

# Daily God Walk

Promises

Volume Six



© 2016, 2024 by Paul Smith – New Hope Ministries  
All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without permission by the author.

All Scripture quotations are taken from the New International Version (NIV). All other translations used will be credited using these abbreviations:

(KJV) – King James Version  
(NKJV) – New King James Version  
(TLB) – The Living Bible  
(TM) – The Message  
(AMP) – The Amplified Bible

New Hope Ministry Resources  
2232 Terrace LN  
McKinleyville, CA 95519  
[www.DailyGodWalk.org](http://www.DailyGodWalk.org)  
[www.nhmresources.org](http://www.nhmresources.org)  
[paul@nmresources.org](mailto:paul@nmresources.org)

## Don't Miss Out On Future Editions of The Daily God Walk

Please let us know if you are blessed by the Daily God Walk. Some of you have responded and we are so thankful for that. But, some of you have not yet contacted us and we need to hear from you.

We need to know if you are reading it or if it just sits on the shelf. If you are being blessed by the Daily God Walk we want to continue sending it to you. If you are not then we need to know that.

Just send us a quick email at [paul@nhmresources.org](mailto:paul@nhmresources.org) or call us at 707-739-7043.

We just want to be sure that we are being good stewards of the ministry God has called us to.

We have gotten many good reports of the DGW being used in small group meetings as well as in personal devotions. We have even been told that one of our subscribers is translating it into Spanish for their local people. We use it in several small groups in our own ministry.

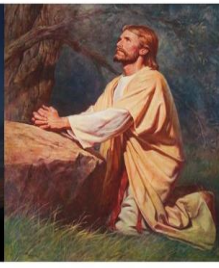
As you know we do not charge for this ministry but we are required to be good stewards. If you are blessed by the DGW please let us know so we can continue to bless you with it.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Smith

New Hope Ministries



## **Take A Knee In Prayer 30 Day Challenge**

Have you bent your knee in prayer today? After hearing the story of a brother who was having trouble with his faith walk when he was challenged by a friend to “Take A Knee” every day for 30 days. He did that and his life was changed.

You are being challenged to Take A Knee In Prayer for 30 days... Do you accept?

**Get more information at  
[www.take-a-knee.org](http://www.take-a-knee.org)  
Check it out.**

Day One

## *Obeying the Truth Purifies Us*

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable through the living and enduring word of God. - 1 Peter 1:22-23

It is one thing to know the truth and quite another to obey the truth. Those who simply know the truth will tend to become harsh and judgmental of others while justifying their own behaviors. Those who obey the truth have been purified by it.

When we have been purified by the truth we are purged of self, self-will, self-centeredness and self-justification. We move from being self-centered to being others-centered. We are not moved by self-realization but we are moved by Christ-realization.

Too often people “accept Christ” because they are afraid of the consequences of rejecting him. Their entire life is about how they can keep from getting in trouble with God. Their life is still about themselves.

When we have been truly born again of “imperishable” seed we are changed; we now love others more than ourselves and our life becomes centered around how we can serve others.

How has accepting Christ changed your attitude about others?

**Prayer:** Lord, grant me the grace of loving others from a heart and life that has been purified by the truth. I need to have the fullness of Christ living in me so I can love as he loved. In Jesus name, amen.

## *Obeying the Truth Purifies Us*

**Message:** When we have been purified by the truth we are purged of self, self-will, self-centeredness and self-justification. We move from being self-centered to being others-centered. We are not moved by self-realization but we are moved by Christ-realization.

**Affirmation:** I have obeyed the truth and now the truth is purifying me. As I learn more of His truth and obey it, His nature grows inside of me.

**Reflection:** Notice those around you who claim to be followers of Christ. Is their life a projection of themselves, or do they project Christ? What about you? Do you think of God in terms of what he can do for you or how you can serve him?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Two

## *Born of Living And Enduring Seed*

You have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable through the living and enduring word of God. For, “all men are like grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.”

- 1 Peter 1:24-25

How many times has someone given us a promise and said something like, “You can count on it,” and when you did count on it, they failed you? That is the condition of being human; as the circumstances change around us we also change and our “truth” changes as well.

When Peter quoted the prophet who said, “All men are as grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field,” he was not only referring to the frailty of man but of the inconsistency of his word.

In his next statement Peter contrasts the frequent failures of man with the word of God. He writes, “But the word of the Lord stands forever.”

The one unchanging force of the universe is God and the word he gives that reveals who he is and his will for mankind. When we place our hope in him, the God who cannot be seen but who has given us abundant evidence of his existence, we can be confident that his word will not change and it will not pass away.

The hope that was true yesterday is true today. God’s promises have endured for thousands of years and they will not pass away.

Trust Him - you will like the results.

**Prayer:** Lord, I have too often trusted others and have been disappointed. Grant me the faith to trust your word that does not fail. In Jesus name, amen.





Day Three

## *We Can Be Confident in God's Faithfulness*

And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. - 2 Timothy 1:11-12

It isn't always easy to follow Him. When we take a stand for the true gospel we sometimes meet unexpected resistance. Paul tells us that he was appointed a minister of the gospel and in pursuing his calling he suffered much. Yet, he was not ashamed because, "I know whom I have believed." It was because He truly knew the Lord that he could trust Him to be faithful.

All of us who have begun this walk of faith have committed our future to Christ. Not only our eternal future, but also our immediate future in this life. When we began to walk in faith we were confessing that our life was messed up and we couldn't get it in order by ourselves; we needed Christ to restore order to our lives.

When we committed our lives to Him He made a commitment to us. He promised that He would not only preserve our life but he would make our life flow with abundance of joy. Where do we find abundant joy when we are in fact, as Paul, enduring suffering? Because our joy is not based in the circumstances of life but by our faith in the one who holds our life in his hands.

We agree with Paul that He is able to guard that which we have committed unto him against that day.

