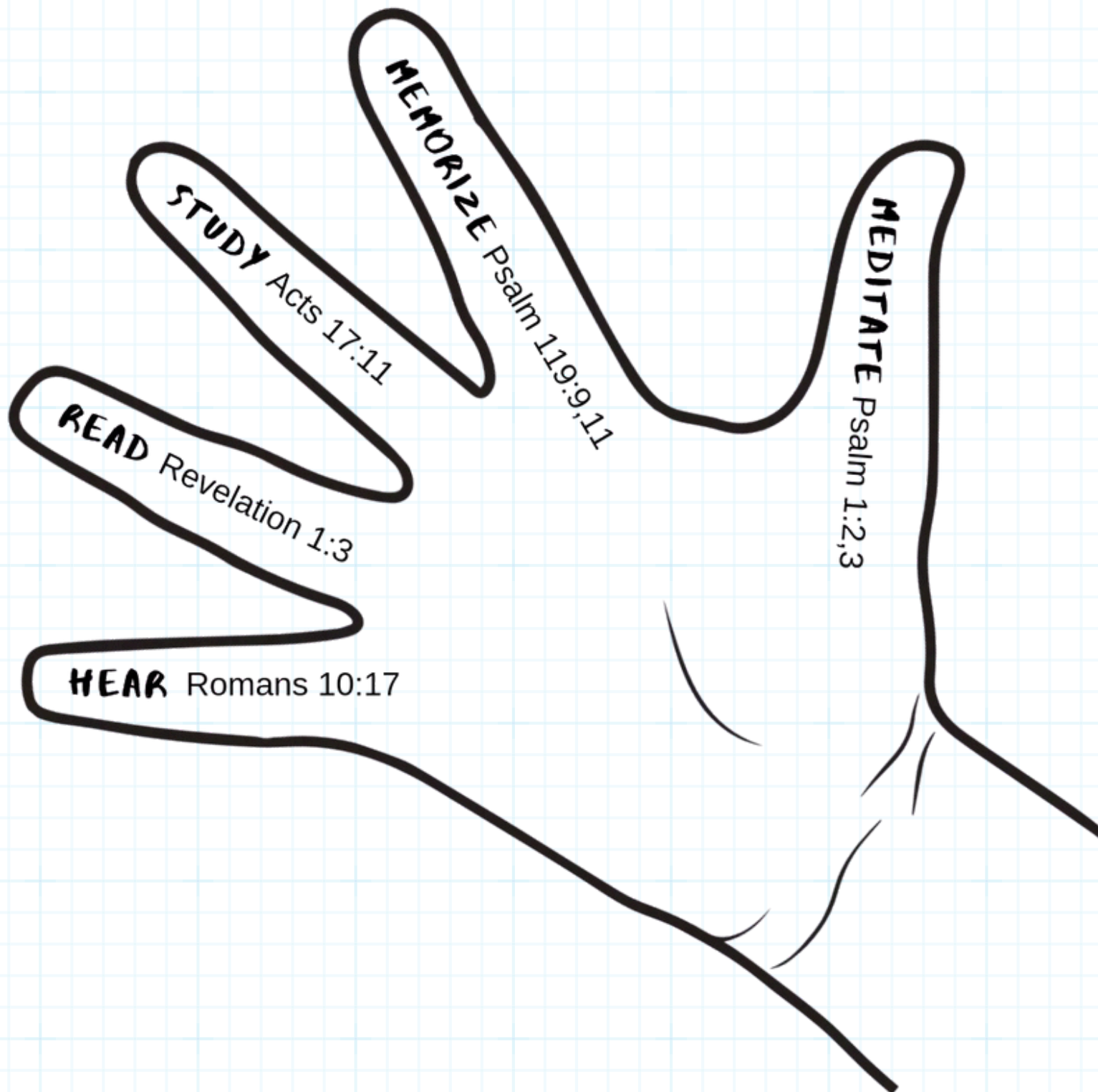
WEEK OF MARCH 1



And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life,
and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life;
he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

1 John 5:11-12 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Son of God

VERSE:

1 John 5:11-12

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. Where might you be trying to find “life” apart from Christ, whether in success, ministry, relationships, or personal effort?

2. How does knowing that eternal life is a gift in the Son move you toward gratitude, worship, or deeper trust?

3. In what ways are you actively abiding in or walking with the Son, not just believing in Him intellectually?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others. Be specific about where you would like to have more of the Son of God in your life.

