



## **NEW TESTAMENT IN 21 DAYS**

*This curriculum combines daily Bible reading, spiritual disciplines, and a fasting focus to help individuals draw closer to God. Each day centers on a theme that nurtures your relationship with Him.*

*Be sure to complete each activity every day. This curriculum is more concise so that you can focus on spending more time with God. Read and meditate on every scripture. Feel free to read more if you desire. This will be 21 days of experiencing God and His miracles. Let's Get Started!*

### **One-Page-Per-Week Reading Checklist**

#### **WEEK 1 (Days 1-7) — *The Life of Jesus***

- Day 1 — Matthew 1–13
- Day 2 — Matthew 14–28
- Day 3 — Mark 1–16
- Day 4 — Luke 1–12
- Day 5 — Luke 13–24
- Day 6 — John 1–10
- Day 7 — John 11–21

#### **WEEK 2 (Days 8–14) — *The Early Church & Letters***

- Day 8 — Acts 1–14
- Day 9 — Acts 15–28
- Day 10 — Romans 1–16
- Day 11 — 1 Corinthians 1–16
- Day 12 — 2 Corinthians 1–13; Galatians 1–6
- Day 13 — Ephesians 1–6; Philippians 1–4; Colossians 1–4; 1 Thessalonians 1–5
- Day 14 — 2 Thessalonians 1–3; 1 Timothy 1–6;  
2 Timothy 1–4; Titus 1–3; Philemon

#### **WEEK 3 (Days 15–21) — *Endurance & Completion***

- Day 15 — Hebrews 1–13
- Day 16 — James 1–5; 1 Peter 1–5; 2 Peter 1–3
- Day 17 — 1 John 1–5; 2 John; 3 John; Jude
- Day 18 — Revelation 1–7
- Day 19 — Revelation 8–14
- Day 20 — Revelation 15–20
- Day 21 — Revelation 21–22; Matthew 5–7; John 1; John 17



## Tips for Success

- Read twice a day (Morning & evening)
- Listen to audio Bible during travel time.
- Expect **60–75 minutes per day** (less with audio Bible).
- Read in **2–3 sittings** if possible.
- Don't stop for deep study—focus on **flow and comprehension**.
- Use a **consistent translation** to reduce mental fatigue.

# Day 1 - The Coming of the Kingdom

## Scripture Reading: Matthew 1-13

### Key Verse:

Matthew 4:17 - "From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' "

### Reflection:

The first thirteen chapters of Matthew set the stage for Jesus' ministry, revealing profound truths about His identity and the nature of His kingdom. Beginning with the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1), we see God's faithfulness through generations, showing that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah, fulfilling the promises made to patriarchs and prophets.

As we read through the Nativity story and the events surrounding Jesus' birth, we are reminded that kingship in God's kingdom is often different from our expectations. Jesus was born in humble surroundings, emphasizing the kingdom's invitation to those who are lowly and marginalized. The visit from the Magi signifies that this message is for all nations, reflecting the inclusive nature of God's love.

Moving into the early ministry of Jesus, particularly the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), we encounter powerful teachings on righteousness, love, and humility. Jesus redefines greatness as servanthood and calls us to be peacemakers and merciful, laying a foundation for moral and ethical living that challenges societal norms.

In Matthew 13, we find the parables of the kingdom—simple yet profound illustrations that illuminate the nature of God's reign. The parable of the sower reminds us of the various responses to God's word, challenging us to assess the condition of our hearts. The mustard seed and the leaven illustrate how God's kingdom grows subtly yet significantly in the world around us, urging us to have faith in its expansion despite our limited perspective.

### Application:

1. Examine Your Heart: Reflect on the condition of your heart in response to the word of God. Are there thorns or rocky places that hinder growth? Repent and ask God to till the soil of your heart.
2. Embrace Humility: Consider how Jesus' humble beginnings challenge you to live differently. In what ways can you embody the values of the kingdom—serving others, showing mercy, and seeking peace?
3. Participate in Kingdom Growth: Identify ways you can contribute to the growth of God's kingdom in your community. This might involve serving at a local ministry, sharing the gospel, or simply encouraging a friend.

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus as the Messiah. Help me to embrace the values of Your kingdom and to live with humility, love, and a desire for righteousness. May my life reflect Your light, drawing others to You. Teach me to sow seeds of faith in my heart and the hearts of others, trusting in Your promise that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Amen.

### Contemplation:

Spend a few moments in silence, asking God how you can better align your life with His kingdom purposes. Listen for His guidance and be prepared to act on it.

***Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on Matthew 1-13:***

1. Identity and Purpose: How does understanding Jesus' genealogy and background influence your perception of His identity as the Messiah? What does it teach you about your own identity in Christ?
2. Expectations of the Kingdom: In what ways do you find yourself expecting God's kingdom to operate differently than it does? How can you adjust your perspective to align more closely with Jesus' teachings?
3. Heart Condition: Reflecting on the parable of the sower, what type of soil do you think best represents your current heart condition? What steps can you take to cultivate a heart receptive to God's word?
4. Kingdom Values: Which of Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount challenges you the most? How might embracing those values transform your relationships with others?
5. Role of Humility: What are some practical ways you can embody humility in your daily interactions? How can this humility reflect the nature of God's kingdom?
6. Growth of the Kingdom: In your life, where do you see evidence of God's kingdom growing, even in small ways? How can you be a catalyst for further growth in your community or church?
7. Response to God's Word: How do you usually respond when you feel challenged by a message from Scripture? What can you do to cultivate a more open and responsive attitude towards God's transformative work?
8. Faith in Action: Identify a specific situation in your life where you can step out in faith to contribute to the growth of God's kingdom. What might this look like in practice?
9. Listening to God: During your time of contemplation, what insights or nudges did you feel God was sharing with you? How can you act on what you've heard?
10. Kingdom Invitation: How can you extend the invitation of the kingdom of heaven to those around you? What barriers might hinder you, and how can you overcome them?

These questions aim to deepen reflection and encourage application of the themes explored in the devotional.

## **Day 2 - Matthew 14-28**

### ***Title: The Journey to the Cross and Beyond***

#### **Key Verse:**

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

#### **Reflection:**

In the latter chapters of Matthew, we witness the profound unfolding of Jesus' ministry, leading to His crucifixion and resurrection. These passages encapsulate the heart of the gospel—Jesus' mission to save humanity and instruct His followers on how to live in light of that salvation.

Beginning with the feeding of the five thousand (Matthew 14:13-21), we are reminded of Jesus' compassion. He saw the crowd, filled with needs and hunger, and acted with kindness. This miracle

teaches us about God's provision and our call to meet the needs of others. Reflect on how you can demonstrate compassion in your community, echoing Jesus' example.

As we move through His miracles, including walking on water (Matthew 14:22-33), we are compelled to confront fear. When Peter steps out onto the waves at Jesus' command, he demonstrates faith, but when his focus shifts to the storm, he begins to sink. This story illustrates the power of faith amidst life's challenges; as long as we keep our eyes on Jesus, we can overcome our fears.

The latter chapters detail the growing tension between Jesus and the religious leaders, culminating in His arrest and trial. These events lead us to the heart of the gospel message—Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross (Matthew 27). Reflect on the immense cost of your salvation and the deep love shown through His suffering.

The resurrection is the ultimate proclamation of hope, found in Matthew 28. The empty tomb signifies victory over sin and death. Jesus' command to "go and make disciples" reminds us that the work of the kingdom continues through us. We are called to share this hope and the good news with others, knowing that Jesus promises to be with us always.