**Prayer:** Father, I know you are much more faithful than I. Grant me the grace of faith to have complete confidence that you will preserve all that I have committed to you. In Jesus name, amen.

## *We Can Be Confident in God's Faithfulness*

**Message:** When we committed our lives to Him He made a commitment to us. He promised that He would not only preserve our life but he would make our life flow with abundance of joy.

**Affirmation:** I agree with Paul who said, "I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day."

**Reflection:** Faith in God includes trusting Him for the future. Give some thought to what you have committed to Him in trust for the future. What things do you hold dear that you have not yet committed to Him?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Four

## *A Steadfast Faith Produces Perfect Peace*

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock Eternal. – Isaiah 26:3-4

There is a passage in the Psalms that reads, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God” (Psalm 20:7). How often have we leaned upon the devices of men to gain a sure victory and discovered that what was promised as a “rock solid” venture was in fact an ill fated plan firmly placed upon shifting sand?

Over the years I have counseled many people who have come to tell me that they have lost their sense of inner peace. When I begin to ask questions about where their life has been lately I discover that things aren’t going well with their job, or their marriage is in disarray, or some other factors in their life are out of order. Then the source of the problem begins to surface.

The reason these people have lost their sense of inner peace is that they have been looking to human factors as the source of their peace. All of those human factors are shifting sand and cannot be counted on to give us the security that we need.

Isaiah reminds us that we can fully trust the Lord to be our Rock Eternal – Trust in Him with a steadfast mind and He will give you inner peace.

**Prayer:** Father, I tend to look at the things of this world to bring me satisfaction, but it never works. Grant me the grace to trust you as the rock at the center of my hope. In Jesus name, amen.

## *A Steadfast Faith Produces Perfect Peace*

**Message:** God will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in Him. Trust in the Lord forever for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock Eternal. Perfect peace comes to those who have a steadfast faith.

**Affirmation:** I rejoice in the peace I have in Christ and He has enabled me to have a steadfast faith.

**Reflection:** Many people have lost their inner peace and don't seem to know why. What are some of the things which can affect our peace? Peace with God gives us the confidence to trust Him to guide us to do the things we can do and trust Him to do the things we cannot do.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Five

## *The Peace Of Christ Disperses Fear*

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. – John 14:27

One of the most damaging phrases we use is, “What if...?” What if the car breaks down... What if I lose my job... What if she leaves me? The list of “what if” situations is endless. A common factor in all of them is fear. Fear of loss, fear of discovery, fear of failure.

Why are we so afraid? It is because we have become accustomed to the way of the world. When the world around us makes a promise it is always couched in the possibility of failure. All of the hopes and promises of this world are based in the ability of man to perform. When a circumstance is beyond the ability of man to achieve success failure is the outcome. We know that so we constantly entertain the thought, “What if...?”

Jesus assures us that there is no “what if” in his promises. We can rest in perfect peace because *He* has given the promise. Whatever happens in the world around us, if our hope is firmly placed in Him, His peace will surround us and we will not be afraid.

If your heart is troubled, check it out. The “what ifs” of your life may be choking out your peace. Do not allow the “what ifs” in your life to destroy your peace.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, I find myself fretting over the “what ifs” I allow into my heart. Grant me the grace to trust you alone and to trust that you will provide and protect; and that as long as I trust you my heart will not be troubled. In Jesus name, amen.

## *The Peace Of Christ Dispels Fear*

**Message:** Whatever happens in the world around us, if our hope is firmly placed in Him, His peace will surround us and we will not be afraid. If your heart is troubled, check it out. The “what ifs” of your life may be choking out your peace. Do not allow the “what ifs” in your life to destroy your peace.

**Affirmation:** I cover my fears with faith so my mantra is not, “What if...,” but rather, “When God...”

**Reflection:** Can you identify some “what if” situations in your life? All of those times of having a “what if” fear come from a short supply of God trusting faith. When you are tempted to think, “What if,” turn it around and declare, “When God.”

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Six

## *Don't Worry About Tomorrow*

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. - Matthew 6:33-34

Bob Marley used to sing a song in reggae, "Don't worry, be happy." That's easier said than done. What's difficult about it is that we too often put unnecessary parameters on the definition of happy. We usually put happiness in the box of, "If I only had \_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank) I would be happy."

Jesus was talking about two principles in this passage. First he was talking about a commitment to his kingdom as a first priority in our life. The second principle was that we must learn to be content with how he responds to the needs in our life.

Jesus had just been teaching on the issue of whether our heart is set on treasures in this temporal world, that are transient at best, or are our hearts being set on things of eternal value which only grow richer with the ages.

The real question he was posing is this; do you trust me, or do you trust your own ability and resources? That is the same question we must ask ourselves today; do I trust Jesus and the resources of his kingdom, or do I trust my own resources?

Who you trust will determine your stress level.

**Prayer:** Father, it is difficult turn loose of my own abilities and wholly trust you, yet I know that is what releases your best into my life. Grant me the grace, and confidence to that. In Jesus name, amen.



## *Don't Worry About Tomorrow*

**Message:** Jesus was talking about two principles in this passage. First he was talking about a commitment to his kingdom as a first priority in our life. The second principle was that we must learn to be content with how he responds to the needs in our life.

**Affirmation:** I am committed to the Kingdom of God and I trust Him to guide me through life. I will be content with how he responds to my needs.

**Reflection:** Jesus was teaching his followers that if they would trust Him He would be their provider. His promise is the same today. Give some thought to what it means to seek His Kingdom first and trust Him for all of your needs.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Seven

## *A Purifying Hope*

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. - 1 John 3:2-3

I have discovered that I don't spend a lot of time thinking about the end of this life and entering eternity. Most of my thoughts are on daily living and giving my best to him today. Not just because it is the right thing to do, but because I have found that life is much more full and I am more content living this way.

