

40 DAYS WITH JESUS: A SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE



DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

TAKING THE 40 DAY CHALLENGE

Are you ready to grow deeper in your faith? Are you ready to become more familiar with Jesus than you've ever dreamed possible? If so, the **40 Day Challenge** is for you. This challenge will stir your spirit and awaken in you an unquenchable hunger for the Word of God. It will also encourage you to carry out the command found in Matthew 6:33, *Daily Seek God First*, by examining the foundational Christian virtues presented by Jesus Christ in the Sermon on the Mount. These virtues will enable you to understand how you can seek God first with your entire life.

The desire is for your soul to be nourished and enriched over the next eight weeks. To fully experience the complete blessings of this challenge, we ask you to make a *fourfold commitment to give God*:

- *the first part* of your day by reading this 40 Day Devotional Guide.
- *the first part* of your week by attending church.
- *the first part* of your finances by tithing regularly.
- *the first part* of your relationships by getting involved in a Home Fellowship or Community Gathering.

The **40 Day Challenge** will revive your Spirit in a magnificent way. You are encouraged to take this challenge with your small group or family. As God speaks to you during this eight weeks, write down your reflections and allow Him to breathe new life into your relationship with Him.

MATTHEW 5:1-12 ~ NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

¹Now when He saw the crowds, He went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to Him, ²and He began to teach them saying:

³Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



THE FOUNDATION MATTERS

Every person who sets out to build a structure from the ground up understands this basic principle: *The foundation matters*. If you desire for your structure to withstand the different kinds of storms that nature will bring its way then you must build the structure on a solid foundation.

Jesus Christ states this same principle, a solid foundation, applies to all people. He teaches us that there are only two foundations we can choose to build our lives upon: *the rock* or *the sand* (Matthew 7:24-27.) If we choose to build our lives upon the solid foundation of the rock, we are choosing to build our lives upon Jesus Christ and His Word. He promises that this solid foundation will never fail us when the storms of life come our way. It does not matter how hard the storm hits or how powerful the storm seems to be, the solid foundation is steady, unwavering, and everlasting. Jesus will not fail us! The question we must ask ourselves is simply this, on which foundation am I truly building my hopes, dreams, and entire life?

DAY ONE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus wants me to build my entire life upon Him!

Verse of the Day: Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24 - NIV

Question to Consider: What are three ways I can begin or continue to build my life on the solid foundation of Jesus Christ?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

SO MANY OPTIONS



We live in a world with so many options that we get overwhelmed daily by the choices we have to make. Our choices begin from the moment we wake up until the moment we go to sleep. We choose what kind of coffee we want to drink, what kind of bagel we want to eat, and whether or not we should wear the red outfit or the blue outfit. We are a smorgasbord society. We have become so accustomed to having options that we demand options even regarding religion.

We want the option of believing in our own perception of absolute truth and the essentials of salvation. Our society promotes the concept of a smorgasbord religion where we can pick and choose what we like from different religions and combine them into one religion that will fit our personal beliefs. We believe the lie that all religions lead to eternal life with the Creator, which helps us justify our personal beliefs.

The fact is that there is only one true option when it comes to eternal life. There is only one way to heaven and that is through Jesus Christ. He is the definition of absolute truth and He is your only hope for eternal salvation. Jesus Christ sets the standard because He *is* the standard.

DAY TWO - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus is the only way to eternal life!

Verse of the Day: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6 - NIV

Question to Consider: What are the top three obstacles I encounter on a regular basis that challenges the basic truth that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



PURSUING MY PRIORITIES

I once knew a man who loved to go fishing so much that he decided that he should spend his life on the water. One day he became tired of the rat race that he was living in the corporate world. He sold off all of his possessions and cashed in all of his retirement. He went to the nearest marina and bought the nicest sailboat he could find and he spent the next several years traveling the oceans. A few years later the man came back to his hometown in utter despair because what he thought would bring him happiness only brought him loneliness.

It is a fact that people will spend the majority of their time, talent, and treasure upon what they *believe* will bring them the most happiness. They may buy extravagant homes, cars, boats, and clothes because they believe that these objects will bring happiness. They will make this pursuit of happiness their top priority in life.