### **Application:**

1. Practice Compassion: Reflect on a specific situation where you can act with kindness, just as Jesus did. Whether it's volunteering time, providing for someone's needs, or simply offering a listening ear, seek to embody Jesus' love.
2. Face Your Fears: Identify a fear that's holding you back from following where Jesus leads. How can you take a step of faith in that area, trusting in His presence and power?
3. Consider the Cost: Spend time in prayer to understand the significance of Jesus' sacrifice for you. How does this deepen your gratitude and commitment to live for Him?
4. Embrace the Great Commission: Think about your role in making disciples. Who in your life can you share your faith with? Plan a conversation or an invitation to share your journey.

### **Prayer:**

Dear Lord, thank You for the incredible gift of salvation through Your Son, Jesus. Help me to live in a way that reflects His love and sacrifice. Grant me courage to overcome my fears and to reach out to those in need. May I be faithful in sharing the good news of the gospel with others, knowing that Your presence goes with me always. Amen.

### **Contemplation:**

Take a few moments to sit in silence, reflecting on the resurrection's power in your life. Invite God to speak to your heart about how you can embody His love and share it with others. Listen for His guidance as you ponder your next steps in faith.

### ***Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on Matthew 14-28:***

1. Compassion in Action: How does the miracle of feeding the five thousand challenge your understanding of generosity and compassion? What specific acts of kindness can you commit to in your daily life?
2. Faith and Fear: Reflect on a situation where you've experienced fear in your own life. How does Peter's experience of walking on water inspire you to confront those fears? What steps can you take to keep your focus on Jesus?
3. Understanding Sacrifice: As you consider Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, what emotions come to the surface? How does reflecting on His suffering deepen your understanding of God's love for you?

4. Hope in the Resurrection: What does the resurrection mean for you personally? How does this event shape your perspective on challenges and setbacks in your life?
5. The Call to Discipleship: In what ways do you feel equipped or unequipped to share your faith with others? What barriers might be preventing you from fulfilling the Great Commission in your daily interactions?
6. Living in Community: How can you strengthen your community of faith in making disciples? What role can you play in encouraging and supporting others on their spiritual journeys?
7. God's Provision: Reflecting on the feeding of the five thousand, how can you be more aware of the needs around you? How can you utilize your resources—time, talents, and finances—to meet those needs?
8. Presence of Jesus: How do you experience the assurance of Jesus being with you in your daily life? In what ways can you cultivate a deeper awareness of His presence?
9. Transformation Through Challenges: How do you see trials and challenges as opportunities for growth in your faith? What lessons can you learn from past struggles that may inform your present walk with God?
10. Legacy of Faith: What kind of legacy do you want to leave in terms of your faith and impact on others? How can you begin to build that legacy now?

These questions aim to stimulate deeper reflection and encourage personal application of the themes found in Matthew 14-28.

## Day 3- Mark 1-16

**Title: The Gospel of Action**

**Key Verse:**

Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

**Reflection:**

The Gospel of Mark is a fast-paced narrative that highlights the active ministry of Jesus, illustrating His authority, compassion, and purpose. From the very first chapter, Mark reveals Christ as the Son of God, introducing His ministry with immediate action—Jesus begins teaching, healing, and casting out demons.

In Mark 1-4, we observe the early days of Jesus' ministry. His authority over nature, sickness, and evil spirits establishes Him as not just a great teacher, but the powerful Messiah. Consider the significance of Jesus healing a leper (Mark 1:40-45) and how it confronts societal boundaries. Reflect on your own life—are there areas where you need to break down barriers to extend compassion and grace?

As we move through the book, Jesus calls His disciples, not merely to learn, but to join Him in His mission (Mark 3:14). This calling is a clear invitation for us as well. Are you actively participating in Jesus' work today? How can you take ownership of your role in the body of Christ?

Mark contrasts the growing fame of Jesus with the increasing opposition from religious leaders. The parables of the kingdom (Mark 4) remind us of the transformative power of God's message. As you

reflect on the parables, think about what it means to cultivate a heart that is receptive to God's word and willing to share it with others.

The later chapters take us to the climax of Jesus' mission—His passion, death, and resurrection. In Mark 15, we encounter the deep agony of the cross, where Jesus bears the weight of our sin. This moment is both tragic and triumphant, revealing the depth of God's love and the victory over sin and death. As you meditate on the crucifixion, consider what it cost Jesus and how that impacts your relationship with Him.

The resurrection (Mark 16) is the cornerstone of our faith, affirming that Jesus is alive and His victory is complete. The empty tomb brings hope and purpose, commissioning His followers to spread the good news to the ends of the earth. How does the reality of the resurrection empower you to live boldly for Christ today?

### **Application:**

1. Embrace Action: Reflect on how you can embody the active nature of Mark's Gospel in your life. What specific actions can you take this week to serve others, mirroring Jesus' example?
2. Break Down Barriers: Consider someone in your life who might feel marginalized or isolated. How can you reach out to them with compassion and understanding, as Jesus did with the leper?
3. Participate in the Mission: Identify your unique gifts and talents. How can you use them to further the mission of Christ within your church or community?
4. Cultivate a Receptive Heart: Spend time in prayer, asking God to prepare your heart to receive His word. What areas of your life need to be softened to accept His guidance and truth?

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your example of service, sacrifice, and love. Help me to actively participate in Your mission and to carry Your light into the world. Teach me to break down barriers and extend compassion to those around me. As I reflect on Your death and resurrection, may I live with hope and boldness, sharing the good news with others. Amen.

### **Contemplation:**

Take a moment in silence to reflect on Christ's resurrection and the hope it brings. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in taking actionable steps to live out your faith in your community. Listen for His voice as you consider how to follow Him more closely.

### ***Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on Mark 1-16:***

1. Active Faith: How does the fast-paced nature of Mark's Gospel challenge your understanding of what it means to live an active faith? In what ways can you be more proactive in serving others?
2. Breaking Barriers: Reflect on the story of Jesus healing the leper. Are there social barriers in your life or community that you need to confront? How can you promote inclusion and compassion in your interactions with others?
3. Discipleship and Participation: What does it mean to you to be called as a disciple of Jesus? How can you take ownership of your role in the mission of the church and contribute to spreading the gospel?
4. Heart Condition: In the parables of the kingdom, Jesus talks about different types of soil representing the condition of our hearts. What kind of soil do you think represents your heart right now? What steps can you take to cultivate a more receptive heart?

5. Understanding Sacrifice: As you meditate on the crucifixion, what emotions arise when you consider the cost of Jesus' sacrifice? How can that understanding deepen your relationship with Him and your gratitude for salvation?
6. Resurrection Hope: How does the reality of the resurrection influence your daily life and challenges? What specific areas of your life do you need to surrender to Christ, trusting in His power to bring new life?
7. Sharing the Good News: Jesus commissioned His followers to go and make disciples. Who in your life may be receptive to hearing the gospel? How can you prepare to engage them in conversations about your faith?
8. Confronting Opposition: Mark depicts increasing opposition to Jesus from religious leaders. How do you respond when your faith is challenged or opposed? What can you learn from Jesus' example in facing criticism?
9. Gifts and Talents: Reflect on the unique gifts and talents God has given you. How can you leverage these to fulfill the mission of Christ in your community? Are there new ways you feel called to serve?
10. Legacy of Faith: What kind of legacy do you want to leave through your actions and service? How can you begin building that legacy now, ensuring it aligns with the teachings of Jesus?

These questions are designed to encourage deep reflection and personal application of the themes found in the Gospel of Mark.