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

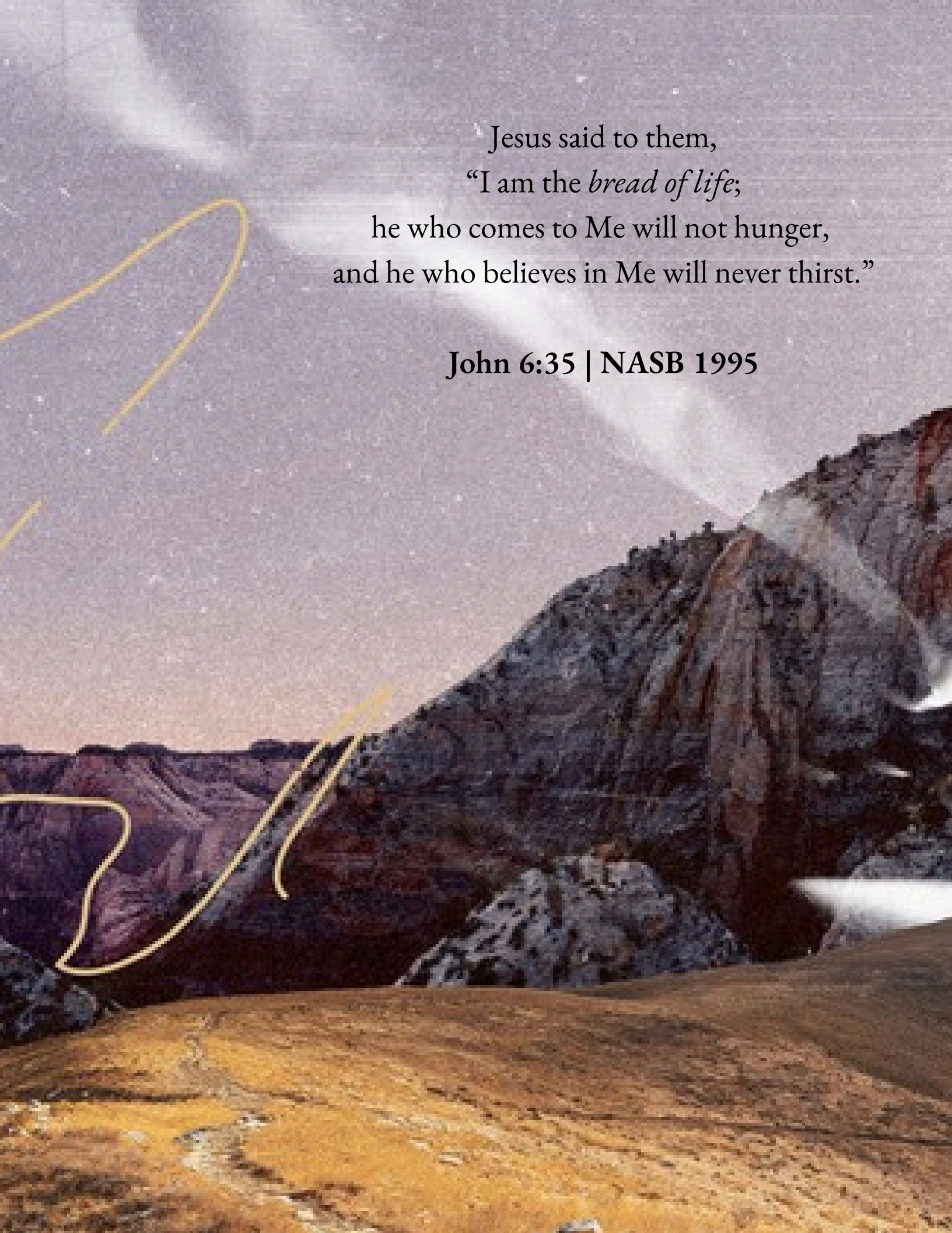
WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR



JESUS THE BREAD OF LIFE

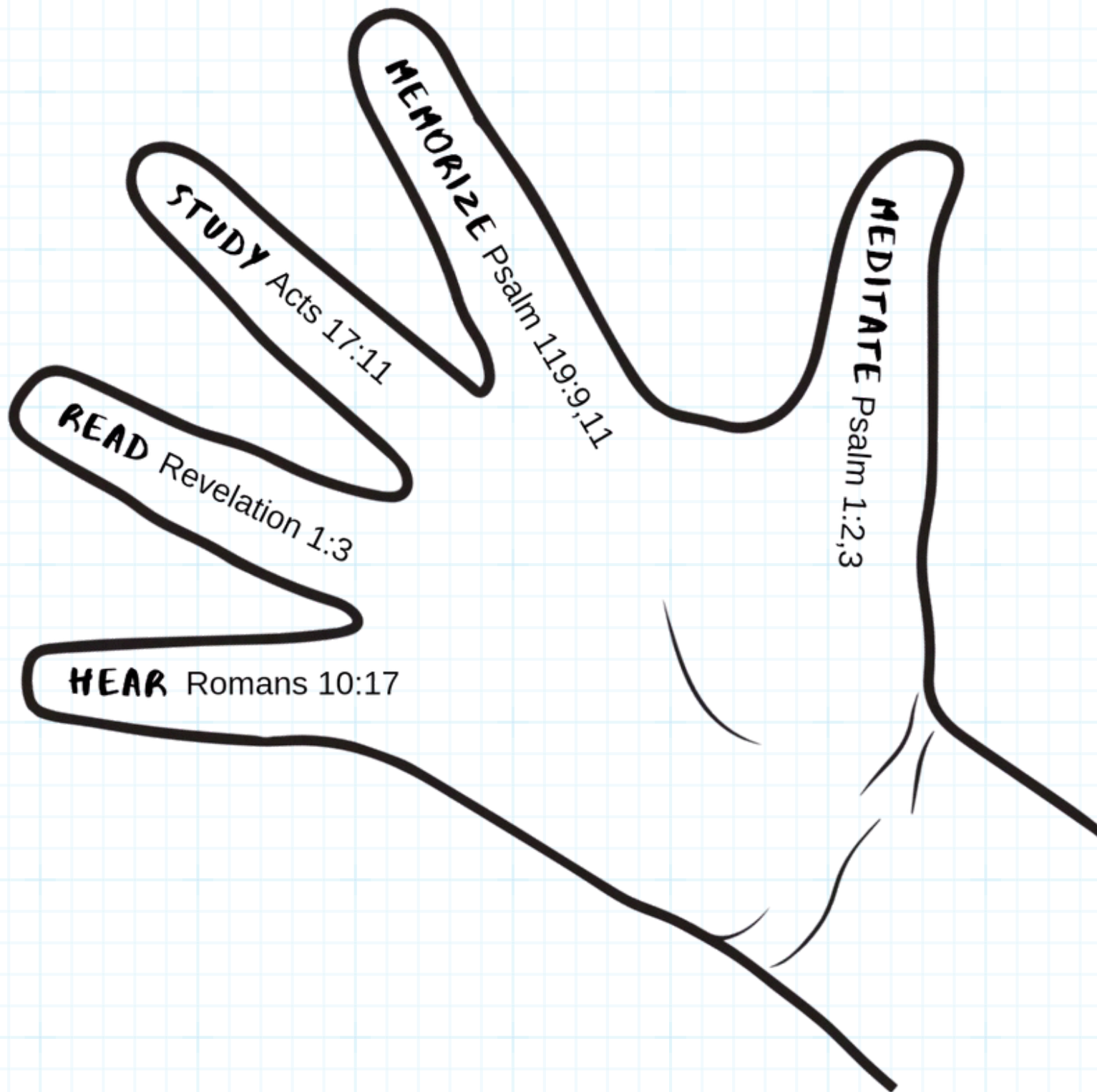
WEEK OF MARCH 8



Jesus said to them,
“I am the *bread of life*;
he who comes to Me will not hunger,
and he who believes in Me will never thirst.”