The only way we will ever find happiness and everlasting joy is by making God the top priority. We are reminded in Matthew 6:33 that if we seek God first with our entire life he will provide everything we need to survive the trials that come our way. God is the only source of everlasting joy and peace and He will provide it if we simply trust and obey Him.

DAY THREE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God provides for those who seek Him first!

Verse of the Day: But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. *Matthew 6:33 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are the top three obstacles I encounter on a regular basis that challenges the basic truth that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

ALL OR NOTHING



I grew up in a loving family where my dad taught us the value of hard work and perseverance. It was never good enough to perform a job with only fifty percent of my effort. If I did not give one hundred percent of my attention and effort to the task at hand, I had to go back and start the task all over again. I disliked it when my dad would come home from work and observe that one of my assigned chores had not been completed successfully because I knew I would have to go back and perform the job again. Little did I know that my dad was teaching me valuable life lessons. I learned perseverance, focus, and respect for those whom I served.

I wonder how many times we focus on God with only a ten percent or even fifty percent effort. God created us and gave us life and He expects us to follow two basic commands: (1) Love God with our entire life (2) Love our neighbor as ourselves. God does not desire fifty percent of our devotion, he demands one hundred percent. Christians must understand that it is not a punishment to give our entire life to the Lord, it is a blessing. He has a great plan for our lives that will surpass all of our expectations—but there is just one catch. It is ALL or NOTHING! Give your entire life to Jesus Christ. It will be worth the effort.

DAY FOUR - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God wants all of your life, not part of it!

Verse of the Day: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. *Matthew 22:37 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are the areas in my life that I have not completely given to the Lord?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH

What is the philosophy that you brought into in your life that got you off track in your relationship with Jesus? Many philosophies have circulated since Biblical times. Some philosophies try to convince you that there is no God, some believe you are your own god, and some say there is no such thing as an absolute truth. Satan will circulate as many lies as it takes to get you off track in your faith and slowly start conforming your mindset to the standards of this world versus conforming to the standards of God. There are many lies that are presented to us in this world but there is only one truth and that is found only through the Word of God.

Christians have the challenge of living *in* the world but not living *of* the world. Even in spite of the strong warning given to Christians in **Romans 12:2** many continue to fall victim to pattern of this world day after day. We are called to live for something much greater than just living for the moment. As Christians we must fix our eyes not on what is seen but what is unseen, heaven. We must maintain the right focus and keep our eyes upon the ultimate prize of eternal life with Jesus Christ. We will only survive the trials of this world when we learn to transform our minds by the Word of God and commit our lives to Him daily.

DAY FIVE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God does not want us to fall victim to this world!

Verse of the Day: Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12:2a - NIV

Question to Consider: What are the philosophies and temptations that are luring me away from a strong relationship with Jesus Christ?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



COMFORT IN THE TRUE AND ENDURING SOURCE

Mourning is a time of extreme disappointment because of a sense of loss of something very valuable to us. Our loss reminds us that neither the world nor things temporary can truly satisfy. Our loss also calls us to depend fully on Christ as our Source of satisfaction in life. In our loss we find comfort because we discover that Christ is truly and fully the sufficient Source of our satisfaction.

During times of loss God gets our attention. During these times we are ready to follow Paul's command as our ongoing life practice. Paul states "Set your mind on things above, not on things that are on the earth." Paul knew that when we truly invest our thought life in the Source of true fulfillment, our emotions follow automatically. When we turn from depending on the world for our deepest satisfactions and invest our thought life in memorizing scripture, praying, and walking in the truth, we find the comfort we need in times of loss. We also find the enduring satisfaction we were created to experience throughout all of life.

DAY SIX - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Enduring satisfaction comes from investing our thought life in Christ.

Verse of the Day: Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. *Colossians 3:2 - NIV*

Question to Consider: Where will you invest your thought life throughout this day?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

COMFORT IN CLEANSING



Those in mourning can find a special comfort because mourning can lead to cleansing. Difficulties can lead us to carefully look at our life. We reduce life to its most basic elements. During these times we often see sin we have previously ignored. When we take our sin seriously, we mourn. We mourn over the damage we have caused to God, to others and to ourselves—in that order.

