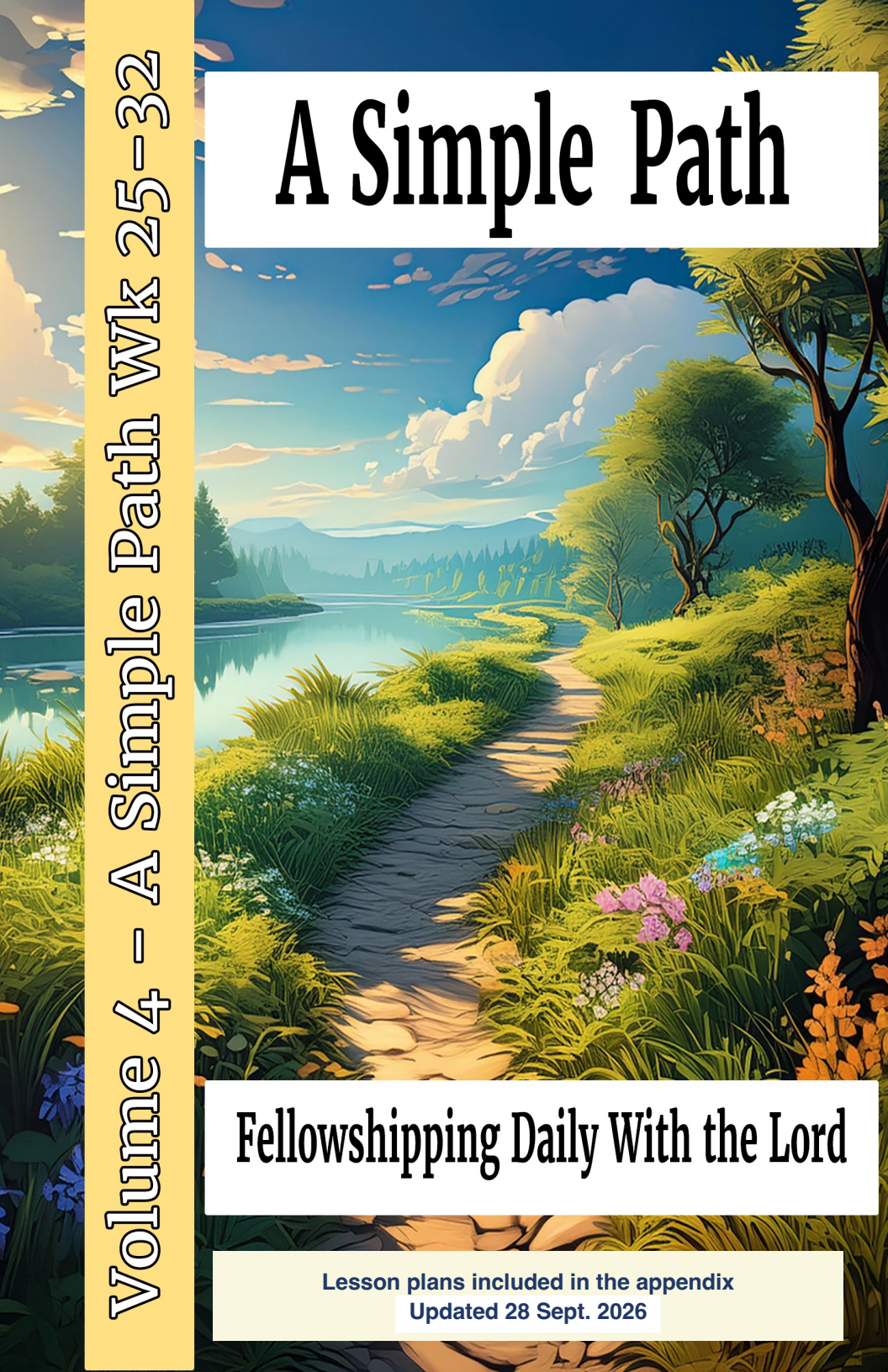

Volume 4 - A Simple Path Wk 25-32
A Simple Path
Fellowshipping Daily With the Lord
Lesson plans included in the appendix
Updated 28 Sept. 2026

A Simple Path Volume 4

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About “A Simple Path”

Fellowshipping Daily With the Lord

“A Simple Path” is a devotional journal series by Patrick Wright of Loudon, Tennessee. It was written for one purpose: to help believers build the habit of meeting with God every day. Many Christians want a daily quiet time but struggle to set aside the time, or turn to God only when a crisis demands it. This series offers a simple, dependable pattern: a verse, a short reflection, a prayer, and a few lines to write down what God is saying. It is meant to become part of each morning.

The series has five volumes covering forty weeks, eight weeks per volume. Each booklet is a small journal, meant to be written in, carried along, and kept.

How the Journal Works

Every day’s devotion is built around the Seven Aspects of a Disciple of Christ:

- Praise and Worship
- Discipleship
- Humility
- Acknowledgment
- Acceptance
- Obedience
- Identification — recognizing the needs of others and looking for ways to serve them

Each week walks through all seven, one aspect per day, so the reader practices the full life of a disciple rather than a single theme.

A typical day is one page. It begins with the day’s aspect and a Scripture passage set apart in its own box. A brief devotional reflection follows, kept short on purpose so the reader’s attention stays on God’s Word rather than the author’s

comments. The page ends with room to write any reaction, insight, or personal message from God, and space to offer a short prayer. Each week opens with a Praise verse to turn the reader's focus from self to God. It closes with a "Week Completed" page of honest reflection questions that ask, in effect: did I truly meet with Him this week, or just go through the motions?

More Than a Devotional

Each volume opens with helps that make it useful for new believers and seasoned disciples alike:

- **A Daily Quiet Time** — the author's own reflection on how he begins each morning with God, with practical steps for getting started.
- **Praise Verses to Get You Started** — a collection of praise passages from both Testaments.
- **The Way of Salvation** — a clear, Scripture-based explanation of the gospel with a prayer of faith.
- **My Salvation Testimony** and **Your Salvation Testimony** — the author's story, and a guided page for readers to write theirs.
- **Personal Discipleship Survey** — an honest self-assessment of growth in God's Word, love for God, love for others, and making disciples.

For Groups

Every volume includes a Leader's Guide with a welcome for group leaders, a quick reference to the Seven Aspects, and a lesson plan for each week. Each session has a theme and goal, an opening question, a time of worship, a day-by-day discussion of the week's devotions, and a closing prayer. The Volume 1 guide ends with "Where to Go Next," which helps a group look back on its eight weeks and decide how to continue. That makes the series well suited to Sunday school classes, small groups, and one-on-one discipleship.

The Path Through the Volumes

Volume 1 (Weeks 1–8) lays the foundation:

- **Walk Humbly** — each day begins by humbling ourselves before God rather than managing our own day.
- **Led by the Spirit** — moving from following the Seven Aspects in our own strength to depending on the Holy Spirit.
- **Walking in Wisdom** — telling God's wisdom from the world's, and finding His power in our weakness.
- **Seeking God's Face** — seeking Him even in seasons when He feels distant or silent.
- **Cheerful Service** — moving from service out of duty to service from the heart.
- **Renewed Strength** — waiting on God in times of weariness and spiritual plateaus.
- **Things Above** — fixing our minds on Christ against the pull of spiritual drift.
- **Full Circle** — returning to the gospel itself, where it all began.

Volume 2 (Weeks 9–16) walks through those same eight themes a second time with new Scripture passages, deepening what was begun and building the rhythm into a lasting habit.

Volume 3 (Weeks 17–24) — trust and obedience, worship in spirit and truth, God's sovereign hand, the Holy Spirit's greater works, the peace that surpasses understanding, contentment, and being chosen and called.

Volume 4 (Weeks 25–32) — the foundation of faith, God's power in our weakness, finishing strong, discipling one's family, and deepening devotion through gratitude.

Volume 5 (Weeks 33–40) — the Father's loving discipline, God's nearness to all who call on Him, rejoicing through trials, the living and active Word, and committing one's ways to the Lord's wisdom.

Who It’s For

“A Simple Path” is for anyone who wants to grow closer to Jesus Christ through daily time in His Word. It suits new Christians learning to walk with God, longtime believers seeking a fresh rhythm, and leaders looking for a ready-made discipleship tool. Its promise is simple: faithful time with God each day produces a heart that wants to follow Jesus more — and that desire is the Holy Spirit at work.

A Daily Quiet Time

When I get up each morning, I head straight to the recliner where I keep the journal I use and a Bible—normally I use a Bible app. But my mind is usually buzzing with thoughts of the day ahead or leftover thoughts from yesterday, and I am not yet focused on my Father in heaven. An explanation of how to have a daily quiet time follows, and this journal even includes sample verses you can use. What I want to emphasize is the importance of getting yourself out of quiet time, at least at the start—and the only way to do that is to focus on our Heavenly Father through praise. Sometimes I begin by listening to praise songs, but 99 percent of the time I read and reflect on praise verses—there are plenty of sources for these online. I don't normally write anything down at that point. To help you get into the habit, I am including a list of praise verses below. Begin by focusing on these verses, reading as many as you need until you have allowed our Father to remove self from you and you are focusing on Him.

A quiet time is simply this: a set-apart time, every day, to be alone with God — to listen for His voice in Scripture, to speak honestly with Him in prayer, and to let Him shape how you meet the day ahead. Even Jesus, in the middle of a demanding ministry, made this a priority.

> *"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed."*
>
> ***Mark 1:35***

If He needed that rhythm, so do we. A daily walk with God does not happen automatically — it grows in the quiet, unhurried minutes we choose to give Him before the day takes over.

Getting started is simple: pick a quiet place, and keep your Bible, this study, and a journal within reach so you can write down what God shows you.

When His disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He gave them a pattern that still works for opening a quiet time—praise, surrender to His will, daily dependence, confession, and protection from temptation (Matthew 6:9–13).