John 6:35 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Bread of Life

VERSE:

John 6:35

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. Where do you notice spiritual hunger or thirst in your life right now? How do you usually try to satisfy it?

2. Jesus connects satisfaction to coming to Him. What does “coming to Jesus” look like practically in your daily life?

3. If Jesus truly satisfies your soul, how might that change the way you love, serve, or witness to others?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others. Be specific about where you would like to hunger more for Jesus!

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

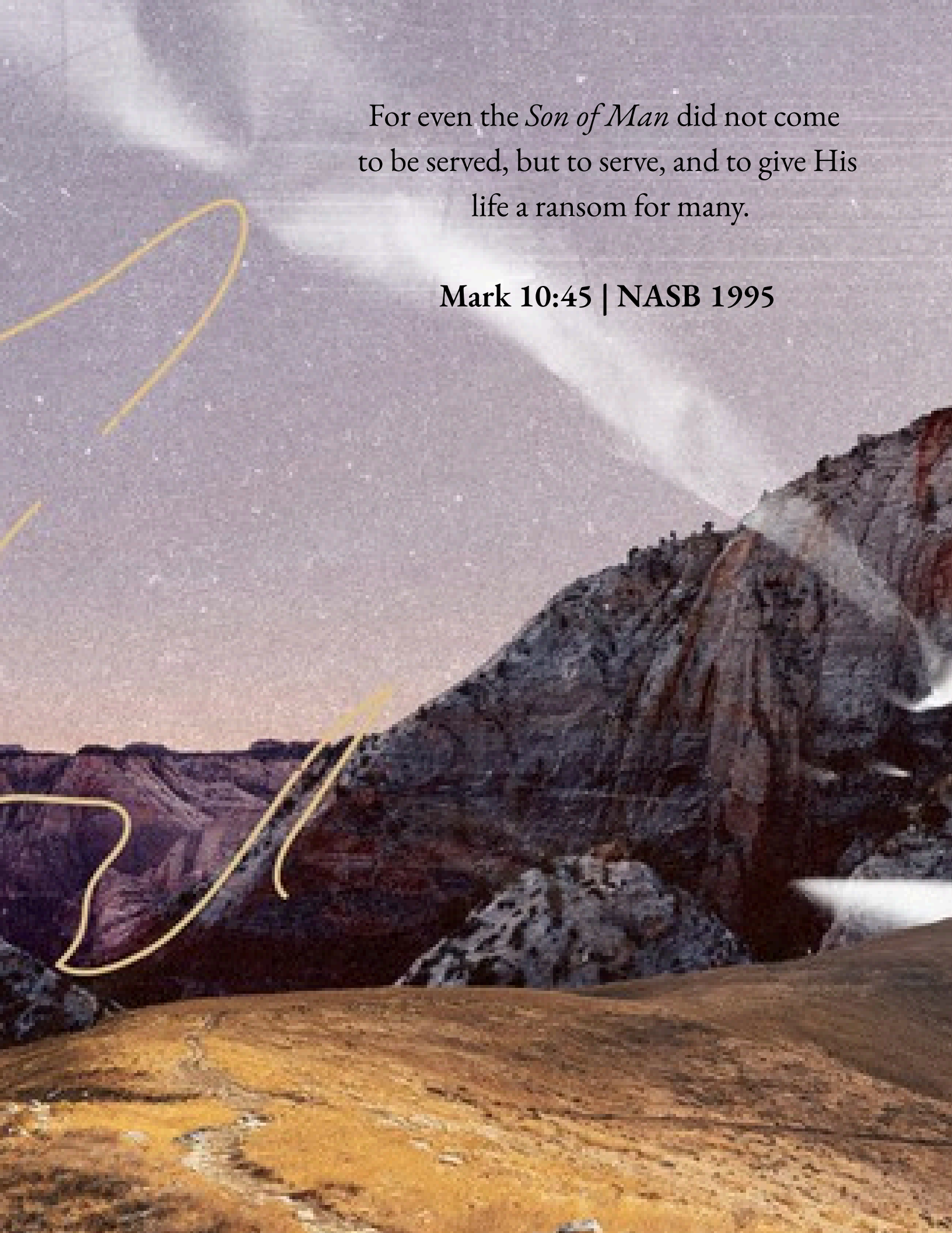
WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR

The background is a dramatic landscape painting of a desert canyon. The sky is a deep, dark purple with a large, thin yellow circle in the upper left. A yellow line starts from the bottom of the circle, curves down and to the right, and then loops back up towards the right side of the frame. The canyon walls are dark and rugged, with some reddish-brown rock formations visible. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