## Day 4 Luke 1-12

**Title:** *The Gospel of Compassion and Mission*

**Key Verse:**

Luke 19:10 - "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

**Reflection:**

The Gospel of Luke provides a detailed account of Jesus' life and ministry, emphasizing His compassion, inclusivity, and mission to the marginalized. In the opening chapters (Luke 1-2), the birth narratives of John the Baptist and Jesus reveal a God who intervenes in human history to bring hope and salvation. The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) expresses Mary's joy and highlights God's concern for the humble and oppressed. As you reflect on Mary's song, consider how you can recognize and celebrate God's work in your life, particularly in moments of uncertainty.

In Luke 3-4, John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus, calling people to repentance. Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom of God emphasizes that it is accessible to everyone, regardless of their social status. The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13) shows His reliance on Scripture and the Holy Spirit, serving as a model for us when facing our own temptations. What strategies can you employ to stay grounded in God's word during challenging times?

Throughout chapters 5-12, we see Jesus interacting with diverse groups of people—tax collectors, sinners, the sick, and the marginalized. His actions challenge social and religious norms, demonstrating that God's grace extends far beyond our expectations. The parables of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) remind us of the depths of God's mercy and the call to love our neighbors without prejudice. How are you called to extend compassion and love in your community?

Jesus also teaches about the cost of discipleship (Luke 9:23-24). Following Him requires sacrifice and a commitment to His mission. As you reflect on your own journey, what sacrifices are you willing to make to faithfully pursue your relationship with Christ? Are there comforts or distractions you need to let go of?

The call to prayer is prevalent in Luke as well. Jesus models this for His disciples, emphasizing its significance. The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4) reveals God's fatherly care and the importance of aligning our will with His. How can you cultivate a deeper prayer life that nurtures your relationship with God and keeps you attuned to His leading?

**Application:**

1. Celebrate God's Work: Take time to reflect on how God has worked in your life. Write down moments of His faithfulness and grace, and consider sharing your testimony with someone this week.
2. Grounding in Scripture: Choose a specific scripture to meditate on this week, particularly during times of temptation or struggle. How can this verse guide your decisions and responses?
3. Extend Compassion: Identify a specific way you can reach out to someone in need—whether through a kind word, volunteering, or offering practical help. Make a plan to act on this.
4. Sacrifice for Discipleship: Consider the comforts or distractions that may be hindering your relationship with Christ. What steps can you take to prioritize your faith and remove those barriers?
5. Developing Prayer Life: Commit to a daily prayer routine, whether through written prayers, conversation, or silence. How can this deepen your understanding of God's will for your life?

**Prayer:**

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to seek and save the lost. Help me to emulate His compassion and love in my daily interactions. Teach me to prioritize Your word, nurture my prayer life, and willingly make sacrifices in my pursuit of discipleship. May my life reflect Your grace and mercy, drawing others to You. Amen.

**Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your reflections. Consider specific areas in your life where you feel God is calling you to grow in compassion, prayer, or discipleship. Listen for His voice and be prepared to respond.

***Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on Luke 1-12:***

1. God's Intervention: How do the birth narratives of John the Baptist and Jesus encourage you to recognize God's presence and intervention in your own life? What areas of your life are you currently seeking God's guidance?
2. Understanding Repentance: What does John's call to repentance mean for you personally? Are there areas in your life where you need to repent and turn back to God?
3. Responding to Temptation: Reflecting on Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, what strategies do you currently employ to resist temptation? How can relying on Scripture help you in moments of weakness?
4. Compassion and Inclusion: How do the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son challenge your views on who is deserving of love and grace? What steps can you take to reach out to people outside of your usual circles?
5. Discipleship Cost: Jesus speaks about the cost of following Him. What are some comforts or distractions in your life that may be preventing you from fully committing to your journey as a disciple?

6. Fostering a Prayer Life: In what ways can you enhance your prayer life to make it more vibrant and meaningful? How do you currently hear from God in your prayers?
7. Celebrating God's Work: Identify a past experience when you felt God was faithful in your life. How does reflecting on His faithfulness encourage you today during uncertain times?
8. Action in Faith: What is one specific action you can take this week to extend compassion to someone in need? How might this impact your relationship with them and your own spiritual growth?
9. Heart for the Marginalized: How can you develop a heart that is more attuned to the needs of the marginalized and the hurting in your community? What practical steps can you take to make a difference?
10. Aligning with God's Will: How do you discern whether your desires align with God's will for your life? What practices can help you stay aligned with His purpose?

These questions are designed to provoke deeper reflection and facilitate personal insights based on the themes found in Luke 1-12.

## Day 5 - Luke 13-24

**Title: The Path to Redemption and Hope**

**Key Verse:**

Luke 24:6-7 - "He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."

**Reflection:**

In the latter chapters of Luke, we witness the culmination of Jesus' ministry, leading to His sacrificial death and victorious resurrection. This section of Scripture is rich with teachings, parables, and profound moments that shape our understanding of God's redemptive plan.

As we delve into Luke 13-14, Jesus emphasizes the urgency of repentance and the reality of judgment. His warnings serve as a call to examine our lives and prioritize our relationship with Him. Consider the parable of the fig tree (Luke 13:6-9) and its message about bearing fruit. What areas of your life need pruning to foster spiritual growth?

In Luke 15, we encounter three powerful parables: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son. Each story illustrates God's relentless pursuit of the lost and His immense joy when they are found. Reflect on how these parables challenge your understanding of grace and forgiveness. Who in your life might need your love and forgiveness today?

Moving into the final weeks of Jesus' earthly ministry, we see the heightened tension with the religious leaders. In Luke 20, Jesus responds to their challenges with wisdom, revealing the significance of His authority as the Messiah. His parables highlight the reality of the kingdom of God and the expectations of those who follow Him. How do you demonstrate the values of the kingdom in your daily life?

The narrative of the Last Supper (Luke 22) is a poignant reminder of Jesus' institution of the Eucharist, symbolizing His body and blood given for our salvation. As you reflect on this sacrament, consider its

significance in your faith journey. How does participating in communion deepen your connection to Christ and the broader community of believers?

The trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus (Luke 23-24) encapsulate the core of Christian faith. In the pain and suffering of the cross, Jesus offers forgiveness for all humanity. His resurrection brings hope, confirming that death has been defeated. How does the reality of the resurrection transform your perspective on life's challenges and uncertainties?

**Application:**

1. Examine Your Life: Take time to reflect on your spiritual fruit. Are there areas in your life that need pruning? What practices can you embrace to enhance your connection with God?
2. Extend Forgiveness: Identify someone you need to forgive or reach out to, reflecting God's grace as demonstrated in the parables. Make a plan to show them love and mercy.
3. Live Kingdom Values: Consider how you can actively demonstrate the values of the kingdom of God in your everyday interactions. What actions can you take to reflect Christ's love and grace?
4. Communion Reflection: If you participate in communion, spend time reflecting on its significance. How does it represent your relationship with Jesus and the body of Christ?
5. Resurrection Hope: Meditate on the reality of the resurrection. What fears or uncertainties in your life can you bring before God, trusting in His power to bring new life and hope?

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Your Son and the incredible sacrifice He made on the cross. Help me to examine my heart and align my life with Your desires. Teach me to extend forgiveness and love to others as You have shown to me. As I reflect on the resurrection, may I live with hope and confidence, knowing that death has been defeated through Christ. Amen.

**Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to illuminate areas in your life that need change or growth. Listen for His guidance as to how you can respond to His call for repentance, forgiveness, and living in the light of the resurrection.

***Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on Luke 13-24:***

1. Personal Reflection: In what areas of your life do you feel God may be calling you to repent and bear more fruit? How can you actively seek growth in those areas?
2. Understanding Grace: Considering the parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and prodigal son, how do these stories reshape your understanding of God's grace? Have you experienced a time when you felt lost and were welcomed back with love?
3. Responding to Challenges: How do Jesus' responses to the religious leaders' challenges inspire you to stand firm in your faith when facing opposition? What practical steps can you take to embody wisdom and grace in difficult conversations?
4. Meaning of Communion: What does participating in communion mean to you personally? How does this practice enhance your understanding of Christ's sacrifice and your connection to the church community?
5. Forgiveness in Action: Jesus modeled forgiveness even in His suffering. Are there relationships in your life where you struggle to forgive? What steps can you take to extend grace and reconciliation, reflecting His love?
6. Living the Kingdom: How can you reflect the values of the kingdom of God in your daily life? What specific actions can you take to represent love, mercy, and justice in your community?

7. Resurrection Impact: How does the truth of the resurrection influence your perspective on your current struggles or fears? What areas in your life need the hope and renewal that comes from Christ's victory over death?
8. Embracing Urgency: Jesus calls His followers to be vigilant and ready. In what ways can you increase your awareness of God's work in your life and the world around you? How can you be more intentional about sharing the gospel with others?
9. Community Connection: How do the themes of belonging and inclusion in the parables challenge your understanding of who is worthy of love and forgiveness? How can you create a more inclusive environment in your sphere of influence?
10. God's Pursuit: Reflect on a time when you felt God actively pursuing you in your faith journey. How does understanding this relentless pursuit encourage you to approach others who may be feeling lost?

These questions are designed to encourage deeper reflection and personal application of the themes found in Luke 13-24.

## Day 6 - John 1-10

**Title: The Word Made Flesh and His Transformative Power**

**Key Verse:**

John 1:14 - "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

**Reflection:**

The Gospel of John opens with one of the most profound declarations in Scripture—the Word became flesh. This introduction sets the stage for understanding who Jesus is: both fully divine and fully human. As we explore chapters 1-10, we witness how Jesus reveals His identity and mission through powerful signs and teachings.

In John 1, John the Baptist bears witness to the light, proclaiming Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:29). This profound acknowledgment invites us to reflect on our own witness. How can we proclaim the truth of Jesus in our everyday lives? Are there instances where you can share your faith story with others?

As we read through Jesus' early miracles, including the turning of water into wine (John 2) and the healing of the nobleman's son (John 4), we see the transformative power of His presence. Each miracle provides a glimpse into the kingdom of God and His desire to meet our needs. Reflect on how Jesus has transformed your life. In what ways can you share that transformation with others?

The theme of spiritual rebirth emerges in John 3, particularly through Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus. Here, He emphasizes the necessity of being born again. This concept invites deep introspection: have you experienced a spiritual rebirth? How does this renewal influence your thoughts, actions, and relationships?

In John 4, Jesus encounters the Samaritan woman at the well, breaking cultural norms and offering her living water. This powerful story illustrates God's desire to reach the marginalized and those burdened

by shame. Who in your life may feel like an outcast? How can you extend love and grace, inviting them to experience the living water that Jesus offers?

As we move to John 5, Jesus heals a man at the pool of Bethesda, demonstrating His authority over illness and Sabbath laws. His interaction raises questions about our understanding of rest, legalism, and compassion. How can you embody grace and mercy in a world that often emphasizes rules and regulations over love?

In John 6, Jesus declares Himself the Bread of Life, inviting us to find our sustenance in Him. As you reflect on this teaching, consider what you are feeding your soul. Are there distractions or unhealthy habits that are preventing you from fully experiencing the life that Jesus offers?

Finally, in John 10, Jesus presents Himself as the Good Shepherd, emphasizing His care and love for His sheep. His promise of abundant life resonates deeply: He desires a relationship with us that is not only protective but also enriching. How can you cultivate a deeper relationship with the Good Shepherd in your daily life?

### **Application:**

1. Be a Witness: Think about how you can proclaim Jesus in your daily interactions. Write down a personal testimony or a key message of faith you would like to share with someone this week.
2. Share Your Transformation: Reflect on a specific way Jesus has transformed your life. Share this story with someone who may need encouragement or hope.
3. Invite Others to Living Water: Identify someone in your life who may be feeling marginalized or burdened. How can you reach out to them with love and share the hope of Jesus?
4. Evaluate Your Soul's Nourishment: Assess what you are feeding your mind and spirit. Are there changes you need to make to draw closer to Jesus as the Bread of Life?
5. Cultivate Your Relationship with the Shepherd: Spend intentional time with God each day, asking Him to guide you and deepen your relationship with Him. Consider journaling your thoughts and prayers.

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus, the Word made flesh, to dwell among us. Help me to bear witness to Your goodness and share my story with others. May I recognize the transformative power of Your presence in my life and extend love to those who feel lost or marginalized. Teach me to find nourishment in You and cultivate my relationship with You as my Good Shepherd. Amen.

### **Contemplation:**

Take a few moments in silence to reflect on your relationship with Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas where you need to grow in your faith or reach out to others. Listen for His guidance and be open to His leading in your life.

Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on John 1-10:

1. The Word Became Flesh: What does it mean to you personally that "the Word became flesh"? How does this truth impact your understanding of God's desire to be in relationship with humanity?
2. Witnessing to Others: Like John the Baptist, how can you actively bear witness to Jesus in your daily interactions? What specific actions can you take to share your faith with others?
3. Experiencing Transformation: Recall a moment when you felt Jesus transformed your life. How can you use that experience to encourage someone else who may be struggling with challenges?

4. Spiritual Rebirth: Jesus speaks of the necessity of being born again. Have you experienced this spiritual rebirth? If so, how has it changed your outlook on life and your relationships with others?
5. Reaching the Marginalized: In Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, He broke cultural barriers. Who in your life may feel marginalized or overlooked? How can you extend compassion and grace to them?
6. Grace vs. Legalism: Reflect on Jesus' healing of the man at the pool of Bethesda. How can you ensure that your faith practices reflect grace and compassion rather than strict legalism?
7. Nourishment of the Soul: Jesus describes Himself as the Bread of Life. What are you currently feeding your soul? Are there distractions or unhealthy habits you need to address to grow in your relationship with Christ?
8. The Role of the Good Shepherd: How does understanding Jesus as the Good Shepherd influence your perception of divine guidance and care in your life? In what ways can you cultivate a deeper trust in Him?
9. Daily Witness: What practical steps can you take in your daily life to be more mindful of where God is calling you to serve and witness? How can you align your actions with your faith more closely?
10. Living Water: Consider the concept of "living water." What are the sources of fulfillment you seek in your life? How can you shift your focus to seek deeper spiritual nourishment in Christ?

These questions are designed to inspire deeper contemplation and personal application of the themes found in John 1-10.

## Day 7 - John 11-21

### **Title: The Triumph of Love and the Promise of Hope**

#### **Key Verse:**

John 11:25-26 - "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?'"

#### **Reflection:**

The final chapters of John unveil profound truths about Jesus' identity, His journey towards the cross, and the hope that comes through His resurrection. These passages highlight the heart of our faith and speak deeply to our struggles, fears, and the promise of eternal life.

In John 11, the story of Lazarus is a powerful testament to Jesus' authority over death and His profound compassion. When Jesus hears of Lazarus' illness, He intentionally delays His visit, leading to Lazarus' death. Upon arrival, He meets Martha and Mary, who express their grief and disappointment. Jesus' declaration, "I am the resurrection and the life," underscores the hope He offers us in the face of despair. Reflect on the areas in your life where you need to embrace this promise. What does it mean for you to have hope in the midst of challenging circumstances?