This passage reminds us that we do not live just for the rewards in this life but that there is a life to come. What determines our life in eternity is where we put our trust while we live here on earth. If our confidence is in this world and its systems then we will reap in eternity only what this world can give us. But, if our hope is in Christ and his kingdom then as we enter eternity we will have all that his kingdom can give us.

God has blessed me in this life. I don't have a lot of what the world would call success, but I have seen many lives changed for the better, I have lived with inner peace and contentment, and I have hope of spending eternity with him.

Who do you trust and where is your hope?

***Prayer:*** Thank you Lord for this hope of eternity in the presence of the King of Glory. Grant me the grace to live a pure life, worthy of your gift. In Jesus name.

## *A Purifying Hope*

**Message:** The Apostle John writes, “Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.”

**Affirmation:** My hope, or faith, is in Christ for the here and now and for life in his eternal presence, therefore, I seek to walk righteously before Him.

**Reflection:** Have you thought about how having faith in Christ moves you to living righteously, or as our passage says, “Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”? Think about it now and ask yourself what it means to purify yourself.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Eight

## *Faith, Fellowship and Understanding*

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. – Colossians 2:2-3

Paul is writing an interesting letter to the church at Colossae. Paul had never been in Colossae and had never met the people there face to face, yet it was in his heart to lead them into the fullness of understanding the kingdom of God.

There are two essentials to understanding God's kingdom in this passage. The first is being a united body in love. The second is understanding the mystery of Christ in God and having the treasures of knowledge and wisdom all of that includes.

It is interesting that Paul at least implies that being united in faith is a key element to unlocking the mysteries of God. At the center of unity is love – agape; God's love. When we are immersed in God's love we lose ourselves for the common good of the body and in doing that the fullness of the riches of Christ is released to us.

Faith and fellowship in agape (love) produces treasures of understanding of the grace of God.

**Prayer:** Lord, guide me to be united in love with other members of your body. Give me a heart to encourage others so that together we may know the depth of your love and unlock the treasures of wisdom and understanding that are in Christ. Amen.

## *Faith, Fellowship and Understanding*

**Message:** When we are immersed in God's love we lose ourselves for the common good of the body and in doing that the fullness of the riches of Christ is released to us. Faith and fellowship in agape (love) produces treasures of understanding of the grace of God.

**Affirmation:** I am continually submitting my will to God so His agape (love) rules my life and produces treasures of understanding of the grace of God.

**Reflection:** There are some thought provoking words and phrases used in this devotion. What do these mean to you: united in love; the full treasures of complete understanding; treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Nine

## *God Is Working It Out*

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. - Romans 8:28

Paul is not telling us that God causes situations and circumstances to come into our life, but he is saying God does use them to bring about his purposes for us.

God impressed this verse upon me many years ago and it has become a life verse to me. What I read in this passage is that God is taking the circumstances of my life, many of which are the result of my own unwise choices, and using them to open my understanding of his will and purposes for me. It is often in my failed attempts to do it my way that I see the wisdom of his way.

When we can see the lesson God has for us, even in the most challenging of circumstances, and in the midst of our own failures, then we can allow him to work his perfect will in us

What is God's will for us? His will is that we would prosper, be in good health and have a hope for the future (Jeremiah 29:11, 1 John 1:2). God arranges every circumstance for our ultimate benefit. All we have to do is learn the lessons God is teaching us then move into the realm of his blessings.

God desires good for those who love him.

***Prayer:*** Lord, sometimes I complain about the way things are, even when it is my own doing. Grant me the grace to accept your will in all the circumstances of my life and to allow you to use them for my ultimate benefit. In Jesus name, amen.



Day Ten

## *Becoming Like Him*

Those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. - Romans 8:29

Those who have been called into relationship with God, through Christ, have a certain sense of destiny. In his all seeing eye God knows who will respond to his call and he calls them into a family relationship with himself - giving them a sense of purposeful destiny.

Just as our natural children carry many of our characteristics and mannerisms, so we are being transformed into a reflection of his glory. As we grow in grace, knowledge, wisdom and spiritual experience, we become more like him.

It is a joy watching my grandchildren interact with their siblings and their parents. Every time I am with them I am taken back to memories of the time when my children were small and I see myself mirrored in them; then I see my children mirrored in their children. They are demonstrating a likeness to the father of the family. That is what Paul is writing about in this passage. We are becoming like him as we mature in our walk of faith.

If Christ is the firstborn of many brothers, we have quite a big brother to look up to - and to be modeled after. As we live in the Spirit He is transforming us into His likeness. A true test of whether we are His children is to evaluate how we are progressing in the process of becoming like Him.

***Prayer:*** Thank you Father for calling me into your family. I want to live worthy of the family. Continue to transform into your likeness as I walk out this journey of faith. In Jesus name, amen.



## *Becoming Like Him*

**Message:** Just as our natural children carry many of our characteristics and mannerisms, so we are being transformed into a reflection of his glory. As we grow in grace, knowledge, wisdom and spiritual experience, we become more like him

**Affirmation:** I walk in faith that I am being transformed into a reflection of His Glory. I am growing in grace, knowledge, wisdom and spiritual experience.

**Reflection:** This devotion poses the question of whether we are true believers being whether we are progressing in our transformation into His Glory. Evaluate your own progress to determine if your progressing in your transformation.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Eleven

## *We Are Justified and Glorified*

Those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

- Romans 8:30

Jesus taught that no one could come to the Father unless the Spirit drew him. We understand that to mean that as God sees those who will respond to the gospel he calls them into relationship with him. In that sense we are predestined, or given a destiny to fulfill.

When God calls us he does not transform us into robots who have no choice in whether to serve him. We still have freedom of will and we are required to make a choice. He calls us and we call on him as a faith response to the call. It is when we respond to Him and call upon his name that He releases forgiveness and justification to us.

We will only be justified as we reach out to God through faith in the work that Christ has done. In Romans 5:1 Paul writes, "Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Justification releases the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and that indwelling Spirit is the force that is conforming us into the image of Christ. As we submit to Him we are not only justified but we are being glorified.

