



20 MORE

CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AND OUR FUTURE

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DAY



SEEK MORE CHEERFUL SACRIFICE

Read

2 Corinthians 9:5-12

Reflection

Sacrifice doesn't look the same for each person. Many assume it is always money, but some are quick to throw money at a situation, instead of sacrificing their time. What is most precious to you? What is most difficult to offer to God as a willing sacrifice? Verse 7 reminds us that sacrifice is a heart issue. God wants our cheerful heart of giving, more than He wants our token, begrudging obedience. The promise of God is more than just to match us gift for gift. He is the God of all-sufficiency, offering much more than just money. He offers all we will need to abound in the good works He has for us.

Response:

Start by thanking God for all you have; every good thing we have comes from Him. Confess the times your sacrifice has been with a resentful heart. Pray for a heart of wisdom and obedience towards what He is calling you to offer Him.

Notes:

DAY 10



SEEK TO BE MORE DESPERATE

Read

Psalm 63

Reflection

This Psalm has been called “A Praise from the Wilderness”. David was crying out to God, voicing his dependence and praise. Throughout the psalm are powerful words/phrases like “earnestly seek,” “soul thirsts,” “satisfied,” and “my soul clings.” What would your praise of desperation sound like? David doesn’t treat his desperation as a shameful thing, but rather a beautiful reality. Have you ever felt desperate for God, or just desperate for Him to meet a need? What would it look like to recognize your daily need for Him, and act upon that need?

Response:

Pray for a heart that is desperate for God. Acknowledge the ways you try to be self-sufficient, and voice some phrases that show your own praise of desperation.

Notes:

DAY 12



SEEK TO DO MORE KINGDOM WORK

Read Matthew 9:35-38

Reflection There were probably not many differences between the towns that Jesus went through. Each place would have had the same needs. But Jesus never let that stop Him from seeing the people, and having compassion. Are there times when you get so tired of the same struggles and problems that you stop seeing the individual people? Is it easier to group them in categories and find solutions, instead of knowing them? Jesus saw them as He saw us at one time: sheep in need of a shepherd. He sees the harvest of those whom He loved, and invites all who believe in Him to be a part of the work. Verse 36 tells us that Jesus saw the people and had compassion. Are your compassion and love being affected by frustrations with current culture? Do you see people as a harvest, or a hassle?

Response: Pray that God would break your heart for His people. He has come that none would perish, and all would believe. Pray that He would make you sensitive to His work, and give you wisdom and love.

Notes:

DAY 16



SEEK TO ASK WITH MORE CONFIDENCE

Read

1 John 3:21-24, 5:14-15

Reflection

It is one thing to have confidence that God is big enough to handle our salvation. But often that confidence doesn't translate to our prayer life. John wanted Christ-followers to grasp that their confidence didn't need to be limited to salvation. It was because of their salvation that they could have confidence in everything else. Have you had times when your requests to God were full of doubts that He listened or cared? What keeps you from asking God for your needs with confidence? Verse 14 gives us a key to asking with confidence. Anything we ask "according to His will," we can know that He hears. How should this truth change the way that we pray?

Response:

Pray for God to act "according to His will" in each of your requests. Practice trusting His will, and thank Him for hearing your prayers.

Notes:

DAY 17



SEEK MORE OF HIS STRENGTH

Read Isaiah 40:28-31

Reflection What attributes of God do you see as you read this passage? There is no doubt that we will grow weary and exhausted in this life. But instead of focusing on how we can push through it on our own, the prophet reminds us of the access we have to Almighty God. He is one who shares His strength, not on a whim, but as a part who He is. Our role is to wait for the Lord. Some translations say “they who hope,” or “they who trust,” which reminds us that our job is to maintain our relationship with God while He does the work of strengthening us. How often is your focus on surviving in your strength, instead of God’s might? What would it look like to wait on His renewal, and rest in Him?

Response: What is making your soul weary right now? Take time to pray over the specific burden(s), and ask God to help you rest in His might. Ask God for the strength you need, trusting that He is faithful to give it.

Notes:

DAY 18

SEEK MORE OF HIS ABUNDANCE

Read Matthew 6:19-33, John 10:10

Reflection What stands out to you when you compare earthly and heavenly treasures? Scripture makes clear which ones are most valuable and permanent, yet most of our time is focused on things of earthly value. Christ doesn't shame His followers for their desire for earthly provisions, but He reminds them that those elements shouldn't be the first concern. What are the treasures that are your first thought? Are these things ones that you can trust God to provide? Matthew says to seek God, and all things will be added to us. John tells us that Christ has come so that we would have abundant life on earth. Do you think your definition of abundant life is the same as God's? Would it be difficult for you to trust that God's abundance is the best?

Response: Pray that God will teach you what it means to seek His kingdom first, and then believe He will provide the rest. Think through your definition of abundance. Is it based on treasures of this world, or things that God treasures? Pray that God would give you a heart and mind to desire His kingdom above all.

Notes:

DAY 19



SEEK MORE TRUTH

Read John 8:31-36, John 17:17, Acts 17:10-11

Reflection What is truth? That is a million dollar question these days; but as believers, the source of truth should be clear. It doesn't come from a political party or media outlet. Where are you getting what you believe as truth? Scripture tells us that the ultimate source of truth is God. And it is through His Words that we are to find the truth in which we place our hope. How do you know what is true? John 8:31 tells us that to know the truth, we must abide or dwell in God's Word. Be honest: is this the kind of truth you are seeking right now? Most of us want a truth that matches what we believe. Do you let your beliefs drive the truth you believe? Acts 17 tells us about Jews who were living in truths. What were they doing with all the teaching they heard? Do you test what you hear against the truth of God's Word? Do you find yourself being more concerned with truth, or being right?

Response: Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide you in all truth, and that He would reveal any "truths" of this world that are distorting your view of God's truth.

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