As we move into John 12, we see the impact of Jesus' raising of Lazarus, which incites both awe and opposition. The plot against Jesus intensifies, highlighting the cost of His mission. In the anointing at Bethany, Mary's act of devotion serves as a reminder of the importance of extravagant love and worship in responding to Jesus' grace. How can you express your love and gratitude to Jesus in your own life?

John 13-17 encompasses the Last Supper and Jesus' teachings to His disciples. In washing their feet, Jesus demonstrates servant leadership, calling us to serve one another with humility. The new command He gives—to love one another as He has loved us—challenges us to deepen our relationships with others. How can you embody this love in your interactions with family, friends, and even strangers?

In John 14, Jesus reassures His disciples of His impending departure, promising the Holy Spirit as the Comforter. This assurance invites us to reflect on how we seek and recognize the Spirit's presence in our lives. How can you cultivate a more profound awareness of the Holy Spirit's guidance?

The trial, crucifixion, and resurrection in chapters 18-21 showcase the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for us and His victory over sin and death. In John 19, we witness the agony of the cross, a moment marked by sorrow yet overflowing with love. Jesus' final words, "It is finished," signify the completion of His work for our salvation. How does this knowledge shape your understanding of God's love for you?

The resurrection (John 20) transforms despair into joy, providing the promise of eternal life. Jesus' encounter with Mary Magdalene reminds us of His personal relationship with us. How does knowing that He calls you by name change your perspective on your identity and purpose?

### **Application:**

1. Hope in Despair: Reflect on a current struggle or situation that feels hopeless. Bring it before God, asking for His perspective and peace. What steps can you take to trust in His resurrection power?
2. Expressing Love: Think of a way you can demonstrate extravagant love and gratitude to Jesus this week. This could be through acts of service, worship, or simply spending quality time in prayer.
3. Practice Humility: Identify opportunities in your life where you can serve others with humility and love, as Jesus did. Look for ways to embody servant leadership in your daily interactions.
4. Awareness of the Spirit: Spend dedicated time in prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide you. Be open to how He may lead you in your decisions and interactions with others.
5. Living in Resurrection Joy: Meditate on the meaning of the resurrection in your life. How can you share the joy of this hope with others, encouraging them to experience the love of Christ?

### **Prayer:**

Dear Lord, thank You for being the resurrection and the life. Help me to trust in Your promises and to find hope even in my darkest moments. May I demonstrate Your love through my actions and serve others humbly. Fill me with Your Spirit, guiding me in my daily walk, and empower me to share the joy of the resurrection with those around me. Amen.

### **Contemplation:**

Take a moment in silence to reflect on your relationship with Jesus. Consider the areas of your life where you need to embrace His love and hope. Listen for His voice as you contemplate how you can deepen your relationship with Him and express His love to others.

### **Here are some thought-provoking questions based on the devotional on John 11-21:**

1. Hope Amidst Struggles: In John 11, Jesus offers hope in the face of death. What areas in your life currently feel hopeless? How can you apply the truth of Jesus as the resurrection and the life to those situations?

2. Extravagant Love: How does Mary's anointing of Jesus challenge your understanding of devotion and worship? What is one specific way you can express your love for Jesus more extravagantly in your life?
3. Servant Leadership: Reflecting on Jesus washing His disciples' feet, what does servant leadership mean to you? In what practical ways can you serve those around you with humility this week?
4. New Command to Love: Jesus commands us to love one another as He has loved us. How does this challenge your current relationships? What steps can you take to deepen your love for others, even those who may be difficult to love?
5. Awareness of the Spirit: How do you currently seek or recognize the Holy Spirit in your life? What practices can you implement to cultivate a heightened awareness of the Spirit's presence and guidance?
6. Understanding Sacrifice: As you reflect on Jesus' words, "It is finished," how does this impact your understanding of His sacrifice and the concept of grace? What burdens or guilt do you need to release in light of this truth?
7. Resurrection Joy: How does the reality of the resurrection bring joy to your daily life? In what ways can you share the message of the resurrection with those who may be struggling with despair?
8. Personal Identity: When Jesus calls Mary by name after His resurrection, how does that resonate with your own identity? How does knowing that Jesus knows you personally shape your perception of your worth and purpose?
9. Witnessing to Others: Considering the aftermath of the resurrection, what inspires you to share your faith with others? Who in your life might need to hear about the hope and joy found in Christ's resurrection?
10. Living Out the Great Commission: In John 20:21, Jesus commissions His disciples. How are you currently living out this commission in your daily life? What changes might you need to make to be more aligned with His call?

These questions aim to provoke deeper reflection and facilitate personal insights based on the themes found in John 11-21.

## We Have Made it!! Week 2 Here we Come

### ***WEEK 2 (Days 8-14) – The Early Church & Letters***

- Day 8 – Acts 1–14
- Day 9 – Acts 15–28
- Day 10 – Romans 1–16
- Day 11 – 1 Corinthians 1–16
- Day 12 – 2 Corinthians 1–13; Galatians 1–6
- Day 13 – Ephesians 1–6; Philippians 1–4; Colossians 1–4; 1 Thessalonians 1–5
- Day 14 – 2 Thessalonians 1–3; 1 Timothy 1–6;  
2 Timothy 1–4; Titus 1–3; Philemon

## **Day 8 - Acts 1–14**

### **Title: Empowered for Mission**

**Key Verse: Acts 1:8** - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

#### **Reflection:**

The book of Acts serves as a powerful account of the early church's growth and the spread of the gospel after Jesus' ascension. The first fourteen chapters depict the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit and the subsequent mission of His followers.

In Acts 1, we witness the ascension of Jesus and His command to wait for the Holy Spirit. The disciples gather in prayer as they anticipate this gift. This moment reminds us of the importance of preparation and waiting on God for His timing and empowerment. Are there areas in your life where you need to wait on God and seek His guidance?

As we move into Acts 2, the day of Pentecost arrives, and the Holy Spirit fills the believers, enabling them to speak in various languages. This transformative event heralds the birth of the church and marks the beginning of their mission to witness to all nations. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit's empowerment in your life, and how can you actively invite His presence to guide you in your daily activities?

Chapter 2 also records Peter's powerful sermon, where he boldly proclaims the resurrection of Jesus. The response of the crowd—three thousand souls added to their number—illustrates the impact of the Spirit-filled message. Reflect on your own ability to share your faith. What barriers keep you from boldly proclaiming the truth of the gospel?

The chapters that follow highlight the life of the early church, characterized by communal living, prayer, and sharing of resources (Acts 2:42-47). This radical commitment to fellowship challenges us to consider how we engage in our church community. How can you cultivate deeper connections with fellow believers and actively contribute to the life of your church?

In Acts 3, Peter heals a lame beggar at the temple, demonstrating the power of Jesus' name. This miracle leads to another opportunity for witness. How does seeing God work through you to impact the lives of others inspire you to pray for and serve those in need?

As we proceed into Acts 4, the apostles face opposition from religious leaders. Their boldness in proclaiming Jesus and their unwavering faith serve as an example of courage in the face of adversity. Think about a time when your faith was challenged. How did you respond, and what can you learn from the apostles' example of standing firm?

Chapter 7 recounts Stephen's compelling witness and his subsequent martyrdom, which sparks further persecution of the church. Despite this, the gospel continues to spread. Reflect on how adversity can lead to growth and deeper reliance on God. Are there challenges in your life that you can view as opportunities for spiritual growth?

In Acts 9, we see Saul's dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, illustrating the transformative power of encountering Christ. This invites us to consider how God can change anyone, regardless of their past. Who do you know that might seem farthest from God? How can you pray for their transformation?