A quiet time can follow this simple pattern:

1. Praise — open by speaking about who God is, turning back to Him, using a scripture verse.
2. Confess — ask God to reveal anything blocking your fellowship with Him and ask forgiveness.
3. Read — open His Word and read a passage slowly.
4. Reflect and note — dwell on what you read and write down what God shows you.
5. Pray — thank Him for what He is doing and ask for His guidance.
6. Share — before the day is done, share what God showed you with someone else.

That last step matters more than it might seem. The goal is not just to be discipled, but to become a disciple who disciples — investing in others who will, in turn, invest in someone else.

It does not need to be long or complicated. A Simple Path stays simple on purpose, so the habit is one you can keep — the same time, the same quiet place, the same open Bible, day after day, until it becomes as natural as breathing. What matters is not how long you stay, but that you show up and keep showing up.

Praise Verses to Get You Started

Combined list of scripture references on praise, gathered for further study, so you do not have to look them up (NASB unless noted):

Old Testament

Job 26:7
He stretches out the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.

2 Samuel 22:26-27
With the faithful, You prove Yourself faithful; with the blameless, You prove Yourself blameless; with the pure, You prove Yourself pure, but with the crooked, You prove Yourself shrewd.

1 Chronicles 16:36
Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to everlasting. Then all the people said, "Amen," and praised the LORD.

1 Chronicles 29:11-13
Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name.

Psalm 7:17
I will give thanks to the LORD according to His righteousness And will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

Psalm 9:1
I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.

Psalm 21:13
Be exalted, O LORD, in Your strength; We will sing and praise Your power.

Psalm 22:26
The afflicted will eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever!

Psalm 28:6-7
Blessed be the LORD, Because He has heard the voice of my supplication. The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.

Psalm 30:11-12
You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness, That my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Psalm 31:7
I will rejoice and be glad in Your lovingkindness, Because You have seen my affliction; You have known the troubles of my soul,

Psalm 33:1-5
Sing for joy in the LORD, O you righteous ones; Praise is becoming to the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings. Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy. For the word of the LORD is upright, And all His work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Psalm 34:1-2
I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice.

Psalm 73:26
My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 86:12
I will give thanks to You, Lord my God, with all my heart, and will glorify Your name forever.

Psalm 89:6
For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty is like the LORD,

Psalm 92:1
It is good to give thanks to the LORD And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

Psalm 95:3
For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Psalm 95:6-8a
Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand

Psalm 100:1-2
Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with jubilation; Come

Psalm 100:3-5
Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name. For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting And His faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 101:1
I will sing of lovingkindness and justice, To You, O LORD, I will sing praises.

Psalm 103:2
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits.

Psalm 105:1-2
Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of all His wonders.

Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31
Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!

Psalm 109:30
With my mouth I will give thanks abundantly to the LORD; And in the midst of many I will praise Him.

Psalm 111:1
Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart, In the company of the upright and in the assembly.

Psalm 115:18
But as for us, we will bless the LORD From this time forth and forever. Praise the LORD!

Psalm 117:1
Praise the LORD, all nations; Laud Him, all peoples!

Psalm 118:19, 28-29
Open to me the gates of righteousness; I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the LORD... You are my God, and I give thanks to You; You are my God, I extol You. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Psalm 118:24
This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 135:3
Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is lovely.

Psalm 143:8
Cause me to hear Your loving kindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.

Psalm 145:1-2
I will exalt You, my God, the King, And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever.

Psalm 145:8

The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and great in lovingkindness.

Psalm 145:16-18

You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. The Lord is righteous in all His ways and kind in all His deeds. The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

Psalm 146:1-2

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD while I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Psalm 147:12

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Psalm 150:1-2

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse. Praise Him for His mighty deeds; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 45:12

I am the one who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts.

Isaiah 45:18

For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), 'I am the Lord, and there is none else.'

Isaiah 46:9-10

Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure.' **Jeremiah 17:14**

Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed; Save me and I will be saved, For You are my praise.

Zephaniah 3:14
Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

New Testament

Luke 2:20
The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

John 17:3
Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Romans 15:11
And again, "Praise the Lord all you Gentiles, And let all the peoples praise Him."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Colossians 3:17
Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Philippians 4:4
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

1 Thessalonians 5:16
Rejoice always;

Hebrews 4:12
For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

1 Peter 1:8
and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

Revelation 15:4

Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, For Your righteous acts have been revealed.

THE WAY OF SALVATION

A Simple, Bible-Based Guide to Knowing Christ

Lesson plans for teaching are included.

> *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."*
>
> **Ephesians 2:8–9**

A Simple Guide to What the Bible Teaches About Salvation

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An Important Question

Every person eventually faces the most important question: "What must I do to be saved?" It is the same question a jailer once asked the apostle Paul in the middle of the night (Acts 16:30). This booklet walks through what the Bible teaches about that question — simply, and in Scripture's own words.

Nothing here depends on your background, your family, your church attendance, or your good works. It depends entirely on what God has already done, and what He invites you to do in response.

1. Everyone Needs to Be Saved

The Bible teaches that every person, without exception, has sinned against God and fallen short of His perfect standard.

> *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*
>
> **Romans 3:23**

Sin is not just "breaking rules." It is choosing our own way over God's way — and it separates us from Him.

> *"But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear."*
>
> **Isaiah 59:2**

Left on our own, the consequence of sin is spiritual death — eternal separation from God.

> *"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*
>
> **Romans 6:23**

No amount of good behavior can undo this. Trying to earn our way back to God through good works is like trying to pay off an infinite debt — it simply cannot be done by human effort.

2. God Loves You and Makes a Way

As hopeless as our situation is on our own, God did not leave us there. Because of His great love, He made a way for us to be forgiven and reconciled to Him.

> *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."*
>
> **John 3:16**

God's Son, Jesus Christ, lived a sinless life and then willingly died on the cross, taking the punishment that our sin deserved. Three days later, He rose from the dead — proving His victory over sin and death.

> *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*
>
> **Romans 5:8**

> *"He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed."*
>
> **1 Peter 2:24**

Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation — not one option among many.

> *"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.'"*
>
> **John 14:6**

> *"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."*
>
> **Acts 4:12**

3. Salvation Is a Gift, Not a Reward

Because Jesus already paid the full price, we cannot earn salvation. We receive it as a gift, by grace, through faith alone.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Ephesians 2:8–9

"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy."

Titus 3:5

This is central to what the Bible teaches: salvation is God's work from beginning to end. Church membership, baptism, and good works are important responses to salvation — but none of them save you. Only Christ saves.

4. How to Respond: Repent and Believe

God offers this gift freely, but you must receive it. The Bible describes two sides of the same response: turning away from sin (repentance) and trusting in Christ (faith).

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

Acts 3:19

"That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

Romans 10:9–10

"For 'Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

Romans 10:13

Repentance is not merely feeling sorry — it is a genuine change of direction, turning from sin toward God. Faith is not merely believing facts about Jesus — it is personally trusting Him, and Him alone, to save you.

5. A Prayer of Faith

There is no magic formula or specific wording required to be saved — salvation happens the moment a person genuinely turns from sin and trusts Christ. But putting that decision into words can help make it real and personal. If this is your desire, you might pray something like this:

> *"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I cannot save myself. I believe You died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead. Right now, I turn from my sin and place my trust in You alone as my Lord and Savior. Thank You for the gift of eternal life. Amen."*

If you prayed that prayer and meant it with your heart, the Bible says you have been saved — not because of the words themselves, but because of the genuine faith and repentance behind them.

6. You Can Know You Are Saved

Once you have trusted Christ, God does not want you to wonder whether it "worked." The Bible teaches that believers can have confident assurance of their salvation.

> *"And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."*
>
> **1 John 5:11–13**

This assurance rests on the character and promises of God, not on our feelings or performance. Scripture teaches that those who are truly saved are kept secure by God's power — often called the "perseverance of the saints" or "eternal security."

> *"I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of*

the Father's hand."

John 10:28–29

"You were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory."

Ephesians 1:13–14

A life that is truly changed by Christ will, over time, show the fruit of that change — not to earn salvation, but as evidence of it (James 2:17–18). If you are trusting Christ, rest in His promise, not in your own performance.

7. What Comes Next: Baptism

Baptism does not save you — only faith in Christ does that. But it is the first step of obedience the Bible calls every believer to take: full immersion in water, for those old enough to profess personal faith (sometimes called "believer's baptism").

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 28:19

"So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls."

Acts 2:41

Being immersed in water and raised back up pictures the truth of the gospel itself — Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and our own death to the old life and new life in Him.

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."

Romans 6:3–4

If you have trusted Christ and have not yet been baptized, talk with a pastor at a local, Bible-believing church about being baptized as your public declaration of faith.

8. Join a Local Church

God's plan for every believer includes belonging to a local church — a gathered community of baptized believers who worship together, study God's Word, encourage one another, and carry out the Great Commission together.

> *"Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near."*
>
> **Hebrews 10:24–25**

Scripture affirms what is often called the "priesthood of the believer" — every Christian has direct access to God through Christ and a personal responsibility to know and live out God's Word, within the accountability and encouragement of a local church family.

> *"But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."*
>
> **1 Peter 2:9**

9. Growing in Your New Life

Coming to faith in Christ is the beginning, not the end. The Bible calls every believer to grow — becoming more like Jesus over a lifetime.

> *"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."*
>
> **2 Peter 3:18**

A few simple habits help that growth take root:

- Read God's Word daily — start with the Gospel of John.

• Talk to God in prayer — praise, confession, thanksgiving, and requests.

• Get baptized and join a Bible-believing local church.

• Gather regularly with other believers for worship and encouragement.

• Tell others what Christ has done for you.