JESUS THE SON OF MAN

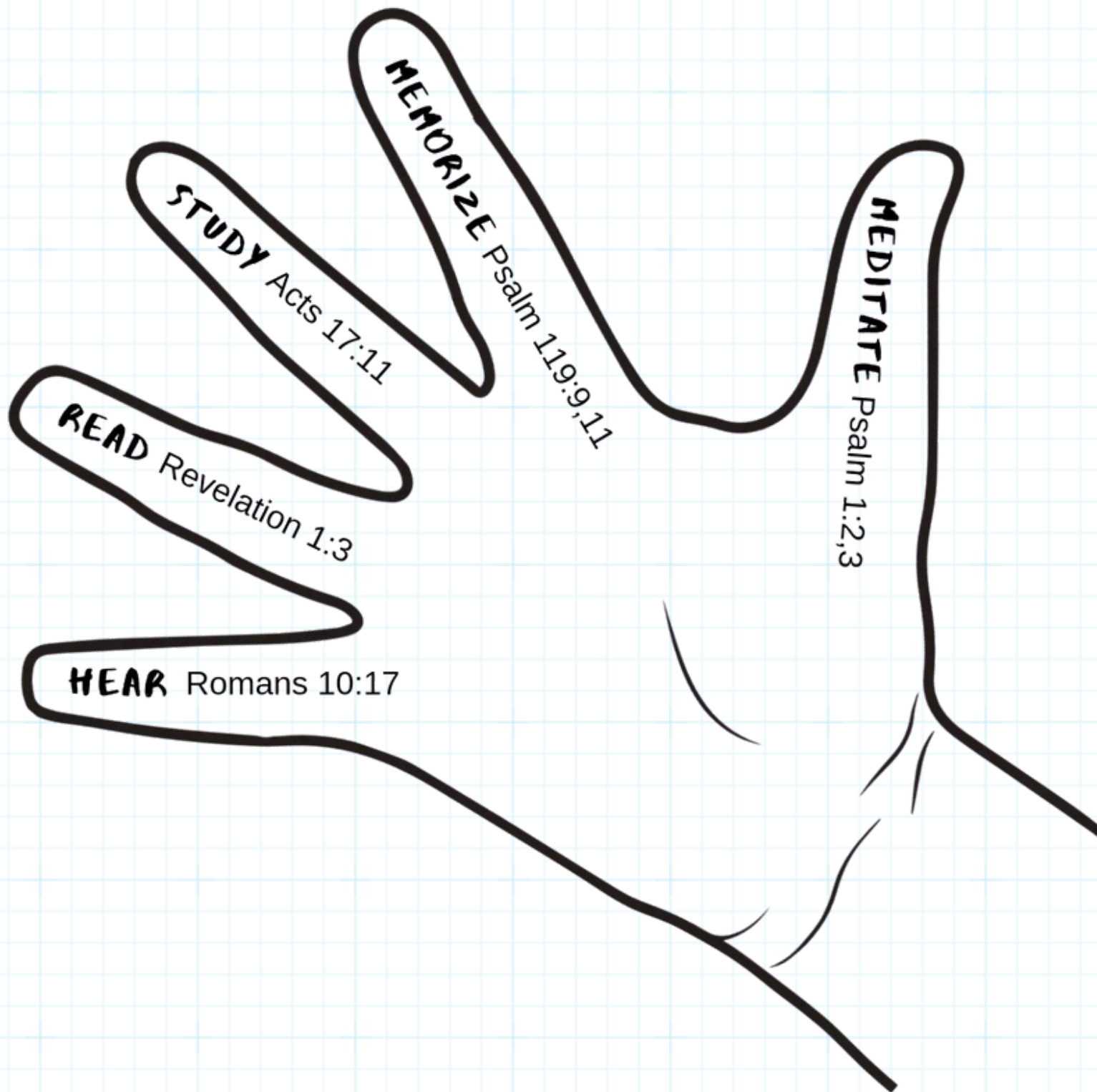
WEEK OF MARCH 15



For even the *Son of Man* did not come
to be served, but to serve, and to give His
life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Son of Man

VERSE:

Mark 10:45

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. When you serve others, what usually motivates you: love, duty, recognition, or something else?

2. If following Jesus means adopting His posture of service, where might He be inviting you to serve more intentionally?

3. How do you respond when your service is unseen or unappreciated? What might this reveal about your heart?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others. Be specific about opportunities the Lord may give you to serve others.

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____


SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

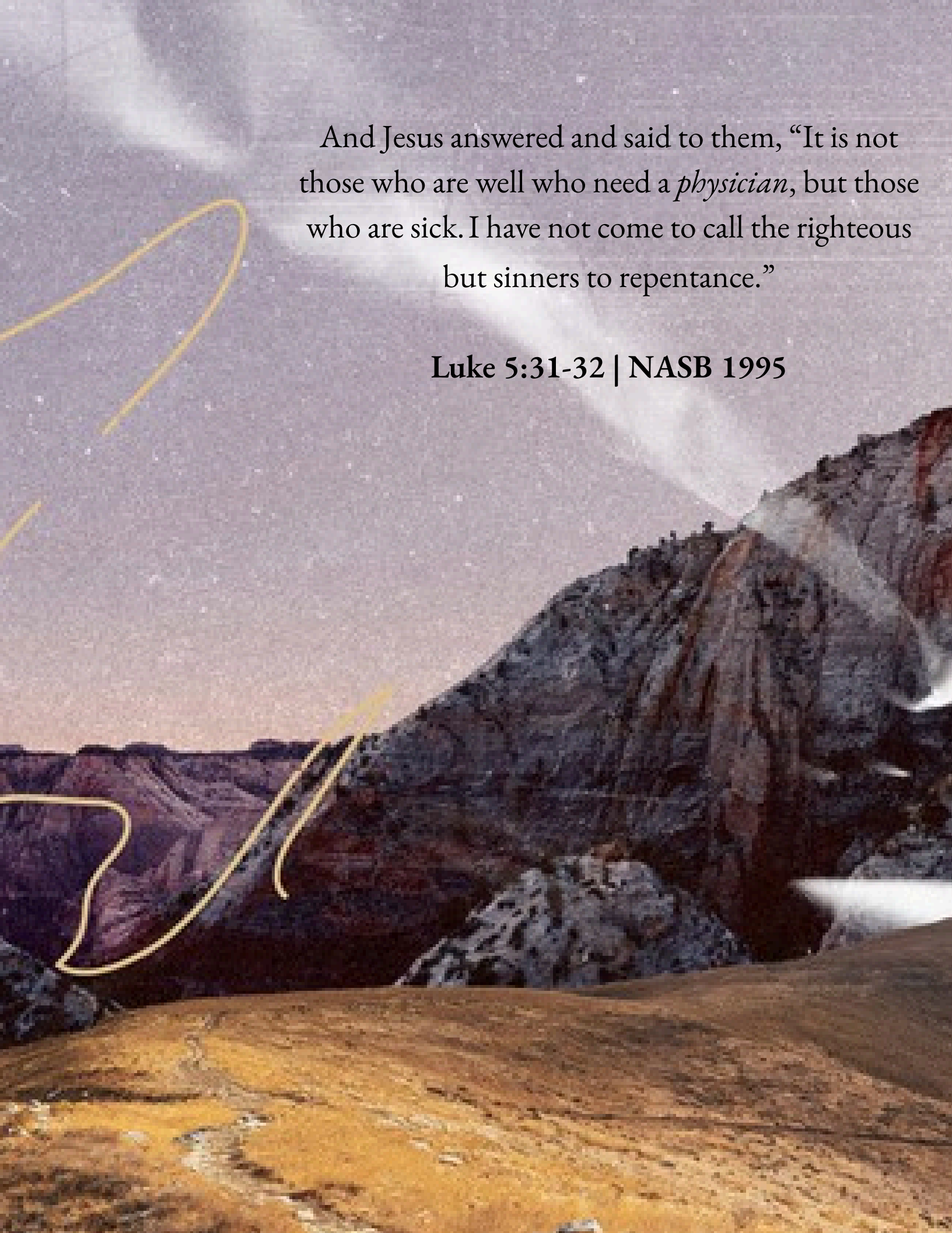
WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR

The background is a dramatic landscape painting of a desert canyon. The sky is a deep, dark purple, and the canyon walls are rugged and layered in shades of brown, tan, and dark purple. A large, thin yellow circle is drawn in the upper left portion of the sky. A yellow line starts from the bottom left, loops around the text, and extends towards the right side of the image.