As we progress to Acts 10-14, we witness the expanding mission to the Gentiles, marked by Peter's vision and Cornelius' conversion. The early church begins to embrace the radical idea that the gospel is for all people. How can we continue to break down barriers in our own communities to ensure the message of Christ reaches everyone?

#### **Application:**

1. Waiting on God: Identify a situation where you need to wait on God for direction or empowerment. Commit to prayer during this waiting period, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide you.
2. Share Your Faith: Reflect on ways you can boldly share your faith with others. Write down specific steps you can take to witness to someone in your life this week.
3. Engage in Community: Evaluate your involvement in your church community. What steps can you take to build deeper relationships or serve those around you?
4. Pray for Opportunities: Pray for God to give you eyes to see those in need around you. Look for opportunities to serve and share the love of Christ.
5. Embrace Diversity: Consider how you can promote inclusivity within your community or church. What steps will you take to welcome and embrace those who are different from you?

#### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the call to be Your witnesses. Help me to wait patiently on You for guidance and empowerment in my life. May I boldly share my faith with others and actively engage in my church community, promoting love and inclusivity. Equip me to be a vessel for Your gospel, reaching those who need to know You. Amen.

#### **Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silence, asking God to reveal to you the areas where you need empowerment or guidance. Listen for His voice and be open to the ways He may be calling you to serve and witness in your community.

# Day 9 Devotional on Acts 15–28

## Title - The Mission Continues: Unity, Courage, and God's Sovereignty

**Key Verse: Acts 20:24** - "But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

### Reflection:

In the concluding chapters of Acts, we see the early church grapple with important decisions and face unprecedented challenges, all while advancing the mission of spreading the gospel. The controversies, decisions, and journeys depicted in these chapters provide vital lessons about unity, perseverance, and God's sovereignty.

In Acts 15, the Jerusalem Council addresses the crucial issue of whether Gentile believers should observe Jewish law. This pivotal moment illustrates the early church's commitment to unity while navigating cultural differences. The apostles and leaders listen to each other's perspectives and seek wisdom from the Holy Spirit, ultimately concluding that salvation is through grace alone. Consider how you handle differing opinions within your community. How can you foster unity while honoring diversity in beliefs and practices?

Moving on to Acts 16, we see Paul and Silas actively expanding the mission, even amid adversity. Their imprisonment for preaching the gospel leads to a miraculous earthquake and the conversion of the jailer. This powerful story challenges us to reflect on our attitudes in difficult circumstances. How do you respond when faced with trials or opposition? Can you find opportunities for witness, even in hardship?

Acts 17 records Paul's ministry in Athens, where he engages with philosophers and thinkers, adapting his message to connect with their worldview. His approach teaches us the importance of understanding our audience and being relevant in our communication of the gospel. How can you be more intentional about sharing your faith in a way that resonates with those around you?

In Acts 18-19, we witness the continued spread of the gospel throughout diverse cultures and cities. Paul's persistence in sharing the message and embracing new relationships with fellow believers, such as Aquila and Priscilla, highlights the importance of partnership in ministry. Reflect on your own relationships within your church or community. How can you cultivate partnerships that further the mission of the gospel?

As we come to Acts 20, Paul's farewell address to the Ephesian elders is poignant and heartfelt. He emphasizes the necessity of preaching the gospel and warns them to be vigilant against false teachings. This reminder calls us to be diligent in our spiritual growth and commitment to biblical truth. What practices do you engage in to ensure sound teaching and spiritual accountability within your life?

Paul's journey to Jerusalem, as recorded in Acts 21-23, is marked by prophetic warnings of trials ahead. His unwavering resolve to fulfill his calling, despite knowing the dangers, exemplifies the courage required of believers. How willing are you to pursue God's calling on your life, even when it leads through challenging paths?

Finally, in Acts 24-28, Paul stands before various leaders and ultimately appeals to Caesar, demonstrating his steadfast commitment to testifying about Christ. His journey culminates in a shipwreck but leads to ministry in Malta, showcasing God's sovereignty over our circumstances. Reflect on areas in your life where you can trust God, even when facing unexpected detours. How can you remain open to His leading, knowing that His plans may unfold in unforeseen ways?

#### **Application:**

1. Foster Unity: Reflect on a current disagreement within your community or church. What steps can you take to promote understanding and unity in Christ?
2. Witness in Adversity: Think about a recent trial you faced. How can you share how God worked through that experience to encourage others?
3. Engage with Culture: Identify someone with different beliefs or backgrounds. How can you initiate a meaningful conversation and share the gospel in a way that resonates with them?
4. Cultivate Partnerships: Reach out to someone in your church and explore opportunities for collaborative ministry. How can you support one another in spreading the gospel?
5. Commit to Sound Teaching: Review your spiritual practices. In what ways can you deepen your understanding of Scripture and seek accountability within your faith community?

#### **Prayer:**

Gracious Father, thank You for the example of the early church as they navigated challenges and stayed true to the mission of spreading the gospel. Help me to promote unity, encourage others through trials, and engage meaningfully with those around me. May I remain steadfast in my calling and trust in Your sovereign plans, even when I face unexpected challenges. Empower me by Your Spirit to be a faithful witness of Your grace. Amen.

#### **Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to speak to you about the areas where you need to grow in unity, courage, or trust. Listen for His voice and be open to how He may lead you in your journey of faith.

## **Day 10 - Devotional on Romans 1-16**

#### **Title: The Power of the Gospel and the Call to Live by Faith**

**Key Verse:** Romans 1:16-17 - "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith; as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

#### **Reflection:**

The book of Romans is one of the most significant letters in the New Testament, offering profound insights into God's plan for salvation, the nature of sin, and the transformative power of the gospel. It lays a foundational understanding of faith and what it means to live in accordance with God's righteousness.

In Romans 1, Paul boldly declares the importance of the gospel, emphasizing that it is God's power for salvation to all who believe. This declaration invites us to reflect on our own understanding of the gospel. Are we living as though we truly believe in its power? How can we prioritize sharing this life-giving message with those around us?

As we progress through the letter, Paul addresses both the Jews and Gentiles, revealing the universal nature of sin and the need for redemption. In chapters 3–5, we learn about justification by faith, illustrating that it is through faith in Jesus, not our works, that we are made right with God. This truth liberates us from the bondage of performance. Are there areas in your life where you are striving to earn God's approval instead of resting in His grace?

In Romans 6, Paul underscores the importance of dying to sin and being raised to new life in Christ. This transformation calls us to live as instruments of righteousness. Consider what "living as an instrument of righteousness" means for you in practical terms. What habits or mindsets do you need to let go of to embrace this calling?

The tension between the flesh and the Spirit is further explored in Romans 7 and 8. Paul articulates the struggle many believers face—the battle between our sinful nature and the desire to follow God's will. Yet, in Romans 8, we find reassurance of our identity as children of God, filled with the Spirit, and promised that nothing can separate us from His love. How can you cultivate a deeper awareness of your identity as a child of God and live empowered by the Holy Spirit?

In Romans 12, Paul shifts to practical applications of living out our faith. He encourages believers to present their bodies as living sacrifices and emphasizes the importance of love, humility, and serving others. Reflect on your own involvement in the body of Christ. How are you using your gifts to serve others and contribute to the church community?

As we reach the concluding chapters, Paul emphasizes the importance of unity and love among believers, particularly in diverse communities. In Romans 15–16, he encourages acceptance and grace towards one another. In what ways can you foster unity within your church or community, especially among those with differing views or backgrounds?