"And He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"

Matthew 4:19

If You Have Trusted Christ Today

If, through this booklet, you have turned from your sin and placed your trust in Jesus Christ, you have been born again into God's family (John 1:12–13). We encourage you to tell a pastor, a Christian friend, or someone at a local church about your decision, and to take the next step of being baptized.

Welcome to the family of God.

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

2 Corinthians 5:17

THE WAY OF SALVATION

A Single-Session Gospel Lesson

> *"That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."*
> **Romans 10:9–10**

Duration	45–60 minutes
Learning Objective	Participants will understand, in Scripture's own words, why every person needs salvation, what God has done to provide it, and how to respond in genuine repentance and faith — with a clear opportunity to do so during the session.
Materials Needed	Bibles, one copy of "The Way of Salvation" booklet per person, pens, and a quiet space for anyone who wishes to pray privately with a leader afterward.

Lesson Flow

Time	Segment	Leader Notes
5 min	**Opening**	Welcome, opening prayer. Ask: "If you died tonight and stood before God, and He asked why He should let you into heaven, what would you say?" Let a few people answer if comfortable — no correcting yet, just listening.
10 min	**The Problem**	Walk through booklet sections 1–2 (pp.2–3): all have sinned, sin separates us from God, and the wages of sin is death — but God loves us and made a way through Christ.

Time	Segment	Leader Notes
10 min	**The Gift**	Walk through section 3 (p.3): salvation is by grace through faith, not works. Emphasize Ephesians 2:8–9 — it cannot be earned.
10 min	**Respond**	Walk through section 4 (p.4): repentance and faith. Read the sample prayer in section 5 (p.5) together. Give a quiet moment for anyone who wants to pray it personally and offer to pray with anyone one-on-one afterward.
10 min	**Assurance & Next Steps**	Cover sections 6–9 (pp.5–7): assurance of salvation, baptism, the local church, and growing in faith.
5 min	**Closing**	Answer any questions, pray for the group, and point people to the discussion questions below for follow-up.

Key Teaching Points

Everyone needs to be saved.

- Romans 3:23 — all have sinned and fall short of God's glory.
- Romans 6:23 — the wage of sin is death, but eternal life is a free gift.

God loves you and makes a way.

- John 3:16 — God gave His Son so that whoever believes will not perish.
- Romans 5:8 — Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
- John 14:6 — Jesus is the only way to the Father.

Salvation is a gift, not earned.

- Ephesians 2:8–9 — by grace through faith, not of works, so no one may boast.

Respond with repentance and faith.

- Acts 3:19 — repent and turn, so your sins may be wiped away.
- Romans 10:9–10 — confess with your mouth, believe in your heart.

Assurance is possible.

- 1 John 5:11–13 — you may know that you have eternal life.

- John 10:28–29 — no one can snatch a believer out of God's hand.

What follows salvation.

- Baptism by immersion as a public declaration of faith (not a means of salvation).
- Joining a local church for worship, encouragement, and growth.
- Daily habits: Scripture reading, prayer, fellowship, and sharing your story with others.

Leading Someone in the Prayer of Faith

If someone indicates they want to trust Christ during or after the session, keep it simple and unhurried:

- Ask them to describe, in their own words, what they believe about their sin and about Jesus — don't assume; let them tell you.
- Remind them there is no special wording required — what matters is genuine repentance and trust, not the words themselves.
- Offer the sample prayer in the booklet (p.5) as one way to put that decision into words, either silently or aloud, in their own words.
- Afterward, ask what they just did in their own words, to confirm understanding rather than a rote repetition.
- Point them immediately to section 6 on p.5 (assurance) so they leave confident, not just "hoping it worked."

Discussion Questions

- Before this session, how would you have answered the question 'What must I do to be saved?' How would you answer it now?
- Why does it matter that salvation is a gift rather than something earned? What difference does that make in how you relate to God?
- What is one step — baptism, joining a church, telling someone your story
  — that you sense God is calling you to take this week?

Follow-Up for Participants

- Re-read "The Way of Salvation" on your own this week and underline anything that stood out.

- If you trusted Christ today, tell one other person — a friend, family member, or the leader — this week.
- If you haven't been baptized since coming to faith, talk to a pastor about scheduling it.
- Begin reading the Gospel of John, a chapter at a time, as your first step into regular Scripture reading.

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

2 Corinthians 5:17

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Preface to “A Simple Path”

Volume 4 · Weeks 25–32

> *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*
>
> ***Matthew 11:28-30***

This is the fourth volume of “A Simple Path,” covering Weeks 25 through 32. By now you have completed 24 weeks of daily quiet time — or fewer, if you sometimes did more than one devotion a day. Personally, I have written a whole week’s devotion each morning.

“A Simple Path” stays simple so you can keep building the habit of daily quiet time. My comments after each verse are short on purpose, so you can focus on listening to God’s voice. As you have come to love the Lord with more passion, your quiet times have become longer and deeper in scriptural understanding.

This volume begins with the foundation of our faith, from God’s creative power to the peace Christ gives, and shows how His power grows in our weakness. From there we deepen our walk by hearing and speaking His truth, and we live out our purpose by trading pride for joyful service.

The later weeks call us to finish strong, to live out our faith at home by discipling our families, and to deepen our devotion through gratitude and time in His Word. The final week brings us full circle, from continuous praise to proclaiming forgiveness and hope.

Lesson plans for small-group leaders are included at the back of this booklet. I challenge you to continue through these devotionals until God moves you to other devotionals — or maybe you will create your own.

— Patrick Wright
Loudon, Tennessee
Patrick@asimplepath.org

How to Use This Study

The Seven Aspects of a Disciple of Christ

1. Praise and Worship— You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.
2. Discipleship— Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior, and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.
3. Humility— You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.
4. Acknowledgment— Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.
5. Acceptance— God is calling, and you have accepted His call. You care for people.
6. Obedience— You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.
7. Identification— Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Use the seven aspects daily, starting when we get up. In our quiet time, we begin with praise and worship, using a scripture verse. We humble ourselves by submitting to God our Heavenly Father. From there, we watch closely for what new situation God is preparing for us that day.

God has a plan for our ministry, and He will reveal it as we serve Him. When He reveals His plan, we accept and begin serving His people by His power.

Missions and ministry require preparation and a lifestyle of serving Christ— either professionally or as a part-time volunteer. Both require commitment to daily Bible study. Your spiritual growth under the leadership of Jesus Christ will not happen automatically.

Personal Discipleship Survey

Mark U (Usually), S (Sometimes), or N (Never) for each statement.

Truth — God's Word	**U**	**S**	**N**
I accept the Bible as God's word	☐	☐	☐
I read the Bible daily	☐	☐	☐
I memorize scriptures	☐	☐	☐
I attend Sunday School	☐	☐	☐
I study the Bible at home	☐	☐	☐
I am part of a group Bible study	☐	☐	☐
I feel I am growing spiritually as I study God's word	☐	☐	☐
God speaks to me through His word	☐	☐	☐

Love God	**U**	**S**	**N**
I love God with my all	☐	☐	☐
I seek God whenever I make decisions	☐	☐	☐
I feel close to God	☐	☐	☐
I spend time with God in prayer and Bible study	☐	☐	☐
I experience specific answers to prayer	☐	☐	☐
Each day my prayers include praise, thanksgiving, confession, intercession	☐	☐	☐
I work in a specific ministry to which God has called me	☐	☐	☐

Love Others	**U**	**S**	**N**
I regularly pray for others	☐	☐	☐
I tell others about my faith in Jesus Christ	☐	☐	☐
I actively minister to others	☐	☐	☐
I seek to live in peace with others	☐	☐	☐
I keep a list of prayer concerns	☐	☐	☐
God shows me people He wants me to disciple	☐	☐	☐
Others know I am a Christian by the way I treat others	☐	☐	☐

Multiplying Discipleship	**U**	**S**	**N**
I am part of a group of multiplying disciples	☐	☐	☐
I am being mentored by a Disciple Maker	☐	☐	☐
I am discipling another Christian	☐	☐	☐
I am witnessing to specific lost friends	☐	☐	☐

Summary of the Eight Weeks

Week 25 — Foundation of Faith

Establishes the bedrock of Christian living. Marvel at God's creative power, accept that suffering and blessing coexist in discipleship, and discover your purpose: sharing Christ's peace with a hurting world.

Week 26 — Growing in God's Power

God's strength is perfected in our weakness. Through self-examination, generosity, and obedience, let the Holy Spirit work through your limitations.

Week 27 — Deepening Your Walk

Spiritual maturity through authentic worship, daily listening, and remembering God's faithfulness. Scripture transitions from a personal resource to a ministry tool.

Week 28 — Living Out Your Purpose

Serve with the humble, sacrificial spirit of Jesus. Guard against pride, deny distractions, and find true fulfillment through Christ-centered self-denial.

Week 29 — Finishing Strong

Addresses the persistent danger of pride and calls you back to singular focus: proclaiming Jesus Christ with accountability, self-denial, and joyful trust.

Week 30 — Living Out Your Faith

Authentic faith lived out through family, service, and sacrificial giving. Your home is your first mission field and your family your first disciples.

Week 31 — Deepening Devotion

Deeper intimacy with God through meditation on His Word, seeking His wisdom, and expressing gratitude for those who labor faithfully in ministry.

Week 32 — Full Circle

Continuous praise, daily solitude, unwavering righteousness, unity with believers, and the joyful proclamation of forgiveness. Your transformed life is your testimony.

May God bless your journey along this simple path.

Patrick Wright · Loudon, Tennessee

My Salvation Testimony

Below is a short account of my "Salvation Story."

Truth — How I Knew I Needed Jesus

I grew up attending church regularly, usually three times a week. I was taught who Jesus is and cannot remember when I didn't believe that Jesus was a real person. I was a cultural Christian but didn't understand that I needed the forgiveness that only Belief, Confession, and Acceptance can bring. I thought I could go to heaven one day if I did more good than bad, and then God would accept me. I followed this path for almost 30 years, but I began to realize something was missing from my life—like a hole in my heart that I tried to fill with good activities and actions.

