

**Crossroads GOTGO Reflections on Scripture**  
**Week of October 9**  
**Faith Beyond Belief**



*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word was with God in the beginning. Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being.*

*What came into being through the Word was life, and the Life was the light for all people.*

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.*

*John 1:1-5 (CEB)*

May these daily reflections on scripture lead you to falling more deeply in love with Christ, life and the people around you. May you be transformed by the compassion, forgiveness, service and wisdom of Jesus who continues to show us the way to live with a faith that takes us beyond belief.

**Sunday Oct. 9, 2016**

*John 1:1a In the beginning was the Word.*

**Reflection:** The “Word” means God’s divine plan to love all things, and this divine plan is what we see most fully in Jesus. It is the reality of God’s presence with us every moment of life. It is our assurance and hope that from the beginning there is nothing that can separate us from God’s divine plan to love us unconditionally. It is the beginning and the end to all things.

**Text** – Take a moment to pause and breathe in God’s eternal love. Breathe in saying: **Wherever I am...** Breathe out saying: **there is God.** The love of God is with me.

**Monday Oct. 10, 2016**

*John 1:1b The Word was with God and the Word was God.*

**Reflection:** The love of God is both all around us and in us. Even when we don’t see it or feel God’s love it is still present in all things. Truly this is one of the great mysteries of our faith. This is why we say “Faith beyond Belief”. The idea of God’s loving presence being in all things at all times is beyond what our minds can comprehend or believe. Yet at the same time it is what our souls long for; it is what gives us hope – Wherever you go today, God is with you and at the same time God is in you as close as your breath.

**Text** – Pause and breathe in God’s presence. Breathe in saying: **In this moment...** Breathe out saying: **God is in me, and surrounding me with unconditional love.**

**Tuesday Oct. 11, 2016**

*John 1:3a Everything came into being through the Word.*

**Reflection:** Too easily we separate things into categories of “spiritual” and “non-spiritual”. Yet today’s scripture tells us that everything came into being through the “Word”, through God’s divine plan to love all things, making all things spiritual. This reality can help us look beneath the surface of so many negative, seemingly “non-spiritual” things happening in the world and our personal lives with an understanding that “evil” is a distortion, not the absence of God’s love in all things.

**Text** – Pause and breathe in these words: Breathe in saying: **I don’t have a spiritual life...** Breathe out saying: **I am a spiritual life.** In this moment God is with me.

### **Wednesday Oct. 12, 2016**

*John 1:3b Without the Word nothing came into being.*

**Reflection:** John is telling us that without the “Word”, God’s divine plan to create all things with love, nothing would exist. The beauty of the universe that fills a night sky, the beauty of a flower or tree, the beauty of all living things is a revelation of God’s love. It is this love of God in all things that we need to look for. When we look for the beauty and not the negative in things it gives us hope. At a deep level everyone and everything is beautiful. That reality changes everything. This is what it means to live with faith beyond belief.

**Text** – Pause and breathe in these words: Breathe in saying: ***In this moment I want to see...*** Breathe out: ***the beauty of God’s love in all things.*** How does that feel?

### **Thursday Oct. 13, 2016**

*John 1:4a What came into being through the Word was life...*

**Reflection:** Jesus is the evidence for this scripture. The love of God as seen and experienced in Jesus is the abundant life. This life is more than just the breath coming in and out of our lungs to sustain us. It is joy that fills our souls in good times and the peace of God’s love that holds us in the tough times. It is living with the confidence that at all times God is always with us leading us to an abundant life.

**Text** – Pause and name three things for which you are grateful. Breathe in saying: ***In this moment...*** Breathe out: ***I am grateful and joyful.*** Carry this moment with you.

### **Friday Oct. 14, 2016**

*John 1: 4b ...and the life was the light of all people.*

**Reflection:** Living in the way of Jesus is what illuminates God’s love in all things. Seeing things with the light of God’s love really does change how we experience everything. It is the difference between being defeated in life and finding hope in life. The light of God’s love reveals the broken places and at the same time shines as the light of hope and healing. Such love is the light for our daily path.

**Text** – Pause and notice what you are feeling in this moment. Breathe in saying: ***In this moment...*** Breathe out: ***the light of God’s love shines in me and others.***

### **Saturday Oct. 15, 2016**

*John 1: 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn’t extinguish the light.*

**Reflection:** We should be careful connecting light with goodness and dark with evil. God’s universe contains both and both speak wisdom into our lives. To fully comprehend God’s love, we have to hold both light and darkness together. Darkness and light are our everyday reality. And yet what this verse is saying is that the light of God’s love and presence can never be extinguished even when we are going through dark times. The light of God’s love is always brighter than anything else.

**Text** – Pause and ask yourself, how is it with my soul? Is it heavy or is it light? Breathe in saying: ***Fill my soul...*** Breathe out: ***with the light of God’s love.***