### **Application:**

1. Share the Gospel: Identify someone in your life who needs to hear the message of the gospel. Make a plan to share your faith story or invite them to church.
2. Rest in Grace: Reflect on areas where you may be striving to earn God's favor. Take a moment to confess those feelings and embrace the truth of justification by faith.
3. Live Righteously: Identify one habit or mindset that you feel hinders your walk with Christ. Prayerfully consider how you can replace it with a habit that promotes righteousness.
4. Foster Your Identity: Spend time in prayer and Scripture, asking God to remind you of your identity as His child. Consider writing down affirmations of your identity in Christ.
5. Serve Others: Look for opportunities to serve within your church or community this week. Use your unique gifts to bless others and build up the body of Christ.

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the powerful message of the gospel and the gift of salvation. Help me to grasp the depth of Your grace and to live in a way that reflects my identity as Your child. May I boldly share the good news with others and actively contribute to the body of Christ through love and

service. Teach me to foster unity and acceptance within my community, and empower me by Your Spirit to live righteously. Amen.

**Contemplation:**

Take a few moments in silence, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of your life where you need to grow in faith, unity, or service. Listen for His guidance and be open to how He may lead you in living out Your calling as a follower of Christ.

## Day 11 - Devotional on 1 Corinthians 1-16

### Title - Living as the Body of Christ

**Key Verse: 1 Corinthians 12:27** - "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

**Reflection:**

The Apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthians addresses a church community grappling with division, immorality, and questions about spiritual gifts. Throughout these chapters, Paul emphasizes unity, love, and the importance of living as the body of Christ—a message that resonates deeply with us today.

In 1 Corinthians 1, Paul begins by addressing the divisions in the church, where members align themselves with different leaders. He reminds them that Christ cannot be divided and that their focus should be on the message of the cross. Reflect on areas where you might find yourself emphasizing differences rather than the unity we have in Christ. What can you do to promote harmony in your relationships within your church community?

As we move into 1 Corinthians 2-4, Paul speaks of wisdom and the centrality of the cross in our understanding of faith. He reminds us that true wisdom comes from God and that our faith should not rest on human wisdom but on the power of God. How can you grow in your reliance on God's wisdom rather than simply human understanding in your life?

In chapters 5 and 6, Paul addresses serious issues of moral conduct and lawsuits among believers. His call for purity is a serious reminder that our lives should reflect the holiness of God. Examine your own life for areas that need purification. How can you seek accountability and pursue righteousness in your actions?

The well-known passage in 1 Corinthians 13 highlights the supremacy of love. Paul emphasizes that regardless of our spiritual gifts or knowledge, without love, we are nothing. This chapter challenges us to examine our motives and interactions with others. How can you embody Christ's love in your relationships, both within and outside the church?

In chapters 12-14, Paul discusses spiritual gifts and how they function together in the body of Christ. Each member plays an essential role, and no gift is insignificant. Reflect on your own spiritual gifts. How can you discover and utilize these gifts to serve others and build up the church? Who in your life can you encourage to use their gifts as well?

1 Corinthians 15 provides a profound discourse on the resurrection of Christ and its implications for believers. Paul emphasizes the reality and importance of the resurrection, declaring that if Christ has

not been raised, our faith is futile. How does the resurrection shape your understanding of eternal life and influence how you live today?

Finally, in chapter 16, Paul concludes with practical exhortations about generosity, support for one another, and remaining steadfast in faith. He urges the Corinthians to be watchful, stand firm, and act with love. Consider how you can apply these directives to your own life in practical ways. What steps can you take to support others and strengthen your own faith?

#### **Application:**

1. Promote Unity: Identify any areas of division or discord in your relationships. Pray for unity and take actionable steps to address these issues with love and humility.
2. Seek God's Wisdom: Make it a habit to pray for God's wisdom in your decision-making. Consider journaling about experiences where you've seen His guidance and clarity.
3. Pursue Purity: Reflect on areas where you need to seek accountability or change in your life. Ask a trusted friend for support in pursuing holiness.
4. Embrace Love: Identify a practical way to show love to someone in your life this week. It could be a simple act of kindness, a note of encouragement, or a gesture of support.
5. Utilize Your Gifts: Take time to identify your spiritual gifts. Consider joining a ministry or reaching out to someone who might need help in recognizing and using their gifts.

#### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the reminder that we are united as the body of Christ. Help me to promote unity and live in a way that reflects Your love. Empower me to utilize my gifts for the building up of Your church and to pursue purity in my conduct. Thank You for the hope of the resurrection and the assurance it brings to my life. Lead me to act with love and generosity towards others, standing firm in my faith. Amen.

#### **Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silent reflection. Ask God to reveal any areas in your life where you need to grow in unity, love, or service. Listen for His guidance and be open to His leading as you seek to live out your faith in a way that honors Him.

## **Day 12 - Devotional on 1 Corinthians 1-13; Galatians 1-6**

#### **Title - Living in Unity and Grace**

**Key Verse: Galatians 5:1** - "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

#### **Reflection:**

The letters of 1 Corinthians and Galatians together emphasize the significance of unity in the body of Christ, the centrality of love, and the grace of the gospel. Both Paul's addresses to the churches confront issues within their communities while offering profound truths that encourage believers to live authentically in their faith.

In 1 Corinthians 1, Paul begins by addressing divisions among the Corinthian believers. Their tendency to align with different leaders led to a fractured community. He reminds them that Christ crucified is the core of their faith. Reflect on your own relationships within the church community. Are there areas where divisions or misunderstandings have surfaced? How can you promote unity and remind yourself and others of the central focus on Christ?

In chapter 12, Paul illustrates the importance of each member's unique role in the body of Christ. Each spiritual gift contributes to the advancement of the church when used for edification. What gifts has God given you, and how are you using them to serve others? Consider ways you can encourage fellow believers to discover and utilize their gifts as well.

The famous chapter on love, 1 Corinthians 13, highlights the necessity of love as the foundation for all actions and service. Paul writes that without love, our gifts and actions are meaningless. How can you apply this truth in your life? Reflect on the nature of love described in this chapter and assess how you're embodying this love in your relationships.

Moving to Galatians, Paul passionately defends the true gospel against those promoting a distorted message of salvation through works. In Galatians 1, he emphasizes that the gospel is a gift of grace and not something we earn. Reflect on your own understanding of grace. Are there areas where you feel compelled to earn God's favor instead of resting in His unconditional love?

In Galatians 5, Paul articulates the freedom we have in Christ and urges believers not to return to the bondage of legalism. This freedom is meant to lead to a life of love and service to one another. How does knowing you are free in Christ impact your daily life? In what ways can you express that freedom through acts of love and service?

Paul also contrasts the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:19-23. This contrast challenges us to evaluate how we're living. Are there areas in your life where the works of the flesh are evident? How can you intentionally cultivate the fruit of the Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, patience, and kindness, in your interactions with others?

Finally, in Galatians 6, Paul encourages believers to bear one another's burdens and restore those who have fallen into sin with gentleness. This call to community care emphasizes the importance of accountability and compassion. Who in your life can you support or encourage today? How can you create a culture of grace and restoration within your community?

### **Application:**

1. Promote Unity: Identify a recent disagreement or division in your relationships within the church. Pray for reconciliation and take steps to foster unity and understanding.
2. Utilize Your Gifts: Reflect on your spiritual gifts and how you can use them in service to others. Consider volunteering in a ministry or initiating a project that utilizes your gifts.
3. Embody Love: Choose one way this week to demonstrate the love described in 1 Corinthians 13. It might be through an act of kindness, offering forgiveness, or simply being present for someone.
4. Rest in Grace: Spend time in prayer, acknowledging areas where you may be striving to earn God's favor. Allow His grace to wash over you and bring a sense of freedom.
5. Cultivate the Fruit of the Spirit: Identify one fruit of the Spirit you'd like to cultivate in your life. Set a specific goal for practicing this quality in your daily interactions.