By this time, I had been teaching public school for 8½ years; I was a Scoutmaster of two troops, had been a Cubmaster and an Explorer advisor, and worked as a Program Director at Scout Camp. Still, nothing I did filled that emptiness.

I had also met my dream lady, and we were set to be married before Christmas of 1979. To please her, I began to visit her church Sunday after Sunday. Before we announced our engagement, we went to her Dad to ask for his permission, and he gave the oddest reply — stating that one evening, as he headed to work and saw me return Betty home, he prayed, asking God to let him know this relationship was His will. Jesus reassured him that the relationship and marriage were His will. So, because of what Jesus had told him, he said we had His permission to be married. At the time, I had no idea what he meant.

As we planned and I continued to attend church, I noticed a drastic change—suddenly the sermons seemed to speak directly to me, like the Pastor could read my mind. Over time, I kept seeing church signs that spoke to me as if God were talking to me, and radio programs that felt like the author knew me personally.

Acceptance — How I Became a Christian

Then one day I found a witness tract, read it, and prayed the prayer of salvation; excited, I proclaimed, "Now I am a Christian." A week passed, and the emptiness I had felt since youth was still there, and I didn't feel any different. I read and prayed the same prayer a second time and then waited.

One evening, I felt Jesus speaking to me and asking me to get baptized, so wanting to please Him, I called the Pastor at my fiancée's church and said, "Jesus wants me to be baptized at your church." He said OK, but it would be next Sunday — this was on a Monday, and our marriage was next Saturday. He decided to baptize me on Wednesday night instead.

Before church started, the Pastor met with me privately in his office. He didn't know me very well and wanted to make sure I was saved. After he explained immersion baptism, he asked, "Have you confessed Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?" I said yes and sat down as the service began.

After the Pastor explained that I was getting baptized—an unusual event for a Wednesday—he preached, and I felt a huge burden lift from my shoulders as great peace and joy flooded my soul. Next, I was baptized and joined this church.

Now I realize that my forgiveness and salvation were completed when I confessed to the Pastor that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. See Romans 10:9-10: "that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

Friendship — My Plan for Fellowship With Christ.

Immediately, I began to read the Bible, wanting to know more about Christ, with a deep desire to know and obey Him. I also

wanted to serve Him through His church. This path of love, submission, and service to others has led me to many people who need Him — primarily young people, but also around the world, working with adult Christians seeking to be disciples.

My daily custom has become spending time with God— fellowshipping with Him, reading Scripture, and taking notes as His Holy Spirit transforms me into a more Christlike believer.

Purpose — Loving God With All My Heart

As I fellowship with God daily and get to know Him better, my love and admiration for Him continues to grow. "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'" — Mark 12:29-30

Fulfillment — Loving Others

As my love and admiration for God through His Son, Jesus Christ, increases, He grants me a love for others and leads me in a ministry of reconciliation, encouraging the lost to accept Him and discipling the born-again as the Holy Spirit uses me. "The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" — Mark 12:31

— Patrick Wright
Loudon, Tennessee

Your Salvation Testimony

Share your salvation journey in your own words by responding to the five questions below.

Truth — How I Knew I Needed Jesus Christ

Acceptance — What I Said to God. How I Became a Christian.

Friendship — My Plan for Fellowship With Christ.

Purpose — Loving God With All My Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength.

Fulfillment — Loving Others.

WEEK 25

Foundation of Faith

From God's Power to Sharing His Peace

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Isaiah 45:12

Day 2 · Discipleship: 1 Peter 3:13-14

Day 3 · Humility: Jeremiah 17:7

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Philippians 3:13-14

Day 5 · Acceptance: Psalm 25:10

Day 6 · Obedience: Ephesians 2:8-9

Day 7 · Identification: John 16:33

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"I am the one who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts."*
>
> **Isaiah 45:12**

Devotional Reflection

What a delight it would have been to see God creating our universe from nothing, to see order from chaos. Now we live in a remarkable world with finely tuned mechanisms He established to provide us with a pleasant home.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed and do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled."*
>
> **1 Peter 3:13-14**

Devotional Reflection

Our Father never promised us the absence of pain and suffering; we sometimes suffer because of others' disobedience and our own sin, yet we still receive His blessings. What could be greater than being blessed and cared for by the Creator of the universe?

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord.”*
>
> **Jeremiah 17:7**

Devotional Reflection

In our sojourn in this life, each day brings its own challenges that we must face—just and unjust events in our homes, our families, our friendships, and our realm of influence. And yet, day by day, God blesses us as we learn to trust Him more.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*
>
> **Philippians 3:13-14**

Devotional Reflection

Each day begins anew and afresh for me, even days that follow not-so-good days or nights of sleeplessness. This daily newness begins when we start the day in prayer and Bible study, spending time at the Master's feet, listening as He explains His scriptures.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *“All the paths of the Lord are lovingkindness and truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.”*
>
> **Psalm 25:10**

Devotional Reflection

Every morning I spend quality time with my heavenly Father, listening as He prepares me for the day ahead. On some days I will teach discipleship or maybe academic skills in a Christian school, or maybe it is a day when I get to pray with others. All these are ministries that the Lord leads me through as I try to obey Him.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”*
>
> **Ephesians 2:8-9**

Devotional Reflection

Pride can easily rise in our minds and influence our attitudes, especially when God uses us in a mighty way to accomplish His purposes. We can be prideful because we are saved and privileged. God is our adopted Heavenly Father. We must remember that He didn't choose us because of our goodness, but so we could be changed from within by grace, not by our works.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”*
>
> **John 16:33**

Devotional Reflection

So, this is the message that we are to share with a hurting world: we have peace, and so can they when they accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through grace.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Marvel at God's creative power and intentional design
- Accept that suffering and blessing coexist in discipleship
- Practice daily trust through life's varied challenges
- Establish a rhythm of prayer and Scripture study each morning
- Answer God's diverse calls to service with obedience
- Guard against pride by remembering grace is the foundation
- Share Christ's peace with a hurting world

WEEK 26

Growing in God's Power Through Weakness

Fellowshipping Daily With the Lord

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Isaiah 46:9-10

Day 2 · Discipleship: 2 Corinthians 13:4-5

Day 3 · Humility: Proverbs 11:25

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Ezekiel 37:4-5

Day 5 · Acceptance: 1 Peter 2:9

Day 6 · Obedience: Proverbs 10:17

Day 7 · Identification: Mark 14:6

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure.'"*
>
> **Isaiah 46:9-10**

Devotional Reflection

I praise You, Father. You are the mighty one. I can place all my trust in You, for You are the truth and You have all the power and love to lead me and protect me. Amen.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior, and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"For indeed He was crucified because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, yet we will live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you. Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?"*
>
> **2 Corinthians 13:4-5**

Devotional Reflection

When I examine myself, I see many weaknesses, failures, and times I didn't obey You; yet as I continue in this life, I also see daily how You take over my thoughts, intents of heart, and actions, leading to obedience.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *"The generous man will be prosperous,*
> *And he who waters will himself be watered."*
>
> **Proverbs 11:25**

Devotional Reflection

Disciplining others changes them forever, but it also changes our lives as the Holy Spirit refreshes us and helps us submit to our heavenly Father.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *"Again He said to me, 'Prophesy over these bones and say to them, "O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord." Thus says the Lord God to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life.'"*
>
> **Ezekiel 37:4-5**

Devotional Reflection

What awesome power our God has and freely shares with us! In this case, not dry bones, but those who do not have His salvation.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”*
>
> **1 Peter 2:9**

Devotional Reflection

This describes who you are in Christ, and it rightly assumes you have chosen to accept this transformation God engineered through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and the Holy Spirit. This transformation has been slow and steady throughout your salvation.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *“He is on the path of life who heeds instruction, But he who ignores reproof goes astray.”*
>
> **Proverbs 10:17**

Devotional Reflection

Be warned: we must disciple and lead others to Christ and be careful that our sin nature doesn't interfere with the ministry through Jesus Christ.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *“But Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why do you bother her? She has done a good deed to Me.’”*
>
> **Mark 14:6**

Devotional Reflection

If you are not familiar with the story of a woman who anointed Jesus' feet with costly perfume, I suggest you read the full account in Mark 14. The question is, “Are we doing what Jesus has appointed for us to do with the same loving heart that she showed Jesus?”

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Week 26

Growing in God's Power Through Weakness

Now that you have completed Week 26, what did God show you?