When we mourn over our sin with “godly sorrow,” we renounce and repent of our sin. We determine to change our practice. As we change our practice we become more like Christ and give new freedom to the Holy Spirit to work in our lives. As we grow in Christlikeness and as Christ’s Spirit works within us, we enter into deeper dimensions of His freedom, joy, peace and fulfillment. Mourning over sin leads to cleansing, which leads to victory.

DAY SEVEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God wants to deliver you from the practice of sin.

Verse of the Day: Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to deliverance and leaves to regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:10 - NIV

Question to Consider: Do you want deliverance from your sin or just forgiveness?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



COMFORT IN THE GOSPEL

As Christians, when we mourn over our sin and spiritual poverty, we are reminded anew of our deepest need. Our deepest need is not power or peace, but mercy and forgiveness. Our deepest need is to be properly related to our Creator and Owner, Whom we have offended. Sorrow over our sin reminds us that we have violated our relationship with Christ, becoming His enemy through our evil deeds, and we need forgiveness and reconciliation with Him.

Knowing this, we find our comfort in the gospel message. Through the gospel of God's love and acceptance in Christ we have been restored to our Creator. Through the gospel we now stand in a reconciled relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Our own restoration to Christ reminds us that others need what we have found. Our restoration reminds us to bring others to Christ. Our restoration reminds us to share the message of the cross with the lost. Our restoration reminds us that everyone needs the comfort that comes through the message of the cross.

DAY EIGHT - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God wants us to bring others to the cross and we need to return daily.

Verse of the Day: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16 - NIV

Question to Consider: Who do you know who needs the message of the cross?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

COMFORT IN THE EXTENT OF GOD'S LOVE



Mourning can be comforting because when we mourn with godly sorrow, we see the fullness of God's grace. As we see our sin from God's point of view, we see how much God's grace has covered. Jesus said, "He who has been forgiven little, loves little," implying the corollary, "He who has been forgiven much, loves much."

In other words, we love God only in proportion to our understanding of what He has done for us, in comparison to what we *deserve to have done to us*. The more we understand our sin, the more we understand the extent of our offense against God and our true desserts. The more we see the extent of our offense and the more undeserving we feel, the more grateful we become for what Christ has done for us through His mercy.

Simply stated, our sin is so offensive that it deserves the cross. Our sin is so bad that only the cross can satisfy true justice. Because of our sin, we ourselves deserve to be on the cross. Praise God that He loved us so much that He was willing to transfer onto His Son the justice we deserve so that we could go free. The cross reveals the extent of God's love for us.

DAY NINE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: We love God in proportion to our understanding of what God have done for us compared to what we deserve.

Verse of the Day: God proves His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. *Romans 5:8 - NIV*

Question to Consider: Do you feel that you deserve to be on the cross?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



COMFORT IN OUR SECURITY IN CHRIST

Mourning can be comforting as we explore the depths of our security in God's love. During times of mourning over our sin, we realize how often we disappoint Christ. During those times of self examination we can feel like a complete failure.

The truth is that we are a complete failure as far as measuring up to our calling as creature and Christian. We greatly failed God before we were saved and we continue to fail God after we are saved. Our performance is a disappointment to both God and us.

Then we remember that our security is not based on our performance, but on Christ's performance. Our performance does not gain us any standing with God. Our performance will not make us any more acceptable to God, nor will it make us less acceptable—unless we get so discouraged in our downward spiral that we eventually renounce Christ altogether.

Our acceptance with God is based on Christ's performance, not ours. Since Christ's performance is complete, we are secure in Him. We rest in the comfort and security of Christ's finished work at the cross.

DAY TEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Our security is based on Christ's performance, not ours.

Verse of the Day: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39- NIV

Question to Consider: When your world is falling apart, where do you find your safety and security?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



TRUE FREEDOM

Have you noticed how media today covers celebrities or sports figures? People who are daring, outrageous, self-centered and self-motivated are usually the ones who get the limelight and the big contracts. People who willingly take a back seat to the limelight, share the stage, and support the team get little or no recognition. When it all boils down, however, those who humble themselves are the ones who are the ultimate stars and champions, for they live for far more than their own glory.

