

Know Him Who is True
(1 John 5:16-21)

1 John 5:16-21 (ESV)

- ¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.
- ¹⁸ We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.
- ¹⁹ We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1 John 5:16-21 (ESV)

- ²⁰ And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
- ²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Introduction: The Importance of Where You Look



I. Avoiding the Worst Sin

- ¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. **There is sin that leads to death**; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. (1 John 5:16-17)
- For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Romans 10:13)
- Therefore, I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. (Matthew 12:31)

II. Avoiding the Evil One

- ¹⁸ We know that **everyone** who has been **born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him**, and the evil one does not touch him.
- ¹⁹ We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. (1 John 5:18-19)
- ¹⁷ Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-18)
- For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.
⁶ **He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress**; I shall not be shaken. (Psalm 62:5-6 ESV)

II. Avoiding the Evil One

- ¹⁸ We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and **the evil one does not touch him.**
- ¹⁹ We know that we are from God, and **the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.** (1 John 5:18-19)
- When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ **And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. . . .** ¹⁵ **I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.** (John 17:1-3, 15)

III. Knowing the True God

- ²⁰ And we know that **the Son of God has come** and has **given us understanding**, so that we may **know him who is true**; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
- ²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (1 John 5:20-21)
- Let him who glories, glory in this: that he **understands** and **knows** me, that I am the Lord. (Jeremiah 9:24a)
- But the Helper, **the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, he **will teach you all things** and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. (John 14:26)

III. Knowing the True God

- ²⁰ And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in **his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.**
- ²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (1 John 5:20-21)
- ⁹ For **in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,** ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. (Colossians 2:9-10)

III. Knowing the True God

- ²⁰ And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
- ²¹ **Little children, keep yourselves from idols.** (1 John 5:20-21)

- And God spoke all these words, saying,
- ² **“I am the LORD your God,** who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- ³ **“You shall have no other gods before me.** (Exodus 20:1-3)

Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?



Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?/ How do You Focus?

Prayer shawl with Tzitzit (knotted ritual tassels)



Tzitzit with knots and threads



Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?

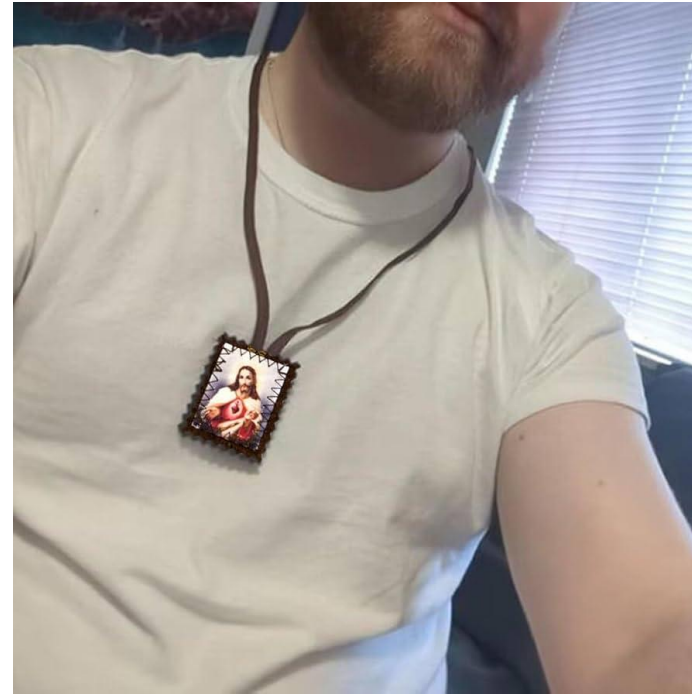
- ³⁷ The LORD said to Moses, ³⁸ “Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner. ³⁹ And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after. ⁴⁰ So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God. ⁴¹ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD your God.” (Numbers 15:37-41)

Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?/How do You Focus?

A Devotional Card

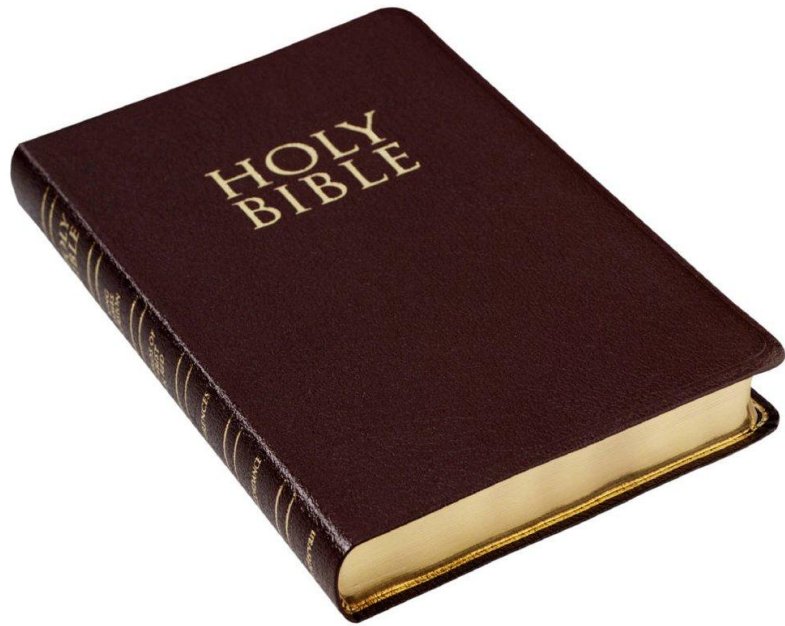


A Scapular (rectangular cloth)



Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?/How do You Focus?

The Bible



Wooden Plaque
with Engraved Bible Verse



Conclusion: Where is Your Focus?

- ⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.
- ¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!
- ¹¹ **I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.**
- ¹² Blessed are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!
- ¹³ With my lips I declare
all the rules of your mouth.
- ¹⁴ In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.
- ¹⁵ **I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.**
- ¹⁶ **I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.** (Psalm 119:9-16)

A silhouette of two hands holding a glowing cross against a sunset background. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with the fingers spread and the palms facing each other. A bright, glowing cross is centered between the hands, emitting a strong light that creates a lens flare effect. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

Let Us Pray