**Prayer:** God, I have responded to the call to surrender myself to you, and I know that I have been made just before you through my faith in Christ, but I don't allow the Holy Spirit to work as freely as he should to transform me into the image of Christ. Teach me to surrender to the work of the Holy Spirit in transforming me into your likeness. In Jesus name.



Day Twelve

## *Faith Produces Faithfulness*

He [Abraham] did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. – Romans 4:20-21

In his early years of walking with God Abraham was not fully convinced of God's faithfulness. He left his homeland as God had asked him to do, but he did not separate from his people. Then later, on two different occasions he lied to kings concerning his wife because he was concerned for his own safety.

Abraham's faith wavered because he was not yet fully convinced that God would do what he said he would do. Abraham was no different than we are today. Many of us have a wavering faith because we are not yet convinced that everything we know is the truth.

God did not give up on Abraham, and he will not give up on us. There came a time in the life of Abraham when he was fully convinced that God would produce what he had promised. The more we experience God the more we become convinced that he is faithful.

When we become convinced that God is faithful then our faith will produce faithfulness. How do we follow Abraham's example? The same way Abraham became faithful: When we make mistakes, or fall back, we get up, dust ourselves off and go for it again.

Don't look at your circumstances – look at God's promises. Use your faith in Him to prove his faithfulness.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, I know that I am not always faithful, but you are. Grant me the eyes to see your faithfulness even when the circumstance don't look that way. Grant me the grace of faith. In your name.

## *Faith Produces Faithfulness*

**Message:** The more we experience God the more we become convinced that he is faithful. When we become convinced that God is faithful then our faith will produce faithfulness.

**Affirmation:** I am in the process of developing faith. As my faith grows so does my confidence in the faithfulness of God.

**Reflection:** It would be good to re-read the story of how Abram became Abraham and how his journey of faith led him to faithfulness. Take the time to examine your own faith journey and perhaps discover some red-letter days which mark specific times and places on your journey.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Thirteen

## *The Word of God is Good Seed*

The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat.

- Matthew 13:24-25

This parable Jesus is telling goes on to explain that the workers were instructed to allow the weeds and the wheat to grow together until the time of harvest lest when trying to remove the weeds the wheat would be damaged.

We want to focus on the first part of this parable. First, the good seed was sown. This good seed when it matures will produce a bountiful crop, if it is properly cared for. Our life is like that. When we receive the good news of the kingdom the seed in us will grow and produce, if we care for it properly.

The second point is this; while everyone was sleeping the enemy came. The enemy of our soul is waiting to take every opportunity to destroy the good work that God is doing in us. We can't afford to be lackadaisical and sleepy headed in our walk. We must be diligent, alert and aware of the enemy.

Has the enemy come to you in a weak moment and sown weeds in your life? Have you in a moment of inattention allowed an influence into your heart that will pull you away from the master?

Stay alert - keep the faith with all diligence! Be the good seed which produces a good harvest.

**Prayer:** Lord, I want to be productive for you. Help me to stay alert so the enemy does not sow in me weeds that will destroy your work and will destroy my faith. Grant me a spirit of diligence that I might be careful to follow you. In Jesus name, amen.

## *The Word of God is Good Seed*

**Message:** The enemy of our soul is waiting to take every opportunity to destroy the good work that God is doing in us. We can't afford to be lackadaisical and sleepyheaded in our walk. We must be diligent, alert and aware of the enemy. Be the good seed that produces a good harvest.

**Affirmation:** I am a seed being cared for by the Chief Gardener and I will grow and mature to become a harvest of righteousness.

**Reflection:** Two messages are given in this one Scripture passage. First is the message of the seed producing a harvest and the second is how to care for the seed so that it will produce a good harvest. We are both the seed and the harvester. Give some thought to that.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Fourteen

## *God Doesn't Want Anyone To Perish*

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

- 1 Peter 3:9

We look at the world and wonder why God is withholding judgment. If you or I were God we would have ended this thing long before now. But God doesn't seem anxious to bring this age to a close. Why is that?

Peter writes, "God is not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." God is driven by justice and love. His sense of justice has demanded an end and judgment, but his love holds back the hand of justice.

At great cost he is giving the people of the world chance after chance to come to repentance. While his heart is breaking for them he is preparing for the day of judgment.

We, the believers, are the ones who hold the key to salvation for the people of this world. We carry in us the Spirit of the Christ. We are the ambassadors of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5) sent to this world.

God has a unique plan for getting people into the kingdom. First, He came to earth as man, then He paid the ultimate price for man's sins. Finally, He left the earth after presenting those who would believe in him with the responsibility of bringing others into the kingdom. We are called to be ambassadors for the kingdom of God.

God is waiting for us to do the work he has called us to do to save the world. God holds back his wrath on sin, and waits - does he wait on us in vain?

***Prayer:*** Lord, I confess that I have stood in judgment of others when I should have been offering love and mercy. Grant me a new love for the lost and give me a driving desire to see them come to you and be converted. In Jesus name, amen.





Day Fifteen

## *God's Word is A Legacy To Pass On*

Since my youth, O God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come. - Psalm 71:17-18

Those of us who have the maturity of gray hair, and have lived for God since our youth, know the keeping power of the Lord. We would be hard pressed to remember all the times he has shown himself to be faithful. There have been times of sickness and times of financial difficulty. There have been times when things just weren't working out - yet in every situation he has shown himself faithful.

The Psalmist writes, "Since my youth, O God, you have taught me." Nothing can take the place of the lessons we have learned walking with the Lord these many years. Now, with what we have learned of the Lord, there comes a responsibility.

We have the responsibility of passing the baton of faith in God to the next generation. We must teach them the same things we have learned. Our legacy must be that the next generation knows the same God that we have known. That they know him in power and love; that they know him as the provider and the protector.