Paul's teaching in his letter to the church in Corinth is crystal clear: the focus should always be on Jesus Christ. What freedom this biblical truth provides! Consumed by your personal turmoil? Preach Christ. Worried about what others are saying about you? Preach Christ. Concerned about the future and where you fit into the picture? Preach Christ.

True Freedom is within our reach. Reach out to Christ today.

DAY ELEVEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: It's not about you; it's about Jesus Christ.

Verse of the Day: For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:5 - NIV

Question to Consider: What area of life do you need to preach Christ and not yourself...today?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

FREEDOM IS FOUND IN 2ND PLACE



My wife and I just spent two hours with our niece and nephew. A trip to the ice cream store and a local park is enough to wear anyone out! At the park, each of them would “race” down two twin slides, side by side, hoping that each trip down the short slope would crown them champion...first place! The innocence about their races, and who came in first, was so pure. One would win and then they would rush to the top again...and again...again! No love lost!

What happens when you and I come in second place? Do we bemoan the fact that we lost or celebrate the journey we took in running the race? Once we cross the ultimate finish line and stand before our King, He will not care if we came in first, second, or tenth. Rather, scripture makes it clear that we are to live for Him, regardless of the outcome.

DAY TWELVE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Keep the focus on winning for Christ, not your own worldly desires.

Verse of the Day: I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. *2 Timothy 4:7 - NIV*

Question to Consider: Are you focused on pursuing a prize that glorifies Christ or rewards yourself?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



CHRIST AS OUR ROADMAP

As we faithfully walk with Christ, our Savior, we easily acknowledge that we can do nothing of kingdom significance apart from Him. How often have we tried to make a difference without first consulting our Lord, searching His heart for the guidance we all need day after day.

Admittedly, I am not the most eager to ask for directions on a long road trip. I tend to figure it out on my own, sometimes ignoring my wife and occasionally completely disregarding the map. This type of self-sufficiency tends to break down in the end, walking those few lonely steps to the clerk at the gas station, asking for the directions I should have had long ago.

There is joy in acknowledging our dependence upon Jesus. There is a peace that flows from relying upon His knowledge as well.

DAY THIRTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Rest in the assurance of God's guiding hand upon your life.

Verse of the Day: But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace. *Psalm 37:11 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are two areas that you need to let go and let God steer the course. Offer those areas to him today.

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

GENTLE LIKE JESUS



During my college years, great advice was always given to me. In taking the bi-annual task of selecting courses to study, the particular professor who was scheduled to teach was always taken into great consideration. What was his reputation? Was she fair? Were they knowledgeable in their field of study and engaged in strong teaching practices?

Christ is the greatest teacher one could ever have! What a model we have in all areas of life. Christ exemplified many traits that would enable us to be truly free in the Lord, but one jumps out in front of me today. Our Savior, strong and mighty, Son of the Most High, showed again and again his gentle heart.

Christ was never overbearing or insensitive. He was gentle toward all who came in contact with Him and modeled for us how we should treat those who come in contact with us. Our walk with Jesus should humble us as we seek to be gentle toward our fellow man.

DAY FOURTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: We all could use rest for our souls.

Verse of the Day: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:29 - NIV

Question to Consider: Where and to who can you model the gentleness of Christ?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



FREEDOM THROUGH MEEKNESS

How much more God desires of us. When we think of Christ, our minds almost immediately turn toward the ultimate sacrifice for our behalf. In the days and hours leading up to the cross, Christ endured extreme hardship, persecution, and scorn. Through all of those horrible experiences, Christ remained meek in all ways.

On our journey with Christ, how do we act with those who persecute us for our faith and beliefs? Do we respond with tough words or a meekly and lowly heart, like our Savior?

Receiving the insults or mocking scorn is not an easy blow to take. The insults and injuries that Christ endured were not easy, either. But He knew the greater purpose in mind, the role that His Heavenly Father and our Creator had in mind to save you and I from our sins.

Let us be true to our calling and the standards Christ has set for us. It may not always be easy, but it is what is expected of us.

DAY FIFTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: How we respond is important to our walk.

Verse of the Day: He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so He did not open His mouth.

Acts 8:32 - NIV

Question to Consider: How can we be meek like Christ? Take one area of your life and apply this to the week ahead.