WEEK 27

Deepening Your Walk

From Hearing to Speaking God's Truth

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: John 4:23

Day 2 · Discipleship: Psalm 143:10

Day 3 · Humility: Genesis 15:6

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Psalm 77:11-12

Day 5 · Acceptance: Matthew 11:28-29

Day 6 · Obedience: Psalm 139:23-24

Day 7 · Identification: Romans 10:17

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."*
>
> **John 4:23**

Devotional Reflection

Oh yes, Father, You are everywhere at the same time, and I enjoy calling on You in all the different places You carry me, knowing that as my heavenly Father and giver of gifts, I am secure in Your arms. I need fear no man or beasts or demons or even disease or physical challenges.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; may Your good Spirit lead me on level ground."*
>
> **Psalm 143:10**

Devotional Reflection

Born again, not by my power or even merit, but by the grace of God through Jesus Christ, and now each morning I am still so that You can reveal Yourself through Your word. Later, as I go through the day, I stop before making decisions to listen to Your still, small voice. I want to glorify You in all things and follow only Your path, LORD, God Almighty.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *"Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness."*
>
> **Genesis 15:6**

Devotional Reflection

Here in this verse is Abraham, and the event is one of the times God spoke to him, promising that his descendants would become so numerous that they cannot be counted. At my salvation, when I believed Jesus died for me and rose again from the dead, taking on my sin, then I was saved by grace. I know I was forgiven and will reign with Him forever.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *"I shall remember the deeds of the Lord; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will meditate on all Your work And muse on Your deeds."*
>
> **Psalm 77:11-12**

Devotional Reflection

As we ponder the present situations God is leading us into, sometimes we need to just stop and remember all the glorious times in the past when His will has been done. This becomes a reminder of how He will continue to work as we present to Him each challenge and wait and watch.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*
>
> **Matthew 11:28-29**

Devotional Reflection

There comes a time in each spiritual disciple's life when the scriptures take on new meaning. They were not just written for your benefit to reassure you or lead you, but so that you could use them to reassure others and lead them.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *"Search me, O God, and know my heart;*
> *Try me and know my anxious thoughts;*
> *And see if there be any hurtful way in me,*
> *And lead me in the everlasting way."*
>
> **Psalm 139:23-24**

Devotional Reflection

Reconciliation starts with us as we allow our heavenly Father to remove any sin nature that interferes with our desire to obey His commands.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.”*
>
> **Romans 10:17**

Devotional Reflection

The lost and the spiritual babes all need to hear You speak, Lord, so when You show me the words You would have me speak to them through the work of the Holy Spirit, I ask that they hear and believe.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Worship authentically in spirit and truth, everywhere
- Listen to God's voice through daily prayer and Scripture
- Remember God's past faithfulness to strengthen present faith
- Receive Scripture as a personal gift and ministry resource
- Purify your heart so God can work through you
- Speak God's word so others hear and believe

WEEK 28

Living Out Your Purpose

From Pride to Joyful Service

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Isaiah 45:18

Day 2 · Discipleship: Isaiah 12:3

Day 3 · Humility: Ephesians 1:5-6

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Luke 22:27

Day 5 · Acceptance: 2 Corinthians 4:5

Day 6 · Obedience: Philippians 4:12

Day 7 · Identification: 1 Timothy 1:13

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), 'I am the Lord, and there is none else.'"*
>
> **Isaiah 45:18**

Devotional Reflection

Father, I feel so blessed to have been created, protected and loved by You, the perfect Father whom no one can completely fathom and yet Your ways are clearly explained in Your word and actions.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *“Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation.”*
>
> **Isaiah 12:3**

Devotional Reflection

I like the usage of the word “joyously,” for as I learn more about how to follow Your commands, I'm noticing how much joy comes with obedience and serving others in the name of Christ.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *“He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.”*
>
> **Ephesians 1:5-6**

Devotional Reflection

I praise You, Father, for choosing me and empowering me to accept Your offer of adoption and eternal salvation. I pray for others who have been chosen but haven't accepted Your grace.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *"For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves."*
>
> **Luke 22:27**

Devotional Reflection

In every situation, Jesus served others, and there was no situation that He shied away from, no matter how difficult it might seem to us. Jesus was bold in proclaiming the truth and in living in the moment.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *“For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.”*
>
> **2 Corinthians 4:5**

Devotional Reflection

It can be hard sometimes when we reflect on successful service through Christ. We develop self-centered pride as if “we” did it. At these times, I ask the Lord to rebuke Satan, for I know such thoughts sometimes come from him and his attempts to take my focus from Jesus and onto my selfish pride.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *"I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need."*
>
> **Philippians 4:12**

Devotional Reflection

It can be hard for us Americans to understand what it is like to live without the basic necessities of life—food, shelter, transportation —but we, on the other hand, must learn to deny ourselves possessions, position, and anything that would distract us from full service to the will of God and serving others in His name. "Things" not only take our resources but also keep us from noticing those around us who need to know and accept Christ.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *"Even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief."*
>
> **1 Timothy 1:13**

Devotional Reflection

When we remember where we came from and the kind of person we were, and then encounter the lost, we better understand their mindset and their need for accepting Christ. We become witnesses to the amazing, powerful Christ that lives in us and is transforming us into His people. We want that same adoption for everyone.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Recognize God's intentional care in creation
- Experience joy through obedience and service
- Embrace your adoption as God's chosen child
- Follow Jesus' model of humble, bold service
- Guard against pride and self-centeredness in ministry
- Deny yourself possessions and status for greater availability
- Witness through your transformation, offering others the same redemption

WEEK 29

Finishing Strong

From Pride to Faithful Purpose

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Daniel 4:37

Day 2 · Discipleship: Romans 14:12

Day 3 · Humility: Psalm 46:10

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: 2 Corinthians 12:6

Day 5 · Acceptance: 2 Corinthians 12:15

Day 6 · Obedience: Psalm 119:30

Day 7 · Identification: Isaiah 12:2-3

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt, and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."*
>
> **Daniel 4:37**

Devotional Reflection

Nebuchadnezzar had firsthand knowledge of how God can humble pride in self-proclaimed importance. When life is good and we prosper, rise in popularity, have influence over others, and enjoy what we consider success, we can get puffed up and prideful. We take credit for what God has blessed in our life.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."*
>
> **Romans 14:12**

Devotional Reflection

This verse is part of a discussion about how we differ in the way we live the Christian life and how we treat others. We are to recognize their different habits and thought processes and teach the word and let it correct any faults they have.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *"Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*
>
> **Psalm 46:10**

Devotional Reflection

We have talked about pride and accomplishment, and some about success, and yet none of these can prevent us from focusing on them instead of on Christ.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *"For if I do wish to boast I will not be foolish, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain from this, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me."*
>
> **2 Corinthians 12:6**

Devotional Reflection

Paul had reason to boast because of his training and many sacrifices for the gospel, but he realized that drawing attention to himself would get others sidetracked from Jesus and the needs of those God has sent him to help.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *“I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?”*
>
> **2 Corinthians 12:15**

Devotional Reflection

Paul was explaining that he does not expect the church to take care of all his physical needs when he is with them. He was willing to work and pay his own way. He didn't want them to do without to supply his needs.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *"I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances before me."*
>
> **Psalm 119:30**

Devotional Reflection

We are finished discussing our battles and how to let the Holy Spirit refocus us on what is important: our faithfulness to the mission of proclaiming Jesus Christ according to God's Lordship.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation. Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation."*
>
> **Isaiah 12:2-3**

Devotional Reflection

This verse describes our life with Christ as a life of trust and salvation, both now and evermore. For these reasons, and the joy and peace that He gives His adopted children, we praise and worship Him.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Recognize pride's danger, especially in seasons of success
- Remember that each person answers to God for their choices
- Release your need for recognition and self-promotion
- Serve sacrificially without burdening those you help
- Focus singularly on proclaiming Jesus Christ faithfully
- Trust joyfully in God's salvation and strength
- Praise God for His lordship and your adoption

WEEK 30

Living Out Your Faith

From Praise to Family Discipleship

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Psalm 118:24

Day 2 · Discipleship: Joshua 24:15

Day 3 · Humility: 2 Corinthians 12:15

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Ephesians 6:7-8

Day 5 · Acceptance: 1 Timothy 5:8

Day 6 · Obedience: 2 Corinthians 9:6

Day 7 · Identification: 2 Corinthians 8:5

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it."*
>
> **Psalm 118:24**

Devotional Reflection

It is a time when we disconnect from the demands of life and just praise God. Our staff and volunteers spend their week putting together a "program" that will help us focus on our Heavenly Father and His praise.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*
>
> **Joshua 24:15**

Devotional Reflection

This is a portion of the final speech of Joshua after the Hebrews had settled in their new homes in the promised land. It calls us to pledge not only ourselves to serve our heavenly Father but also our families. We are to become light for our siblings, our parents, our children and extended family.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *"I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?"*
>
> **2 Corinthians 12:15**

Devotional Reflection

Paul loved the Lord so much that he accepted his call to love his neighbor and sacrificed all he had so others could hear the gospel and receive Christ through salvation. Loving God leads and enables us to love others.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *“With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.”*
>
> **Ephesians 6:7-8**

Devotional Reflection

This passage is taken from a section talking about slaves and how they should relate to their masters. It also teaches us the connection between service to mankind and obedience to God. We are serving others from God's commands, not man's demands. This means God decides how we help others.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”*
>
> **1 Timothy 5:8**

Devotional Reflection

This set of verses stresses our relationship and responsibilities to those in our immediate family. Paul even goes so far as to say that if we do not disciple those in our family, it is the same as denying our faith in Jesus Christ.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*
>
> **2 Corinthians 9:6**

Devotional Reflection

This further teaches us to give completely in our service to our Lord.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *"And this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God."*
>
> **2 Corinthians 8:5**

Devotional Reflection

Paul was talking about the Macedonian church and how their devotion and love to and of Jesus Christ compelled them to provide for Paul and many others, in this case by prayer and physical resources.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Rejoice in each day as God's gift; practice daily worship
- Pledge your household to serve the Lord
- Love others sacrificially, flowing from God's love
- Serve others as an act of worship to God
- Disciple your family as your primary calling
- Give bountifully, knowing abundant giving produces abundant results
- Provide for others' needs, letting devotion to Christ compel action

WEEK 31

Deepening Devotion

From God's Blessing to Grateful Recognition

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Psalm 3:8

Day 2 · Discipleship: James 1:5

Day 3 · Humility: Psalm 1:2

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Mark 11:22

Day 5 · Acceptance: 1 Timothy 6:12

Day 6 · Obedience: Romans 5:8

Day 7 · Identification: 1 Thessalonians 5:12

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"Salvation belongs to the Lord; Your blessing be upon Your people! Selah."*
>
> **Psalm 3:8**

Devotional Reflection

Father, Your blessings are upon me. They comfort me daily. They provide for my every need. You interpret scripture through the Holy Spirit for me. What is greater is Your Son, who suffered and died for me.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him."*
>
> **James 1:5**