There are some questions we need to be asking ourselves. Has my life been such that the next generation will remember my God? Have I treasured God's word as a light and a guide for my path, and have I given that treasure to my children? Something to think about.

***Prayer:*** Lord, grant me the ability teach the next generation what you have taught me so that they will know you as I have known you. In Jesus name, amen.

## *God's Word is A Legacy To Pass On*

***Message:*** We have the responsibility of passing the baton of faith in God to the next generation. We must teach them the same things we have learned. Our legacy must be that the next generation knows the same God that we have known. That they know him in power and love; that they know him as the provider and the protector.

***Affirmation:*** God's will and His word are central to my life. I am committed to passing that legacy on to future generations.

***Reflection:*** It is your responsibility to pass on to the next generation the power and love that is in God's word. Think about ways that you can effectively communicate to the next generation the value of God's word.

***My Thoughts:***

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Sixteen

## *God Will Hold Our Hand In Tough Times*

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and beginning to sink cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

- Matthew 14:29-31

Peter was always the impetuous one. In a moment his faith would soar to unlimited heights, and in another moment he would be defeated. In that moment when he heard Jesus say, "Come," his faith was strong. But then, as he walked toward Jesus he began to look around at the wind and the waves. His soaring faith took a nose-dive and suddenly he was sinking.

Isn't that so typical of us all? We ask the Lord for something special and we hear him say, "It's yours, just go get it," then when we see the difficulty we have to go through to get it our faith falters and we wonder if we really did hear the Lord speak to us.

There are two things we should remember about this incident. First, when God calls us to do the impossible he will enable us to do it. We don't have to worry about whether he will come through.

The second thing to remember about this story is that we must keep our eyes upon Jesus. The wind and the waves of life will destroy us if we are looking at them instead of trusting God.

Are your eyes on Jesus or the waves?

**Prayer:** Lord, I tend to follow Peter's example and look at the waves instead of staying focused on you. Grant me the faith to trust you even when the circumstances seem to be going against me. In Jesus name, amen.



Day Seventeen

## *Little Faith Works Too*

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

– Matthew 14:31

Two of the most critically contrasting statements made by Jesus are these; “You of little faith,” and “you have great faith” (Matthew 15:28). There was Peter, who should have had great faith and the Canaanite woman who shouldn’t have had faith at all, yet Jesus rebukes Peter and blesses the woman.

What causes one to have “great faith” and another to have “little faith?” Why would Jesus tell Peter he had little faith when he was the only one of the disciples to step out of the boat?

Little faith seems to be based in the emotion of the moment and great faith seems to come from being convinced of a truth. Peter was overwhelmed by emotion as he saw Jesus walking on the water and his response was to want to do it too. This can be compared to the crowds who followed Jesus when he was doing miracles, but were not to be found when he was being tried and crucified.

Great faith is firmly based in the knowledge of the word of God and what he has promised. Great faith instills hope and gives us the strength to go through the greatest trials of life.

The good news is that Jesus honored the faith Peter had, little though it was, and saved him.

***Prayer:*** Lord, I tend to have faith that is influenced by the emotion of the moment. I ask for the grace of faith that is not shaken by time or circumstance. I want to trust you when circumstances are unfavorable just as when they are favorable. In Jesus name.

## *Little Faith Works Too*

**Message:** Little faith seems to be based in the emotion of the moment and great faith seems to come from being convinced of a truth. Great faith instills hope and gives us the strength to go through the greatest trials of life.

**Affirmation:** My faith goes deeper than an emotional moment. It is anchored in the truths of God's unchangeable word.

**Reflection:** This devotion contrasts the "little faith" of Peter and the "great faith" of the Canaanite woman. How would you compare the faith of these two people? Jesus answered them both. Think about the nature of God in that he would treat those with little faith the same as those with great faith.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Eighteen

## *Unbelievers Are Blind To Grace*

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. - 2 Corinthians 4:4

Have you ever argued the truth of Christ with an unbeliever trying to get him to understand who Christ is and what he came to do? Most of us have had those encounters along the way. We would sometimes win the argument, but nothing was accomplished in the life of the one we were trying to convince.

Why is it that way? I mean, if you present a reasonable argument, why don't people believe? Paul gives us the answer in this passage; the god of this age has blinded their minds. They are convinced that they can find peace and contentment by continuing to do it the way they have been doing it.

How can they be made to see the truth and respond to the gospel? We can't win them by reason and logic because it is human reason that has gotten them where they are - we must demonstrate to them the power of the gospel which we preach. In 1 Corinthians Paul wrote, "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power" (1 Corinthians 2:4).

When the world sees the power of God being demonstrated they will hear what the people of God are saying. It is our responsibility to be filled with the Spirit so that His power can flow through us to the world.

**Prayer:** Father God, I desire to influence those around me with the gospel of Christ. I ask for your power to work in the witness I give so that those around me will hear and believe. In Christ's name.





Day Nineteen

## *Hold Truth Dear To Your Heart*

Be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. - Deuteronomy 4:9

The mores and values of this world are constantly changing. What society values to today it disdains tomorrow. Our children are being taught that there are no absolute moral values and that every person must decide what is right for themselves.

There was a period of time recorded in the Bible when, "Everyone did that which was right in his own eyes." During that time people forgot the God of their fathers and followed after every conceivable kind of sinful lifestyle. There was no safety or protection for the weak and helpless.

The tragedy of denying the values that God has ordained is that the weakest and most helpless among us pay the price (as in abortion) for the avarice of others.

We are under mandate from God to ever hold his truths dear and to see that the next generation also understands his ways. To do that we must be careful about what we think, what we say and what we do. We must talk the walk and walk the talk as we instill in others the values that God has established.

If we do not hold the truths of God dear to our heart then neither will the next generation. We owe that to God, to our children, and to their children.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, keep me free from the attitudes of this world and give me a heart to pursue you and your truths of life. Grant me the grace to instill these values in my children, my grandchildren and all others who are within my influence. In Jesus name, amen.