### **Prayer:**

Gracious Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Your Son and the freedom we have in Christ. Help me to live in unity with others and to embody love in all my relationships. Teach me to rest in Your grace and to recognize my spiritual gifts for the benefit of others. May I bear the fruit of the Spirit in my daily life and seek to support and restore those around me. Empower me to live boldly for You and to promote a culture of grace within my community. Amen.

**Contemplation:**

Spend a few moments in silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to speak to you about areas where you need to grow in unity, love, or grace. Listen for His guidance and be open to His leading in your relationships and your journey of faith.

## **Day 13 -Devotional on Ephesians 1–6; Philippians 1–4; Colossians 1–4; 1 Thessalonians 1–5**

### **Title: Living in Christ: Identity, Joy, and Hope**

**Key Verse:** Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast."

**Reflection:**

The letters to the Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians are rich in themes of identity, purpose, joy, and hope in Christ. Together, these passages guide us in understanding who we are as believers and how we are called to live out our faith in community.

In Ephesians 1, Paul highlights our identity in Christ and the spiritual blessings bestowed upon us. We are chosen, adopted, and redeemed. This foundational truth invites us to reflect on how often we define ourselves by our successes, failures, or circumstances rather than by our identity in Christ. How can you cultivate a mindset that embraces your identity as a beloved child of God?

As we move to Philippians, Paul's theme of joy is evident, even amidst trials. In Philippians 1, he expresses gratitude for the partnership in the gospel, encouraging believers to find joy in their shared journey of faith. How can you foster a spirit of gratitude in your life? Consider writing down three things you're thankful for each day to cultivate joy.

In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul exhorts us not to be anxious but to present our requests to God with thanksgiving. The promise that the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds is a source of comfort. Reflect on your anxieties—what are you holding onto that you can surrender to God today? How might prayer and thanksgiving change your perspective?

Turning to Colossians, Paul emphasizes the supremacy of Christ and encourages believers to set their minds on things above (Colossians 3:2). This call to focus on eternal values challenges us to prioritize our relationship with Christ over worldly distractions. What steps can you take to keep your focus on Christ and cultivate your spiritual growth?

The practical teachings in Colossians 3 about relationships—how to live in harmony in our homes and workplace—remind us that our faith should influence all areas of our lives. Reflect on your relationships

with family, friends, and coworkers. How can you apply the principles of love, forgiveness, and humility in your daily interactions?

In 1 Thessalonians, Paul commends the believers for their faith, love, and hope. He encourages them to remain steadfast in the face of persecution. Chapter 5 contains practical exhortations on living in light of Christ's return, emphasizing the importance of encouragement and building each other up. Are there individuals in your life who need your support and encouragement? How can you actively reach out to them?

The repeated call to rejoice in the Lord as seen in Philippians 4:4 reinforces the theme of finding joy in all circumstances. How does this perspective of joy influence your daily life and interactions with others?

Finally, the greetings and blessings at the end of these letters serve to remind us that we are not alone in our journey. We walk together as a community of believers. Consider how you can nurture your relationships within your church and actively participate in the body of Christ.

#### **Application:**

1. Embrace Your Identity: Spend time in prayer, reflecting on what it means to be chosen and redeemed. Write down affirmations based on Scripture that reflect your identity in Christ.
2. Cultivate Gratitude: Make it a daily practice to express gratitude. Each day, write down three things you are thankful for and how they reflect God's blessings in your life.
3. Surrender Anxiety: Identify anxieties or worries you are holding onto. Take a moment to pray and surrender them to God, asking for His peace to fill your heart.
4. Focus on Christ: Set aside time to read and meditate on Scripture that emphasizes Christ's supremacy. Consider how you can align your daily priorities with the values of the kingdom.
5. Support Others: Reach out to someone who may need encouragement. Send a note, make a phone call, or offer your support in a practical way to uplift them.

#### **Prayer:**

Gracious Father, thank You for the rich truths in Your Word that remind me of my identity in Christ and the hope I have in You. Help me to embrace my calling to live with joy, even amidst challenges. Teach me to focus on You and to nurture my relationships within the body of Christ. May Your peace guard my heart and guide my actions as I seek to be a source of encouragement to others. Amen.

#### **Contemplation:**

Take a moment in silence to listen for God's voice. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas of your life that need more attention, growth, or healing. Be open to His leading as you embrace your journey of faith in Christ.

## **Day 14 - Devotional on 2 Thessalonians 1–3; 1 Timothy 1–6; 2 Timothy 1–4; Titus 1–3; Philemon**

**Title: Grounded in Faith: Encouragement, Leadership, and Reconciliation**

**Key Verse:** 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

**Reflection:**

The letters of Paul to the Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus, and Philemon provide profound insights into the Christian life, emphasizing encouragement, sound leadership, and the practice of reconciliation. As we explore these passages, we are reminded of our responsibilities in faith and the grace that empowers us to fulfill them.

In 2 Thessalonians, Paul addresses the community's struggles with perseverance amidst persecution. He reassures them of the faithfulness of God and the hope of Christ's return. Reflect on your own trials. How can you draw strength from the promises of God during difficult times? Consider ways you can encourage others who may be facing challenges.

1 Timothy focuses on the importance of sound doctrine and pastoral leadership. In 1 Timothy 4:12, Paul encourages Timothy to be an example to the believers in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity. This call to exemplify faith in action applies to all believers. What areas of your life can you intentionally improve to reflect Christ more clearly? Are there specific actions you can take to be a role model for others?

In 2 Timothy, Paul writes to encourage Timothy to remain steadfast in his faith. Paul's reminder of the "spirit of power and love" serves as a source of comfort and strength. How does understanding that God equips you with power and love impact your willingness to step out in faith? Identify a situation where you can respond with courage and love as Paul did.

Titus emphasizes the importance of good works and sound teaching within the church. In Titus 2:7-8, Paul instructs Titus to set an example by doing what is good and showing integrity. Reflect on your role within your community. How can you actively promote good deeds and sound teaching in your interactions with others?

In Philemon, Paul appeals for reconciliation between Philemon and his runaway slave, Onesimus. This letter beautifully illustrates the power of forgiveness and the Christian call to reconciliation. Are there relationships in your life that need mending? Reflect on how you can extend grace and seek restoration in those situations.

Throughout these letters, Paul consistently encourages believers to be grounded in faith and to live out their beliefs in practical ways. Each passage reinforces the idea that the Christian life is active and communal. How can you actively participate in building up the body of Christ in your local community?

**Application:**

1. Find Strength in Trials: Think of a current challenge you face. Write down specific promises in Scripture that you can cling to for encouragement during this time.
2. Model Christ's Example: Identify one area of your conduct that requires attention. How can you set a positive example in your relationships, workplace, or community?
3. Respond with Courage: Reflect on a fear that has held you back from stepping out in faith. Pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to help you act with courage.
4. Promote Good Works: Look for opportunities to engage in acts of kindness within your community. Whether by volunteering or fellowshipping with others, seek to make a positive impact.

5. Seek Reconciliation: Think of a strained relationship in your life. Take a step toward mending that relationship by reaching out, apologizing, or offering forgiveness.

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the teachings found in these letters that guide us in our faith. Help me to find strength in You during my trials and to model Christ-like behavior in all my interactions. Give me the courage to overcome my fears and to promote good works within my community. May I extend grace and seek reconciliation where it is needed. Empower me through Your Spirit to live out my faith authentically. Amen.

**Contemplation:**

Spend a quiet moment in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal any lingering areas in your heart or relationships that need attention. Listen for His guidance and be receptive to the work He may be doing in and through you.