Devotional Reflection

Part of learning to follow Christ is the wisdom that He grants us as we study His word and His ways, and it is true that He does not withhold this wisdom from us.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *"But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."*
>
> **Psalm 1:2**

Devotional Reflection

It's 1:42 a.m., and I am awake meditating on Your word, Lord, so this verse does apply to me. I praise You, Lord.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *“And Jesus answered, saying to them, ‘Have faith in God.’”*
>
> **Mark 11:22**

Devotional Reflection

Sometimes this type of prayer is situational in that we become aware of a situation that we know only God can handle, and so we ask Him to intervene.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *"Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."*
>
> **1 Timothy 6:12**

Devotional Reflection

I show I care for those around me by living by the standards You are teaching me, Lord, through Your word.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*
>
> **Romans 5:8**

Devotional Reflection

Through the death of Christ, we can be reconciled to God. We must first be sure we are reconciled before we can lead others to what will be their reconciliation, namely, accepting the gift of forgiveness and salvation.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *"But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction."*
>
> **1 Thessalonians 5:12**

Devotional Reflection

Normally, this aspect—identification—is associated with those with inner conflicts and spiritual needs, but this verse encourages us to show great gratitude to those who follow Christ, who have dedicated their lives to You, Lord, so that they can teach others about You.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Receive God's blessings with gratitude; remember Christ's sacrifice
- Seek wisdom from God generously and without shame
- Delight in God's law; meditate on it day and night
- Pray with faith for situations only God can handle
- Live by God's standards as a public witness
- Embrace reconciliation through Christ; share it with others
- Appreciate those who labor faithfully in ministry

WEEK 32

Full Circle

From Continuous Praise to Proclaiming Hope

This Week at a Glance

Day 1 · Praise and Worship: Psalm 34:1-2

Day 2 · Discipleship: Isaiah 33:15, 17

Day 3 · Humility: Acts 9:1

Day 4 · Acknowledgment: Matthew 14:23

Day 5 · Acceptance: John 17:23

Day 6 · Obedience: John 4:11

Day 7 · Identification: Isaiah 1:18

Day 1 · Praise and Worship

You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.

Scripture

> *"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice."*
>
> **Psalm 34:1-2**

Devotional Reflection

This is such a great praise. It reveals the real heart of the servant of God. This personal walk with Christ is so strong that other like-minded Christians will notice and rejoice.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 2 · Discipleship

Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.

Scripture

> *"He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, He who rejects unjust gain And shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed And shuts his eyes from looking upon evil." "Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will behold a far-distant land."*
>
> **Isaiah 33:15, 17**

Devotional Reflection

I've left most of this story out, so go back and read all of Chapter 33. The importance here is that God rewards our faithfulness. You will not only see Jesus but will also show him to others as we witness.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 3 · Humility

You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.

Scripture

> *·The Lord Jesus has sent me so that you may regain your sight.·*
>
> **Acts 9:17**

Devotional Reflection

This was the point at which Paul received the sign that he had been forgiven and was now saved. His life made a dramatic change as we are shown in the Bible.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 4 · Acknowledgment

Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.

Scripture

> *"After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone."*
>
> **Matthew 14:23**

Devotional Reflection

Jesus had just taught and ministered to the crowds and now needed time alone with God, His Father. We need daily quiet time alone with our heavenly Father as we consider our circumstances, and the path God has placed us on.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 5 · Acceptance

God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.

Scripture

> *"I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me."*
>
> **John 17:23**

Devotional Reflection

This is part of a prayer Jesus offered for unity together with Jesus in our hearts. Caring for people is not just for lost people or Christians who need help, but also for our co-laborers that we work with in the church and the community.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 6 · Obedience

You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture

> *"She said to Him, 'Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water?'"*
>
> **John 4:11**

Devotional Reflection

If we are to minister to others, we must also make sure that the living water from Jesus is flowing through us.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Day 7 · Identification

Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Scripture

> *"'Come now, and let us reason together,' Says the Lord, 'Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.'"*
>
> **Isaiah 1:18**

Devotional Reflection

As you proclaim Jesus to the lost and they begin to respond, a great shame for their sins may come upon them. If they are drawn by Jesus and accept it, then declare to them the hope of forgiveness. It is a good verse to use.

Describe any reaction you have to this devotional.

Offer a short prayer.

Reflection Questions

- Praise continuously; let your transformed heart inspire others
- Walk righteously; see Jesus and witness Him to others
- Trust in radical transformation through God's grace
- Withdraw daily for solitude with your heavenly Father
- Nurture unity with believers as your witness to the world
- Ensure living water flows through you before offering it to others
- Proclaim forgiveness and hope to the convicted

A Simple Path — Volume 4

Leader's Guide

Fellowshipping Daily With the Lord · Weeks 25–32

Leader's Guide — Contents

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Welcome, Group Leader

This guide adapts the eight weeks of "A Simple Path," Volume 4 (Weeks 25–32), for use in a small group or Bible study setting. Group members should ideally work through each day's devotion on their own during the week (using the booklet), and the group session each week brings everyone together to discuss what God taught them, dig deeper into a few of the week's passages, and apply it together.

How Each Week's Plan Is Organized

- **Theme & Goal** — the heartbeat of the week in one or two sentences, so you can keep the conversation anchored.
- **Week at a Glance** — the seven daily verses and aspects, for quick reference during discussion.
- **Opening (5–10 min)** — a welcome, opening prayer prompt, and icebreaker question to get people talking.
- **Worship & Centering (5 min)** — a short praise/worship moment using the week's Day 1 verse.
- **Digging In (20–25 min)** — guided discussion questions built around the week's daily devotions.
- **Application Challenge (10 min)** — a concrete, doable next step for the coming week.
- **Closing Prayer Focus (5 min)** — a specific prompt for how to pray together.

Suggested Session Length

Each plan is built for a 45–60-minute group session. Trim the discussion questions if you're running shorter or let the group sit longer in Digging In if conversation is rich — that's usually a good sign, not a scheduling problem.

A Note on Tone

This study moves through the Seven Aspects of a Disciple of Christ every single week. Resist the urge to rush past the repetition. The goal isn't novelty; it's formation. By Week 32, the rhythm itself becomes the lesson.

Quick Reference — The Seven Aspects

Aspect	Definition
Praise and Worship	You speak, sing, declare, and proclaim who God is and His power.
Discipleship	Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior and you are learning to follow Him and disciple others.
Humility	You are surrendered, submitting to the will of God.
Acknowledgment	Be aware of the situation that God is presenting for your service.
Acceptance	God is calling and you have accepted His call. You care for people.
Obedience	You are voluntarily following Christ in a ministry of reconciliation.
Identification	Recognizing the inner needs of others and looking for ways to serve them.

Orientation · Getting Started

A first gathering to introduce the study before Week 25 begins.

Theme & Goal
Introduce the group to A Simple Path and the seven-pillar rhythm (Praise and Worship, Discipleship, Humility, Acknowledgment, Acceptance, Obedience, Identification) so each person knows how to use the daily devotional and what to expect from the eight weeks ahead.

Opening
Welcome everyone and have each person share their name and one hope they have for this study.

Icebreaker: "What does a daily walk with God currently look like for you?"

How This Study Works
Each week follows the same seven-day rhythm, one aspect per day. Set aside a quiet time each day to read the Scripture passage, reflect on the devotional commentary, and write a personal response in the space provided. At the end of each week, revisit the reflection questions as a group to measure growth.

Worship & Centering

> *"May God bless your journey along this simple path."*

Closing Prayer Focus
Pray that each person would grow hungry for daily time with God and commit to the rhythm of this study.

Leader Tip
Have extra booklets and pens on hand, and encourage the group to keep the same day/time each week.

Week 25 · Foundation of Faith

From God's Power to Sharing His Peace

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through foundation of faith — from God's power to sharing his peace.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Isaiah 45:12
2	Discipleship	1 Peter 3:13-14
3	Humility	Jeremiah 17:7
4	Acknowledgment	Philippians 3:13-14
5	Acceptance	Psalm 25:10
6	Obedience	Ephesians 2:8-9
7	Identification	John 16:33

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice foundation of faith this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"I am the one who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts."*
>
> ***Isaiah 45:12***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Isaiah 45:12)

From the devotional: What a delight it would have been to see God creating our universe from nothing, to see order from chaos. And now we live in a remarkable world with finely tuned mechanisms that He established to provide us a pleasant home.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (1 Peter 3:13-14)

> *"Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed and do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled."*
>
> ***1 Peter 3:13-14***

From the devotional: Our Father never promised us the absence of pain and suffering; we sometimes suffer because of the disobedience of others and our own sin, yet we receive His blessings. What could be greater than blessed and cared for by the Creator of the universe?

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Jeremiah 17:7)

> *"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord."*
>
> ***Jeremiah 17:7***

From the devotional: In our sojourn in this life, each day has its own challenges that we must deal with—just and unjust events in our homes, our families, our friends, and in our realm of influence. And yet, day by day, God blesses us as we learn to trust Him more and more.

Discuss:

- What does surrendering to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Philippians 3:13-14)

> *"Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*
>
> ***Philippians 3:13-14***

From the devotional: Each day for me begins anew and afresh, even those days that come after not-so-good days or nights when we struggle with sleeplessness. This daily newness begins when we start the day in prayer and Bible study, spending time at the Master's feet, listening as He explains His scriptures.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (Psalm 25:10)

> *"All the paths of the Lord are lovingkindness and truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies."*
>
> ***Psalm 25:10***

From the devotional: Every morning I spend quality time with my heavenly Father, listening as He prepares me for the day ahead. On some days I will teach discipleship or maybe academic skills in a Christian school, or maybe it is a day when I get to pray with others. All these are ministries that the Lord

leads me through as I try to obey Him.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Ephesians 2:8-9)

> *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."*
>
> ***Ephesians 2:8-9***

From the devotional: Pride can easily rise up in our minds and influence our attitudes, especially when God uses us in a mighty way to accomplish His purposes. We can be prideful because we are saved and privileged. God is our adopted Heavenly Father. We must remember that He didn't choose us because of our goodness, but so that we could be changed from within by grace and not by our works.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (John 16:33)

> *"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."*
>
> ***John 16:33***

From the devotional: So this is the message that we are to share with a hurting world: we have peace, and so can they when they accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through grace.