## *Hold Truth Dear To Your Heart*

**Message:** We are under mandate from God to ever hold his truths dear and to see that the next generation also understands his ways. To do that we must be careful about what we think, what we say and what we do.

**Affirmation:** I treasure God's truth and will not forget them or let them slip from my heart as long as I live.

**Reflection:** Have you observed the changing mores and values of society? What societal values can you see that have changed in your lifetime? Every value has a source - what is the source of the values held by society today? How can you insure that Biblical values are instilled in your family?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty

## *Receive Comfort And Give Comfort*

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

It is hard to give something you don't have. This passage tells us that God gives us peace and comfort so that we can comfort others. But too many of us have not found the comfort that Christ offers as we walk in faith. We feel secure (at least we hope) that we have eternal life, but we haven't gone all the way with Christ - that is we haven't trusted him completely. The result is that we have limited comfort.

God has two purposes in giving us peace and comfort. The first is that we might be comforted ourselves. It is God's desire to bless each one of us with an abundance of his life. The second purpose is that we might help those around us who are in trouble find the same peace and comfort we have.

We must live a life of faith in him and trusting him to be true to his word so that we can comfort others in their time of need.

It's time to fully surrender to him and trust him to give us comfort, peace and hope - Then we will be able to give the same comfort to others.

*Prayer:* Lord, I found it hard to comfort others when I have not fully surrendered myself. Put within me a desire to walk fully in the faith that you will fulfill your promise of provision, peace, comfort and hope. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

## *Receive Comfort And Give Comfort*

**Message:** God has two purposes in giving us peace and comfort. The first is that we might be comforted ourselves. It is God's desire to bless each one of us with an abundance of his life. The second purpose is that we might help those around us who are in trouble find the same peace and comfort we have.

**Affirmation:** We are under mandated from God to share the hope, compassion and comfort we have received with those who have not yet found His comfort.

**Reflection:** There seems to be a disconnect for many believers between having made a profession of faith and having the peace and comfort of God. Why do you think that is?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty One

## *Jesus Is Resurrection And Life*

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes me will never die. - John 11:25-26

There are times we look wistfully into the future and believe for eternal life - eternal life with God. But sometimes we forget that God's life is eternal, that means it is now as well as after life on earth. The resurrection that Jesus was 2000 years ago is the same resurrection that he is today.

Jesus speaks of two groups of people in this short passage. The first group is those who, believing, die in the hope of resurrection. Of that group he says, "He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." The second group he is speaking of is those who live and have his life in them while walking this earth.

It appears he is saying that whether in this house of flesh, or in the spiritual state, the life that is in those who believe upon him offers all that heaven is. Eternal life is not just a home in heaven; it is also a quality of life on earth. The God-life that is in us is peace and joy.

When we choose to live "in Christ," that is, in the abundant supply of his life, we live in peace and harmony with him. When we choose to live out our life as normal, rational human beings we receive only what is normal to mankind.

Jesus is our hope for resurrection life now and for eternity. Think about it.

**Prayer:** Lord, give me the wisdom to allow your life to be the focus of my life on earth. Grant me the grace of living the God-life now and in eternity. My hope is in you alone. In Jesus name, amen.

## *Jesus Is Resurrection And Life*

**Message:** Jesus speaks of two groups of people in this short passage. The first group is those who, believing, die in the hope of resurrection. Of that group he says, “He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.” The second group he is speaking of is those who live and have his life in them while walking this earth

**Affirmation:** I have been born into an eternal hope. Should by flesh die, my spirit will live; whether in the flesh or out of this body, I live because Christ lives in me.

**Reflection:** How do you understand what Jesus meant when he said, “He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes me will never die.”

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Two

## *Choose Who You Will Serve*

If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

- Joshua 24:15

Every once in a while I hear someone say something like this, "I don't force my children to go to church, I want them to make their own choices about religion."

These same people will send their children to school every day, enroll them in sports activities and take them fishing and hunting. In each one of those activities the children are learning skills and behaviors that will affect their lives.

Yet, with all of that they do not see the value of training their children in spiritual matters. Why is that? Because they have not made a decision about spiritual matters themselves.

The choices we make about life, God and spirituality will affect the next generation. If we don't make choices about values that we can pass on to the next generation their value system will be set by others.

It would be good to listen to your children and watch their behavior to see who has been influencing them. Do they reflect your values or the values of others? Joshua realized his responsibility to his family and so should we.

***Prayer:*** Lord, I have been guilty of placing more emphasizes on the things the world values than on the values the scriptures teach we should have. Grant me the grace and faith to lead the next generation into placing value on the things you value. In Jesus name, amen.



## *Choose Who You Will Serve*

**Message:** The choices we make about life, God and spirituality will affect the next generation. If we don't make choices about values that we can pass on to the next generation their value system will be set by others.

**Affirmation:** I choose to be vocal about my values and hopefully to transfer those values on to the next generation.

**Reflection:** On a scale of 1 to 10 how important is it to you to pass on your values to the next generation? Do your efforts to instill your values in others reflect the number of importance you put on transferring those values? Can you list 5 values that are at the core of who you are?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Three

## *We Have An Advocate With The Father*

My Dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

- 1 John 2:1-2

Christ stands as the eternal atoning sacrifice that mediates between God and man. It is his eternal existence as the atoning sacrifice that advocates for all who will come to him in faith.

In olden times man was not allowed to face God and plead his cause. There was no provision to approach God on a personal basis, there was only the offering of an animal to appease God's wrath for sin.

Then he gave the world an opportunity - Christ came to earth as a man to endure a hideous death, becoming the eternal atoning sacrifice for all of mankind for all time. And now we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense.

Take comfort in the fact that what Christ effected on the cross did not just affect those who lived at that time, or just for a particular group of people. His sacrifice atoned for the sins of the whole world for all time.

There is a common phrase in confession, "Forgive me Father, for I have sinned." I have good news - He already has - through Christ our atoning sacrifice.