JESUS THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

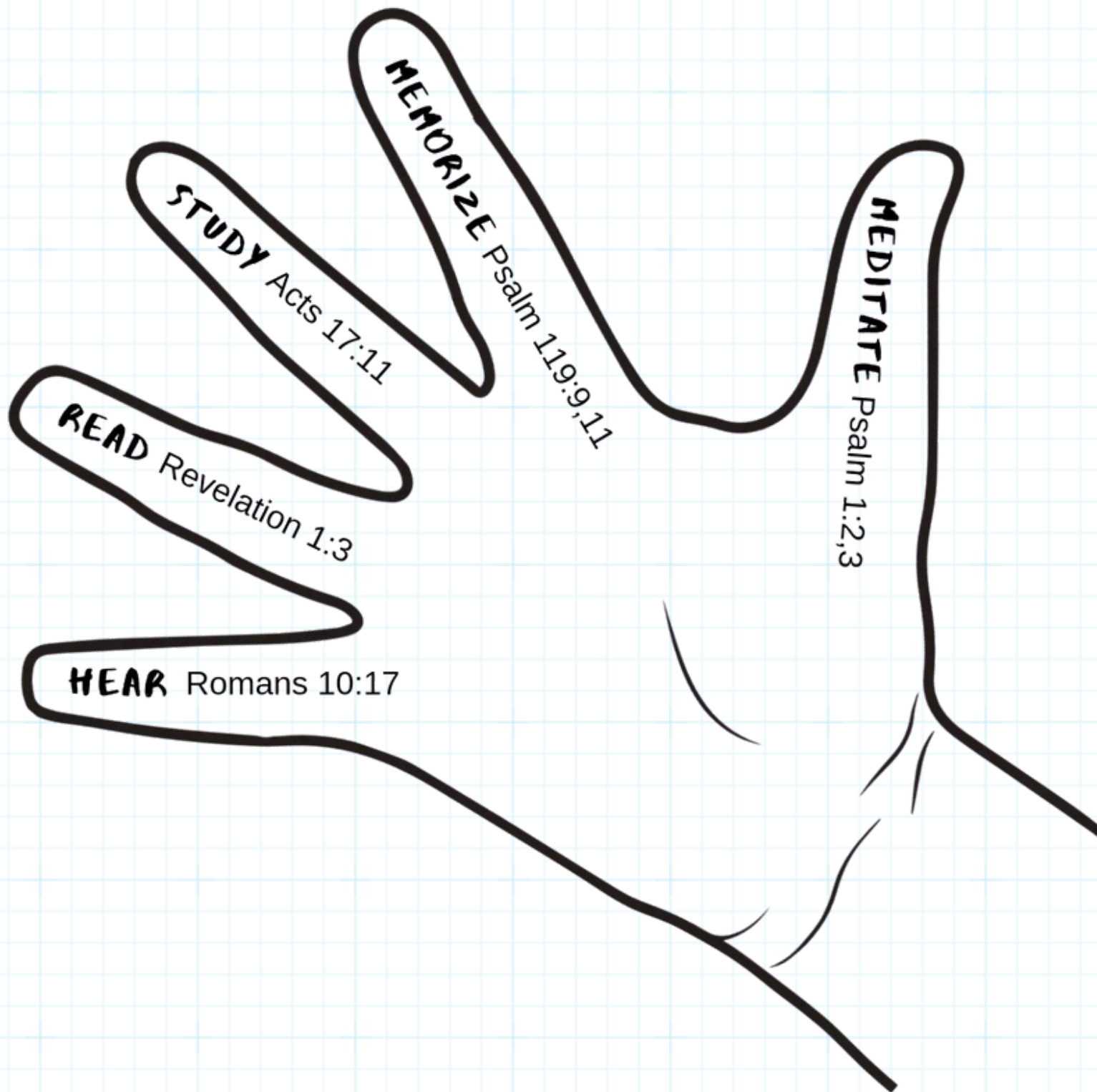
WEEK OF MARCH 22

A dramatic landscape featuring a dark, jagged mountain range under a deep purple and blue sky. A bright yellow comet streaks across the sky from the left. The foreground is a textured, brownish-yellow surface, possibly a desert or a rocky plain.

And Jesus answered and said to them, “It is not those who are well who need a *physician*, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

Luke 5:31-32 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Great Physician

VERSE:

Luke 5:31-32

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. Jesus says the sick need a physician. Where do you most recognize your need for His healing or forgiveness right now?