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Foundation of Faith and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of from God's power to sharing his peace and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Foundation of Faith to model vulnerability.

Week 26 · Growing in God's Power Through Weakness

From God's Power to Loving Service

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through growing in God's power through weakness — from God's power to loving service.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Isaiah 46:9-10
2	Discipleship	2 Corinthians 13:4-5
3	Humility	Proverbs 11:25
4	Acknowledgment	Ezekiel 37:4-5
5	Acceptance	1 Peter 2:9
6	Obedience	Proverbs 10:17
7	Identification	Mark 14:6

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice growing in God's power through weakness this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure.'"*
>
> ***Isaiah 46:9-10***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Isaiah 46:9-10)

From the devotional: I praise You, Father. You are the mighty one. I can place all my trust in You, for You are the truth and You have all the power and love to lead me and protect me. Amen.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (2 Corinthians 13:4-5)

> *"For indeed He was crucified because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, yet we will live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you. Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?"*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 13:4-5***

From the devotional: When I examine myself, I see many weaknesses failures and times I didn't obey You, and yet as I continue in this life, I also see daily when You take over my thoughts, intents of heart, and actions that lead to obedience.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Proverbs 11:25)

> *"The generous man will be prosperous, And he who waters will himself be watered."*
>
> ***Proverbs 11:25***

From the devotional: To discipline others changes them forever, but it also changes our lives as the Holy Spirit refreshes us and helps us to be submissive to our heavenly Father.

Discuss:

- What does surrendering to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Ezekiel 37:4-5)

> *"Again He said to me, 'Prophesy over these bones and say to them, "O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord." Thus says the Lord God to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life.'"*
>
> ***Ezekiel 37:4-5***

From the devotional: What awesome power our God has and freely shares with us! In this case, not dry bones, but to those who do not have His salvation.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (1 Peter 2:9)

> *"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."*
>
> ***1 Peter 2:9***

From the devotional: This is a description of who you are in Christ, and it rightly assumes that you have chosen to accept this transformation engineered by God through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior and the Holy Spirit. This transformation has been slow and steady over the length of your salvation.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Proverbs 10:17)

> *"He is on the path of life who heeds instruction, But he who ignores reproof goes astray."*
>
> ***Proverbs 10:17***

From the devotional: Be warned: we must disciple and lead others to Christ, and be careful that our sin nature doesn't interfere with the ministry through Jesus Christ.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (Mark 14:6)

> *"But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you bother her? She has done a good deed to Me.'"*
>
> ***Mark 14:6***

From the devotional: If you are not familiar with the story of a woman anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume, I suggest you read the whole account in Mark 14. The question is, "Are we doing what Jesus has appointed for us to do with the same loving heart that she showed Jesus?"

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Growing in God's Power Through Weakness and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of what you've learned in week 26, what did God show you? and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Growing in God's Power Through Weakness to model vulnerability.

Week 27 · Deepening Your Walk

From Hearing to Speaking God's Truth

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through deepening your walk — from hearing to speaking God's truth.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	John 4:23
2	Discipleship	Psalm 143:10
3	Humility	Genesis 15:6
4	Acknowledgment	Psalm 77:11-12
5	Acceptance	Matthew 11:28-29
6	Obedience	Psalm 139:23-24
7	Identification	Romans 10:17

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice deepening your walk this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."*
>
> ***John 4:23***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (John 4:23)

From the devotional: Oh yes, Father, You are everywhere at the same time, and I enjoy calling on You in all the different places You carry me, knowing that as my heavenly Father and giver of gifts, I am secure in Your arms. I need fear no man or beasts or demons or even disease or physical challenges.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (Psalm 143:10)

> *"Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; may Your good Spirit lead me on level ground."*
>
> ***Psalm 143:10***

From the devotional: Born again, not by my power or even merit, but by the grace of God through Jesus Christ, and now each morning I am still so that You can reveal Yourself through Your word. Later, as I go through the day, I stop before making decisions to listen to Your still, small voice. I want to glorify You in all things and follow only Your path, LORD, God Almighty.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Genesis 15:6)

> *"Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness."*
>
> ***Genesis 15:6***

From the devotional: In this verse, God speaks to Abraham and promises that his descendants would become so numerous they could not be counted. At my salvation, when I believed Jesus died for me and rose again from the dead, taking on my sin, I was saved by grace. I know I was forgiven and will reign with Him forever.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Psalm 77:11-12)

> *"I shall remember the deeds of the Lord; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will meditate on all Your work And muse on Your deeds."*
>
> ***Psalm 77:11-12***

From the devotional: As we ponder the situations God is leading us into, sometimes we need to stop and remember the glorious times in the past when His will has been done. This becomes a reminder of that He will continue to work as we present each challenge to Him and wait and watch.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (Matthew 11:28-29)

> *"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*
>
> ***Matthew 11:28-29***

From the devotional: At some point in each spiritual disciple's life, the scriptures take on new meaning. They were not written just to reassure or lead you, but so you could use them to reassure and lead others.

Discuss:
- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Psalm 139:23-24)

> *"Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way."*
>
> ***Psalm 139:23-24***

From the devotional: Reconciliation starts with us as we allow our heavenly Father to remove any sin nature that interferes with our desire to obey His commands.

Discuss:
- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (Romans 10:17)

> *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."*
>
> ***Romans 10:17***

From the devotional: The lost and the spiritual babes all need to hear You speak, Lord, so when You show me the words You would have me speak to them through the work of the Holy Spirit, I ask that they hear and believe.

Discuss:
- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Deepening Your Walk and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of from hearing to speaking God's truth and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Deepening Your Walk to model vulnerability.

Week 28 · Living Out Your Purpose

From Pride to Joyful Service

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through living out your purpose — from pride to joyful service.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Isaiah 45:18
2	Discipleship	Isaiah 12:3
3	Humility	Ephesians 1:5-6
4	Acknowledgment	Luke 22:27
5	Acceptance	2 Corinthians 4:5
6	Obedience	Philippians 4:12
7	Identification	1 Timothy 1:13

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice living out your purpose this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), 'I am the Lord, and there is none else.'"*
>
> ***Isaiah 45:18***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Isaiah 45:18)

From the devotional: Father, I feel so blessed to have been created, protected, and loved by You, the perfect Father whom no one can completely fathom, and yet Your ways are clearly explained in Your word and actions.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (Isaiah 12:3)

> *"Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation."*
>
> ***Isaiah 12:3***

From the devotional: I like the usage of the word "joyously," for as I learn more and more how to follow Your commands, I'm noticing how much I enjoy obedience and serving others in the name of Christ.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Ephesians 1:5-6)

> *"He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved."*
>
> ***Ephesians 1:5-6***

From the devotional: I praise You, Father, for choosing me and empowering me to accept Your offer of adoption and eternal salvation. I pray for others who have been chosen but haven't accepted Your grace.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Luke 22:27)

> *"For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves."*
>
> ***Luke 22:27***

From the devotional: In every situation, Jesus served others, and He shied away from none, no matter how difficult it might seem to us. Jesus was bold in proclaiming the truth and in living in the moment.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (2 Corinthians 4:5)

> *"For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake."*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 4:5***

From the devotional: It can be hard sometimes when we reflect on successful service through Christ. We develop self-centered pride as if "we" did it. At these times, I ask the Lord to rebuke Satan, for I know such thoughts sometimes come from him and his attempts to take my focus from Jesus and onto my selfish pride.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Philippians 4:12)

> *"I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need."*
>
> ***Philippians 4:12***

From the devotional: It can be hard for us Americans to understand what it is like to live without the basic necessities of life—food, shelter, transportation—but we, on the other hand, must learn to deny ourselves possessions, position, and anything that would distract us from full service to the will of God and serving others in His name. "Things" not only take our resources away but also keep us from noticing those around us in need of knowing and accepting Christ.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (1 Timothy 1:13)

> *"Even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief."*
>
> ***1 Timothy 1:13***

From the devotional: When we remember where we came from and the kind of person we were, and then encounter the lost, we better understand their mindset and their need for accepting Christ. We become witnesses to the amazing, powerful Christ that lives in us and is transforming us into His people. We want that same adoption for everyone.

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Living Out Your Purpose and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of from pride to joyful service and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Living Out Your Purpose to model vulnerability.

Week 29 · Finishing Strong

From Pride to Faithful Purpose

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through finishing strong — from pride to faithful purpose.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Daniel 4:37
2	Discipleship	Romans 14:12
3	Humility	Psalm 46:10
4	Acknowledgment	2 Corinthians 12:6
5	Acceptance	2 Corinthians 12:15
6	Obedience	Psalm 119:30
7	Identification	Isaiah 12:2-3

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice finishing strong this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt, and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."*
>
> ***Daniel 4:37***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Daniel 4:37)

From the devotional: Nebuchadnezzar had firsthand knowledge of how God can humble pride in self-proclaimed importance. When life is good and we prosper, rise in popularity, have influence over others, and enjoy what we consider success, we can get puffed up and prideful. We take credit for what God has blessed in our life.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (Romans 14:12)

> *"So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."*
>
> ***Romans 14:12***

From the devotional: This verse is part of a discussion about how we differ in the way we live the Christian life and how we treat others. We are their different habits and thought processes, and teach the Word and let it correct any faults they have.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Psalm 46:10)

> *"Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*
>
> ***Psalm 46:10***

From the devotional: We have talked about pride and accomplishment, and some about success, yet none of these can keep us from focusing on them instead of Christ.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (2 Corinthians 12:6)

> *"For if I do wish to boast I will not be foolish, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain from this, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me."*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 12:6***

From the devotional: Paul had reason to boast because of his training and many sacrifices for the gospel, but he realized that drawing attention to himself would get others sidetracked from Jesus and the needs of those God has sent him to help.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (2 Corinthians 12:15)

> *"I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?"*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 12:15***

From the devotional: Paul was explaining that he does not expect the church to take care of all his physical needs when he is with them. He was willing to work and support himself. He didn't want them to go without supplying his needs.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Psalm 119:30)

> *"I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances before me."*
>
> ***Psalm 119:30***

From the devotional: We've finished discussing our battles and how to let the Holy Spirit refocus us on what matters most: our faithfulness to the mission of proclaiming Jesus Christ under God's Lordship.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (Isaiah 12:2-3)

> *"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation. Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation."*
>
> ***Isaiah 12:2-3***

From the devotional: This verse describes our life with Christ as a life of trust and salvation, both now and evermore. For these reasons, and the joy and peace that He gives His adopted children, we praise and worship Him.