***Prayer:*** Thank you Lord for the hope of forgiveness and right standing with God that is in Christ. Grant me the faith to walk in that forgiveness. In Jesus name. Amen.

## *We Have An Advocate With The Father*

**Message:** Christ came to earth as a man to endure a hideous death, becoming the eternal atoning sacrifice for all of mankind for all time. And now we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense.

**Affirmation:** I know my sins are forgiven because the blood of Jesus Christ is eternally before the Father making intercession for all who believe upon Christ.

**Reflection:** What is the picture you have in your mind when you think of Jesus speaking to the Father in our defense? Can you explain the concept of an atoning sacrifice and how Christ is our atoning sacrifice?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Four

## *God Displays His Glory Through Us*

The Lord has anointed me to... comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

– Isaiah 61:1-3

When Jesus began his public ministry he went to the synagogue and spoke. He opened the scroll of Isaiah, turned to this passage, and read it. Then he said, “Today this scripture is fulfilled.” From that day his life was about helping, healing and restoring people.

Today, 2000 years later, the message is still the same – Christ is ready to help, heal and restore. When we come to the point we realize that we are weak, and it is only in his strength that we can reach our full potential and turn to him, then he can make us strong.

Isaiah is telling us that God wants to display the splendor of his glory through the work he completes in us. He comforts the mourning, restores our brokenness and turns our despair into hope – that is what he wants the world to see through us.

Jesus came to a world of desperate, broken people. For centuries they had lived under the dominion of other nations. Now Jesus was speaking hope into their lives. He was telling them that time of oppression was over. He had come to declare the day of the Lord's favor.

**Prayer:** Lord, I am weak, but with your strength in me I can do all things. Grant me the grace to trust you in all things and allow you to plant me as an oak of righteousness. In Jesus name, amen.

## *God Displays His Glory Through Us*

**Message:** God wants to display the splendor of his glory through the work he completes in us. He comforts the mourning, restores our brokenness and turns our despair into hope - that is what he wants the world to see through us.

**Affirmation:** God's glory is being revealed in me and that is what the world sees through me.

**Reflection:** If we are called to be like Christ, how then should we live in this world? Luke 4:18-19 records when Jesus read this passage from Isaiah. Compare the two Scriptures. If we are to imitate Christ what should we be doing about the hurting, broken, imprisoned people we see every day?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Five

## *God Calls Us To Obedient Sacrifice*

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered. – Hebrews 5:7-8

This passage stirs something within a sincere believer. It reports that at times Jesus prayed with loud cries and tears to the Father to be saved from death, yet, he submitted to the will of the Father because he respected the Father's authority.

Too often today the message heard is that we are the children of God and heirs to all that heaven has, but there is no call to suffering. We are not called to suffer for the sake of suffering, but we are called to sacrifice our will for his. That is not an easy thing to do. Jesus had learned that obedient sacrifice produces eternal rewards – we need to learn that lesson too.

Jesus said that only those who were willing to put their life on the line are worthy to be called his disciples. Our hope must not be for a better life, but our hope must be to do the will of the Father, whatever that costs us.

We are not called to live in poverty to prove our humility, but we are called to serve him according to his purposes for us, even if that means sacrificing the comforts of this world for his glory. Our surrendered life is the cost and eternity is the prize.

***Prayer:*** Lord, too often my prayers are for things that would make my life more comfortable. Forgive me. Grant me the grace of surrender to your will and give me a heart to fulfill the purpose that you have for my life. In Jesus name, amen.

## *God Calls Us To Obedient Sacrifice*

**Message:** Too often today the message heard is that we are the children of God and heirs to all that heaven has, but there is no call to suffering. We are not called to suffer for the sake of suffering, but we are called to sacrifice our will for his.

**Affirmation:** I am committed to serving God whatever the cost and whatever sacrifice I am called to make. I know that my surrendered life is the cost and eternity is the prize.

**Reflection:** Jesus, the very son of God, suffered in obedience; should we do any less? How different would your life be if you followed all of the commands of Christ?

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Six

### *Christ Is The Source Of Eternal Salvation*

Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

- Hebrews 5:8-9

When this passage speaks of Jesus being made perfect it is not talking about perfect in the sense of being sinless – he did not need to be made perfect in regard to sin; he was sinless from birth. This word translated “perfect” applies to completeness, or a finished work.

The meaning of this passage is that when the work of Christ is complete, or finished, he would be the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him. We should understand that it was not just the fact that Christ was on earth that opens the door of heaven to us; it is the fact that he completed the purpose for which he came that opens heaven to us.

We who are obedient to his call receive the benefit of his completed work. Some have taken that lightly and have assumed that if they “accept Christ” on an intellectual level they have eternal life, but the scripture is clear, “he became the source of eternal life *for all who obey him.*”

The cost to Jesus to complete his work demands that we reverently submit to his call and his will. Salvation is free to us, but it was not free to him. We could not pay the price he paid and we could not buy what he purchased for us. We owe him our obedience.

***Prayer:*** Lord, forgive me for taking too lightly the price Jesus paid to secure my eternal salvation. Grant me the grace to humbly obey his call and walk in submission to your will. In Jesus name, amen





Day Twenty Seven

## *Let Us Go On To Maturity*

Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death. – Hebrews 6:1

The writer here is not calling us to leave off teaching about Christ, but he is telling us that if we are to become the people he has called us to be then we must grow beyond just “getting saved.” In fact, in the verses which precede this one the writer is telling them that it is time to establish a pattern in their life which reflects the righteousness of Christ so that they aren’t continually being taught these basic truths.

Unfortunately, too many of us don’t get it. We spend our entire life trying to deal with the basic dos and don’ts and never form a pattern of living in righteousness. Until we gain a certain level of maturity we will never receive the full benefits of living the Christ life.