2. Are there areas where you are tempted to appear “well” spiritually instead of admitting your need before Jesus?

3. How might Jesus be inviting you to reflect His heart toward those who feel spiritually sick or far from God?

**Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others.
Be specific about the healing you desire, nothing is too big or too small.**

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR

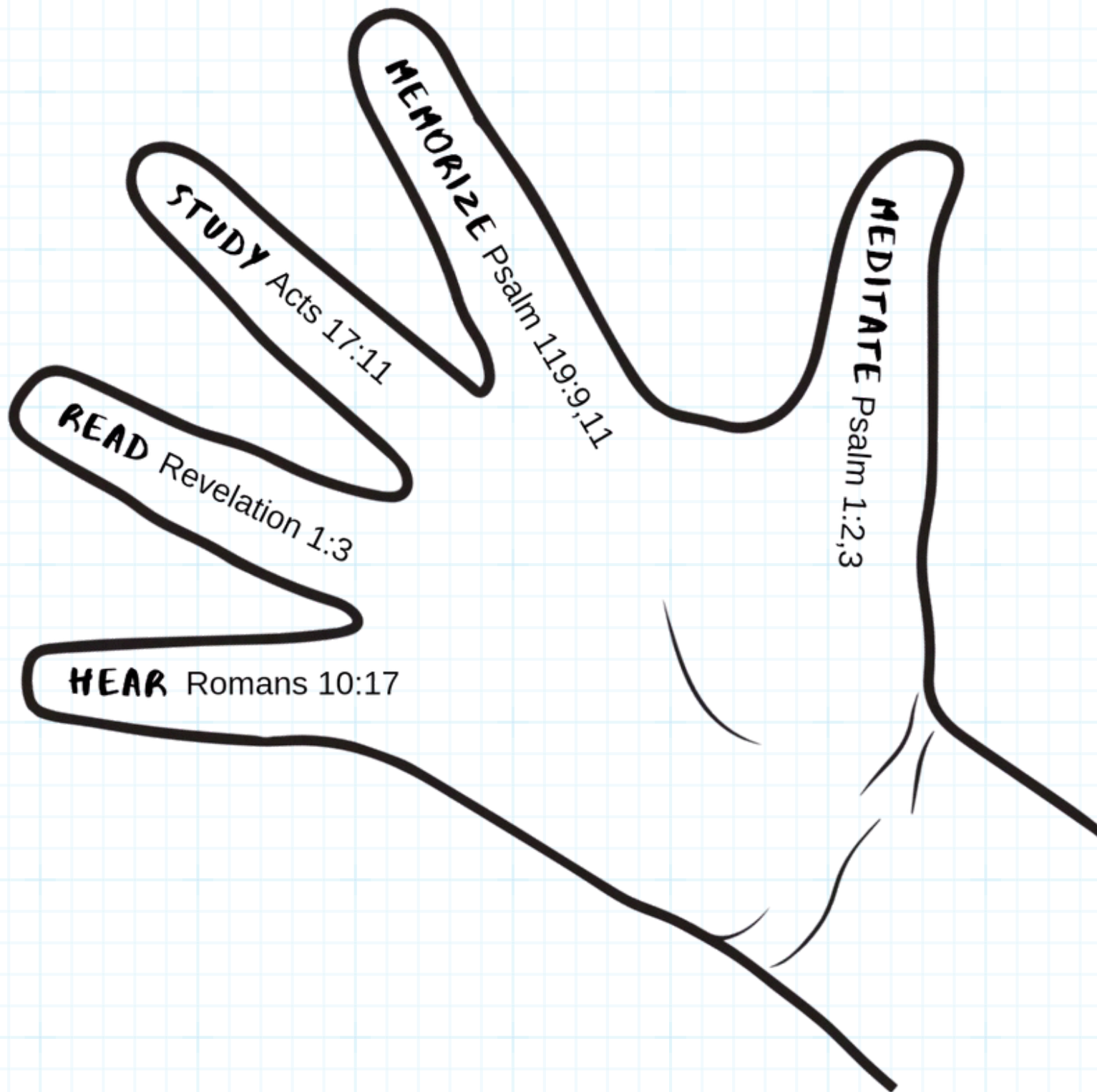
PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 29

On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel.”

John 12:13 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the King

VERSE:

John 12:13

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. It is easy to praise a King in a moment of excitement. Where might Jesus be inviting you into deeper surrender to His authority?

2. The crowd welcomed Jesus as King with praise and celebration. What does it look like in your life to truly welcome Jesus as King, not just Savior?

3. "Hosanna" means "save now." Where do you need to cry out "Hosanna" to Jesus today?

**Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others.
Be specific about where you need Jesus to be King of your life.**