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Finishing Strong and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of from pride to faithful purpose and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Finishing Strong to model vulnerability.

Week 30 · Living Out Your Faith

From Praise to Family Discipleship

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through living out your faith — from praise to family discipleship.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Psalm 118:24
2	Discipleship	Joshua 24:15
3	Humility	2 Corinthians 12:15
4	Acknowledgment	Ephesians 6:7-8
5	Acceptance	1 Timothy 5:8
6	Obedience	2 Corinthians 9:6
7	Identification	2 Corinthians 8:5

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice living out your faith this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it."*
>
> ***Psalm 118:24***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Psalm 118:24)

From the devotional: This is a time to disconnect from the demands of life and simply praise God. Our staff and volunteers spend their week putting together a "program" that will help us focus on our Heavenly Father and His praise.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (Joshua 24:15)

> *"If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*
>
> ***Joshua 24:15***

From the devotional: This is a portion of the final speech of Joshua after the Hebrews had settled in their new homes in the promised land. It calls us to pledge not only ourselves to serve our heavenly Father but also our families. We are to become light for our siblings, our parents, our children, and our extended family.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (2 Corinthians 12:15)

> *"I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?"*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 12:15***

From the devotional: Paul loved the Lord so much that he accepted his call to love his neighbor and sacrificed all he had so others could hear the gospel and receive Christ through salvation. Loving God leads and enables us to love others.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Ephesians 6:7-8)

> *"With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free."*
>
> ***Ephesians 6:7-8***

From the devotional: This passage comes from a section about slaves and how they should relate to their masters. It also teaches the connection between serving mankind and obeying God. We serve others because of God's commands, not man's demands. This means God decides how we help others.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (1 Timothy 5:8)

> *"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."*
>
> ***1 Timothy 5:8***

From the devotional: These verses stress our relationship with and responsibilities to those in our immediate family. Paul even goes so far as to say that if we do not disciple those in our family, it is the same as denying our faith in Jesus Christ.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (2 Corinthians 9:6)

> *"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 9:6***

From the devotional: This further teaches us to give completely in our service to our Lord.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (2 Corinthians 8:5)

> *"And this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God."*
>
> ***2 Corinthians 8:5***

From the devotional: Paul was talking about the Macedonian church and how their devotion to and love for Jesus Christ compelled them to provide for Paul and many others, in this case by prayer and physical resources.

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Living Out Your Faith and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of praise to family discipleship and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Living Out Your Faith to model vulnerability.

Week 31 · Deepening Devotion

From God's Blessing to Grateful Recognition

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through deepening devotion — from God's blessing to grateful recognition.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Psalm 3:8
2	Discipleship	James 1:5
3	Humility	Psalm 1:2
4	Acknowledgment	Mark 11:22
5	Acceptance	1 Timothy 6:12
6	Obedience	Romans 5:8
7	Identification	1 Thessalonians 5:12

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice deepening devotion this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"Salvation belongs to the Lord; Your blessing be upon Your people! Selah."*
>
> ***Psalm 3:8***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Psalm 3:8)

From the devotional: Father, Your blessings are upon me. They comfort me daily. They provide for my every need. You interpret Scripture for me through the Holy Spirit. Greater still is Your Son, who suffered and died for me.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (James 1:5)

> *"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him."*
>
> ***James 1:5***

From the devotional: Part of learning to follow Christ is the wisdom He grants us as we study His word and His ways, and He does not withhold this wisdom from us.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Psalm 1:2)

> *"But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."*
>
> ***Psalm 1:2***

From the devotional: It's 1:42 a.m., and I am awake meditating on Your word, Lord, so this verse does apply to me. I praise You, Lord.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Mark 11:22)

> *"And Jesus answered, saying to them, 'Have faith in God.'"*
>
> ***Mark 11:22***

From the devotional: Sometimes this type of prayer is situational in that we become aware of a situation that we know only God can handle, and so we ask Him to intervene.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (1 Timothy 6:12)

> *"Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."*
>
> ***1 Timothy 6:12***

From the devotional: I show I care for those around me by living by the standards You are teaching me, Lord, through Your word.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (Romans 5:8)

> *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*
>
> ***Romans 5:8***

From the devotional: Through Christ's death, we can be reconciled to God. We must first be sure we are reconciled before we can lead others to what will be their reconciliation, namely, accepting the gift of forgiveness and salvation.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (1 Thessalonians 5:12)

> *"But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction."*
>
> ***1 Thessalonians 5:12***

From the devotional: Normally, this aspect—identification—is associated with inner conflicts and spiritual needs, but this verse encourages us to show great gratitude to those who follow Christ and have dedicated their lives to You, Lord, so they can teach others about You.

Discuss:

- Who around you is hurting and needs the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Deepening Devotion and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of God's blessing to grateful recognition and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Deepening Devotion to model vulnerability.

Week 32 · Full Circle

From Continuous Praise to Proclaiming Hope

Theme & Goal

Guide the group through full circle — from continuous praise to proclaiming hope.

Week at a Glance

Day	Aspect	Scripture
1	Praise and Worship	Psalm 34:1-2
2	Discipleship	Isaiah 33:15, 17
3	Humility	Acts 9:17
4	Acknowledgment	Matthew 14:23
5	Acceptance	John 17:23
6	Obedience	John 4:11
7	Identification	Isaiah 1:18

Opening

Welcome the group and briefly recap last week's key takeaway before diving in.
Icebreaker: "Where did you notice full circle this past week?"

Worship & Centering

> *"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice."*
>
> ***Psalm 34:1-2***

Digging In — Day by Day

Day 1: Praise and Worship (Psalm 34:1-2)

From the devotional: This is such a great praise. It reveals the real heart of the servant of God. This personal walk with Christ is so strong that other like-minded Christians will notice and rejoice.

Discuss:

- What is one way you've seen God's power or care show up this week?
- How can our group make space for genuine praise today?

Day 2: Discipleship (Isaiah 33:15, 17)

> *"He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, He who rejects unjust gain And shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed And shuts his eyes from looking upon evil." "Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will behold a far-distant land."*
>
> ***Isaiah 33:15, 17***

From the devotional: I've left most of this story out, so go back and read all of Chapter 33. The importance here is that God rewards our faithfulness. You will not only see Jesus but will also show him to others as we witness.

Discuss:

- Where do you see room to grow as a follower of Christ right now?
- Who is someone you could disciple or encourage this week?

Day 3: Humility (Acts 9:1)

> *·The Lord Jesus has sent me so that you may regain your sight.·*
>
> ***Acts 9:17***

From the devotional: This was the point at which Paul received the sign that he had been forgiven and was now saved. His life made a dramatic change as we are shown in the Bible.

Discuss:

- What does surrender to God's will look like practically for you?
- Where have you noticed pride creeping into your walk with God?

Day 4: Acknowledgment (Matthew 14:23)

> *"After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone."*
>
> ***Matthew 14:23***

From the devotional: Jesus had just taught and ministered to the crowds and now needed time alone with God, His Father. We need daily quiet time alone with our heavenly Father as we consider our circumstances and the path God has placed us on.

Discuss:

- How is God inviting you to serve or respond right now?
- What situation is God asking you to trust Him with this week?

Day 5: Acceptance (John 17:23)

> *"I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me."*
>
> ***John 17:23***

From the devotional: This is part of a prayer Jesus offered for unity, together with Jesus, in our hearts. Caring for people is not just for lost people or Christians who need help, but also for our co-laborers that we work with in the

church and the community.

Discuss:

- Who in your life needs to hear that God accepts and calls them?
- How have you experienced God's call and care recently?

Day 6: Obedience (John 4:11)

> *"She said to Him, 'Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water?'"*
>
> ***John 4:11***

From the devotional: If we are to minister to others, we must also make sure that the living water from Jesus is flowing through us.

Discuss:

- What is one command of God you're being asked to obey more fully?
- How can the group hold each other accountable this week?

Day 7: Identification (Isaiah 1:18)

> *"'Come now, and let us reason together,' Says the Lord, 'Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.'"*
>
> ***Isaiah 1:18***

From the devotional: As you proclaim Jesus to the lost and they begin to respond, a great shame for their sins may come upon them. If they are drawn by Jesus and accept it, then declare to them the hope of forgiveness. It is a good verse to use.

Discuss:

- Who around you are hurting and need the hope you carry?
- How can you show the compassion Christ has shown you?

Application Challenge

This week, choose one day's aspect from Full Circle and put it into practice in a specific, visible way — then share the result with the group next time.

Closing Prayer Focus

Pray that God would deepen each person's grasp of continuous praise, proclaim hope, and give courage to live it out this week.

Leader Tip

If the group is quiet, open with your own honest answer to the Day 1 discussion questions on Full Circle to model vulnerability.