Chapter five of Hebrews teaches about the life Jesus lived and his submission to the will of the Father, and then moves into the responsibility of every believer to become established in righteous living and service in the kingdom. Christ is our example – it is our responsibility to follow him to full maturity.

I know people who have been believers for many years and they are still trying to convince themselves that they are secure in their salvation. God is trying to give them meat and they are still worried about the milk.

***Prayer:*** Lord, grant me the grace to get past the basics and to move into maturity. I need your strength to not only live righteously but to do righteous acts of kindness for others. Help me to follow the example Christ gave us. In your name.



Day Twenty Eight

## *All Work Is For The Glory Of The Lord*

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. – Colossians 3:23-24

Paul is writing about being in right relationship in the various arenas of our life. He addresses husbands and wives, children, parents and slaves, or servants. We would call these slaves employees in our society today.

To those servant/employees he instructs, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as unto the Lord.” This is good instruction for all of us regardless of our station in life because all of us serve someone. Employees are servants of the employer and those in business are servants of the ones who patronize their business.

Paul is introducing a principle of life here; Whatever our responsibilities in life we are to fulfill them with diligence as a work for the Lord. Our master is Christ and our inheritance, or reward, comes from him. That is why we must serve in our particular station in life as if the Lord himself was our supervisor.

Just keep in mind that it is Christ we serve and it is Christ who rewards our labor – but he uses man to write the check. I once had a job I didn’t like until I began to look at the job as an assignment from the Lord. When I accepted that attitude everything changed and I actually began to enjoy the job.

Whatever your job do it as unto the Lord.

**Prayer:** God, grant me the ability to look at my employer as one who represents Christ and to serve him as if I Christ himself were standing over me. Help me to understand that you reward faithfulness and you measure a person by how they serve others. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

## *All Work Is For The Glory Of The Lord*

**Message:** Whatever our responsibilities in life we are to fulfill them with diligence as a work for the Lord. Our master is Christ and our inheritance, or reward, comes from him. That is why we must serve in our particular station in life as if the Lord himself was our supervisor.

**Affirmation:** God places me under authority, not only under his authority, but also under civil authority. I serve God through serving those in authority over me.

**Reflection:** We must guard against becoming arrogant and assuming we only obey Christ. When we are under His authority we are subject to whatever authority He places over us, whether it is spiritual or civil. Think about it.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Twenty Nine

## *Christ Is Our Example*

Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin and no deceit was found in his mouth. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. – 1 Peter 2:21-23

When we think of the suffering of Christ we usually think of the crucifixion and the ill treatment that was involved there, but the suffering referred to here is very similar to what many of us go through in our walk of faith.

When they insulted him he did not retaliate and he did not threaten them. His heart was pure and his motives reflected his heart. His desire was to see all people come to repentance receive his grace, even those who were abusing him.

He not only told his followers to love their enemies and return kindness to those who had evil intentions for them, but he modeled those ideals. Peter writes, “Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps.”

Our call is to endure suffering when it comes and to be committed to the kingdom of God. You may not ever face physical persecution, as some have, but if you serve Him diligently you will face some rejection. We can only do that when we have the confidence to entrust ourselves to him who judges justly. Can you handle that?

**Prayer:** Lord, I too often am more concerned about getting back at people who insult me than I am about their eternal destiny. Grant me the grace to respond out of love even when others are being hateful to me. In Jesus Name, amen.

## *Christ Is Our Example*

**Message:** Peter writes, “Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps.” Our call is to endure suffering when it comes and to be committed to the kingdom of God. We can only do that when we have the confidence to entrust ourselves to him who judges justly.

**Affirmation:** I am committed to the kingdom of God and that means I am prepared to suffer whatever I must so that His kingdom advances.

**Reflection:** Suffering for the kingdom of God is not a popular topic, but it is a requirement for those who would be effective in Christian service.

**My Thoughts:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Day Thirty

## *A Formula For A Consistent Faith Walk*

Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- 2 Peter 1:10-11

Now, here is a promise worth remembering, “If you do these things you will never fall.” Peter is referring to the spiritual qualities he listed in the previous verses; goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. He was teaching to add these virtues to our faith.

If you are struggling with consistency in your faith walk I would encourage you to follow the instructions given in this chapter and focus on adding these characteristics to your faith walk. You will notice that each one of these qualities are about denying our self and reaching beyond ourselves.

Peter writes, “If you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The secret to consistency in your journey of faith is to continually be adding to your faith. Seek to develop virtues in “increasing measure” and in doing so you will never fall and you will make your calling and election sure.

***Prayer:*** Lord, I need your grace to walk the walk of faith without falling or wavering. Grant me the strength and commitment to add these virtues to my life. I want to be effective and productive in your kingdom. In Jesus name, amen.





## Have you considered hosting a Small Group Bible Study?

The Daily God Walk is written with a dual purpose. First it is a devotional tool that helps the reader grow in their walk of faith. But, a second purpose, is to be a tool to be used in leading a small group. For that purpose we offer a Study Guide Edition.

In the Study Guide Edition each devotion has a second page which has a dual purpose. It helps the reader deepen his faith walk and it gives material suitable for use in small groups Bible Studies.

### **The second page of each devotion in the Study Guide Edition**

- ✓ There is a section that focuses on the message brought out in the devotion. This section is an excellent tool for beginning a discussion about the devotion.
- ✓ The message section is followed by an affirmation. The affirmation is good to be used in prayer and meditation. When we personalize the principle by affirming it in prayer it becomes a part of us.
- ✓ The reflection section provides some very good material for discussion. This section usually gets to the heart of what is being taught in the devotion and contains statements or questions which help stimulate discussion.
- ✓ Finally, there is a section where the reader can share their thoughts on the devotion. This section is a very good tool to help the reader begin to journal on a regular basis. It is also good for a person to record their comments and questions about the devotion so they can bring them out during the small group discussion time.

For more information on how to use the Daily God Walk in the small group setting visit the website below: [www.dailygodwalk.org](http://www.dailygodwalk.org)