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR

3/30/2026

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



3/31/2026

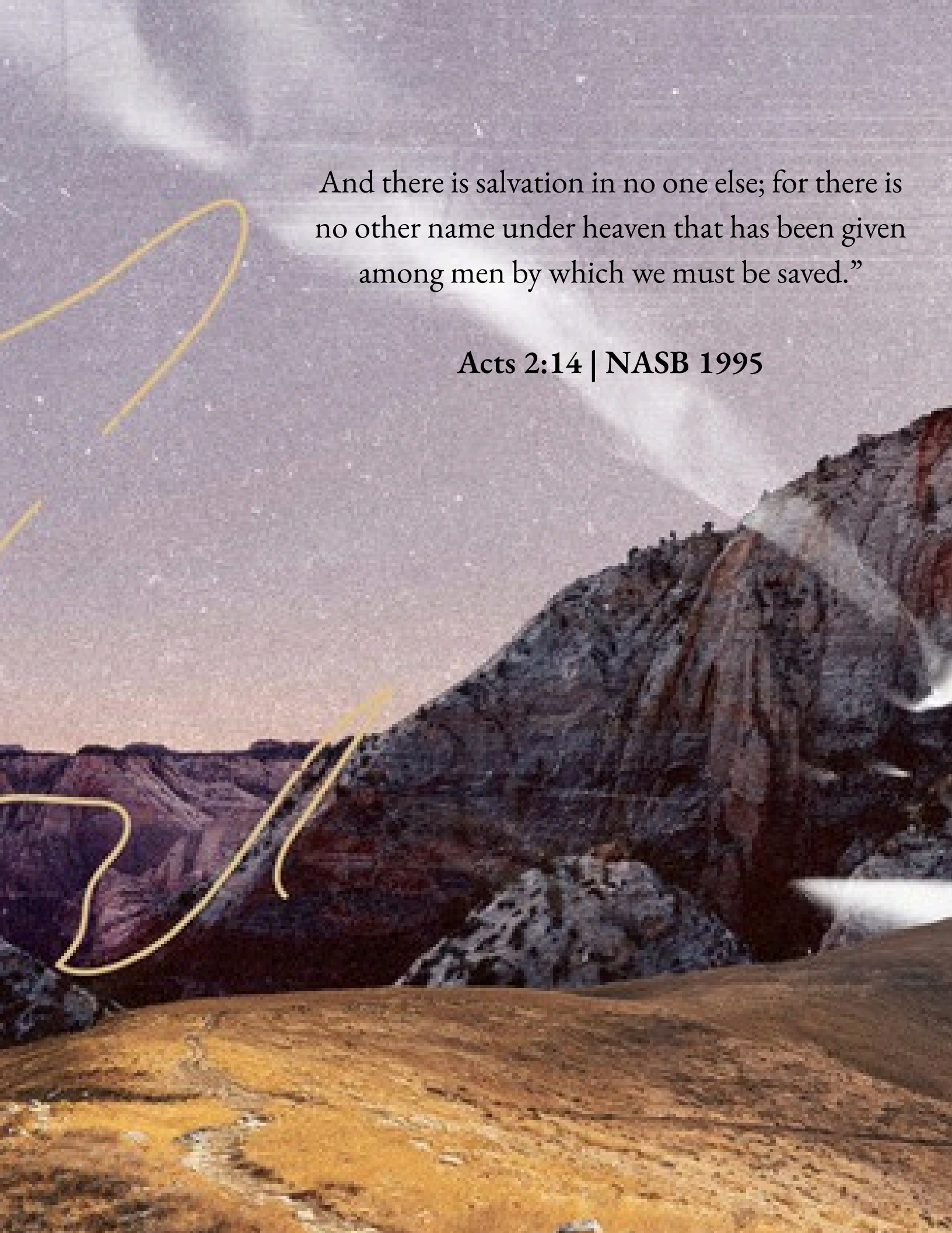
Tuesday Reflection

Read Matthew 21:20-25:46, Mark 11:20-13:37, Luke 20:1-21:36

[illegible]

Scan QR Code to Learn More
About Parables



A dramatic landscape featuring a sky with a gradient of purple and blue. A bright yellow comet streaks across the upper left portion of the sky. Below the sky, dark, jagged mountain peaks are visible, with a small, distant structure perched on one of the ridges. The foreground consists of a textured, brownish-yellow surface, possibly a rocky or sandy plain.

And there is salvation in no one else; for there is
no other name under heaven that has been given
among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 2:14 | NASB 1995

4 / 1 / 2026

Wednesday Reflection

Read Matthew 26:3-5, Mark 14:1-2, Luke 21:37-22:2

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Scan QR Code to Learn More
About Passover



4 / 2 / 2026

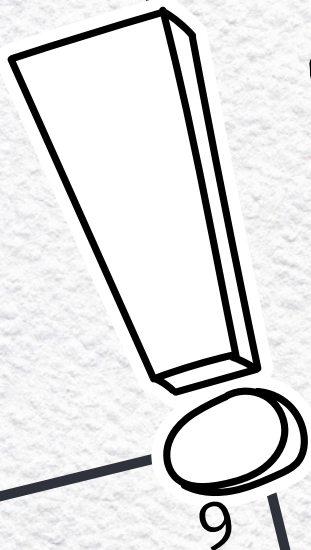
[illegible]

DON'T FORGET

2

3

Good Friday
Service at
7pm



4/3/2026

10

9



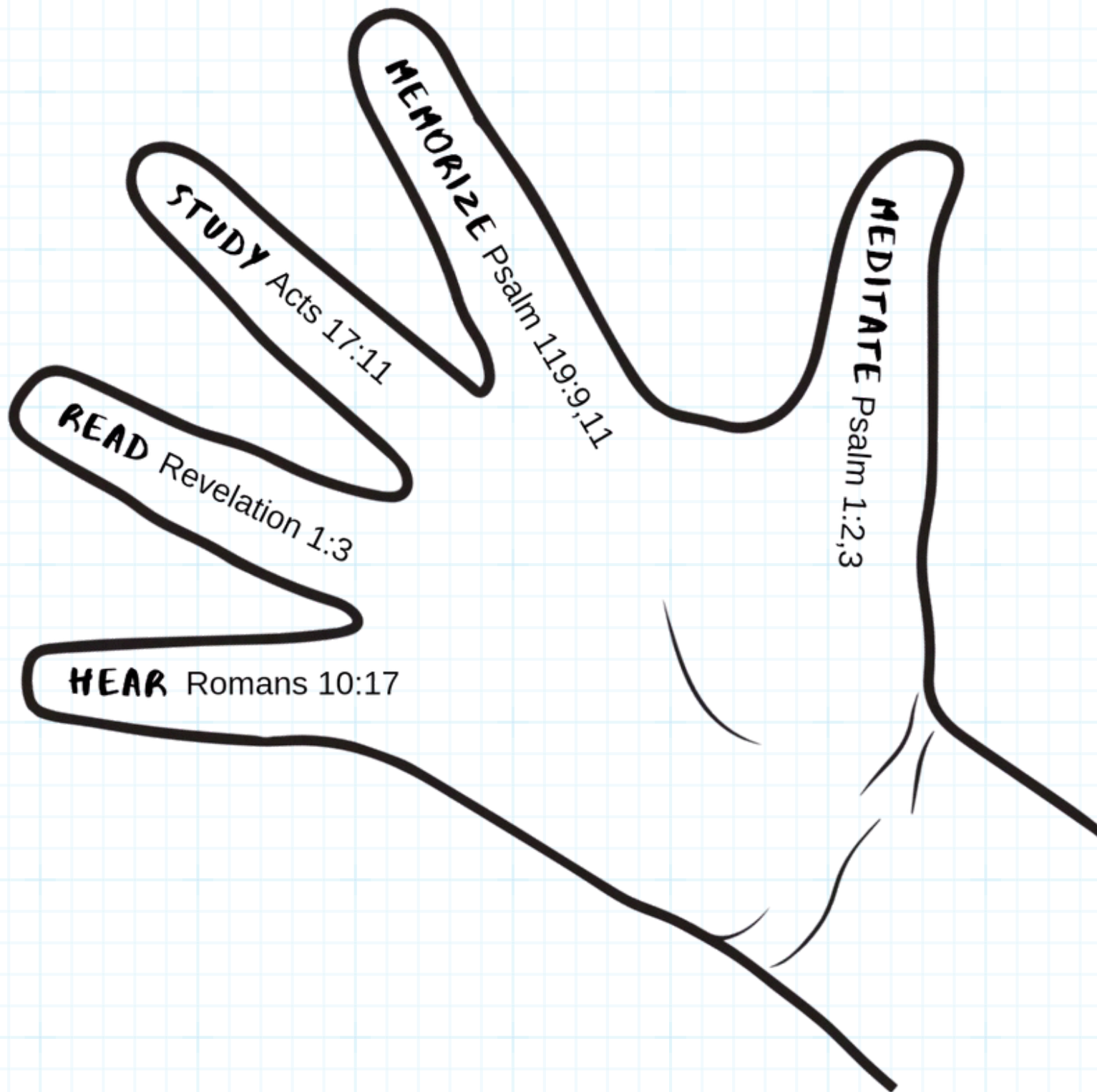
GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3

Behold, the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:29 | NASB 1995

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Lamb of God

VERSE:

John 1:29

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. John says, "Behold." What helps you slow down and truly behold Jesus and His sacrifice rather than taking it for granted?

2. What does it mean to you that Jesus takes away the sin of the world, not just covers it?

3. If Jesus is the Lamb who was given for you, what kind of life is a fitting response to His sacrifice?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others in light of Jesus' great sacrifice for us.

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR

Saturday Reflection

Holy Saturday marks the time between Jesus' death and resurrection. Reflect on the "in-between" moments in your life, those times of waiting for change, healing, or answers. How can you grow spiritually during these times, even when the outcome is not yet clear?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



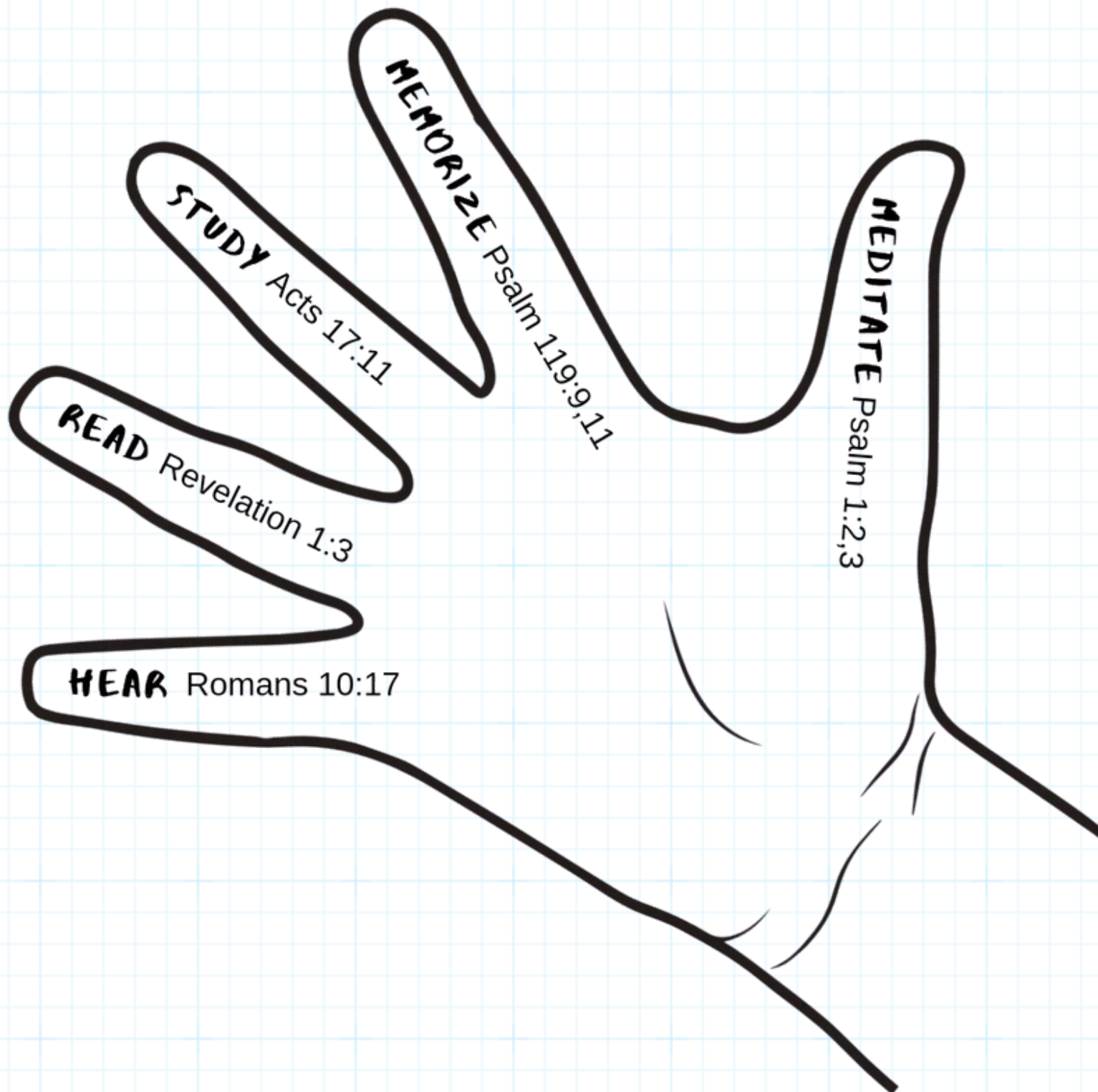
RESURRECTION SUNDAY

APRIL 5

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11 | NIV

THE WORD HAND IN ACTION



PRACTICE OICA

TOPIC:

Jesus the Name Above All Names

VERSE:

Philippians 2:9-11

OBSERVATION:

INTERPRETATION:

CORRELATION:

APPLICATION:

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to you personally that Jesus' name is above every name, authority, or power?

2. This passage says that every knee will bow one day. What does it look like to willingly bow your heart and life to Jesus now?

3. How does reflecting on the risen and exalted Christ stir your worship differently than focusing only on the cross?

Use the next page to write your prayer for yourself or others, reflecting on our Risen King and the way He continues to work in the world today.

Prayer Journal

DATE: _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PRAYER FOR MYSELF

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

WHAT I AM HOPEFUL FOR



two rivers
CHURCH