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



BUILDING A BRIDGE

One of the most haunting statements I have ever heard was made by one of the most well known religious leaders of the world. Mahatma Gandhi, known for his peace and serenity, made a shocking statement before his death: “My days are numbered. I am not likely to live very long—all about me is darkness; I am praying for light.”

In this statement we see the sad truth about man’s fate apart from a relationship with Jesus Christ. Mankind spends a lifetime attempting to build a bridge across the great chasm that separates us from eternal life with our Creator. We use everything that we can to build our bridge, but ultimately we fall short. This man-made bridge will never be completed because we do not have the ability to complete the task. The only lasting bridge is built by the hand of God, the *Master Carpenter*.

Salvation is found only through Jesus Christ. He is the only one who is capable of bridging the gap between us and God. Jesus Christ is the *Bridge*. He gave His life, making a divine sacrifice, so that He could save our souls for eternity. It does not matter what our background is or what skin color we might have, He came and died for all people so that we might live. In the end the choice is ours: Will we walk across the Bridge and give our lives to Jesus Christ as our Savior? Or, will we continue to build our own bridge, which we know will ultimately fail?

DAY SIXTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus Christ died so you could live!

Verse of the Day: For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16 - NIV*

Question to Consider: How are you living for Jesus Christ today?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH



Hope is a powerful word that is used loosely in the English language. We have watered down its true definition by trivializing it and making a part of our every day vocabulary. We hope that we get the birthday present that we have been dreaming about. We hope the traffic won't be bad on the way to work. We hope there is not a large crowd at the grocery store. We spend our lives hoping that the insignificant things will not overtake us and when the major crises comes our way we find ourselves devastated because our definition of hope has become trivial and insignificant in our lives.

The author of Hebrews reminds us of a hope that is alive and active. It is the type of hope that will never be common place because it is not defined by man. Only one kind of hope will sustain us throughout our lives and that is the divine hope that comes only from the Creator. This divine hope sustains us when the threat of devastation is looming over us and attempting to devour our very lives. We call this divine hope, *Faith*. Unconditional faith in the One who created us is anything but trivial. It is indescribable at some times, it is overwhelming at other times, but at all times is certain and true. You cannot have hope apart from a sincere faith in Jesus Christ. This is certain!

DAY SEVENTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus Christ desires for you to have an unconditional faith in Him!

Verse of the Day: Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. *Hebrews 11:1 - NIV*

Question to Consider: How can you overcome the challenges that your faith faces on a daily basis?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



REDEFINING REDEMPTION

What comes to your mind when you hear the word: *Redemption*? Some people state that it brings to mind coupons or great deals. Some people state that it brings to mind the giving of a gift. Some people state that it brings to mind a meaningless contest where the odds are against you.

It is sad that the word Redemption has become such an insignificant part of our vocabulary today. Many people overlook the divine meaning of redemption because they associate it with cheap deals and scams. Our society has led people to believe that redemption comes in many different forms and it may be different for each person. Satan has convinced people that there is no such thing as lasting redemption. He wants you to believe that it is only a fairy tale and nothing more. But the truth always prevails.

Ephesians chapter one reminds us that *Redemption* is very real and it lasts for eternity. Jesus Christ came to this earth in order to redeem you for eternity. He carried the burden of your sins to the cross and was crucified in order to give you freedom for eternity. Jesus Christ came to pay a debt that He didn't owe because we owed a debt that we could not pay. Jesus Christ is the Redeemer. Have you given your life to Him?

DAY EIGHTEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus Christ came to redeem you!

Verse of the Day: In Him [Jesus Christ] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

Ephesians 1:7 - NIV

Question to Consider: How would you describe redemption to friends and family?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

AMAZING GRACE



John Newton wrote the popular song “Amazing Grace” while being transformed by his sincere faith in Jesus Christ. The song speaks of a person who suffers from spiritual blindness until God breaks through the veil that was pulled over the man’s eyes: *“I once was blind but now I see!”*

This simple line speaks volumes about wonderful, magnificent, and transformational grace that comes only from the divine Creator. As humans, it is difficult for us to wrap our minds around the concept of unconditional grace, especially a saving grace. It is hard for us to let go of our pride, triumphs, and failures and embrace the sustaining grace that can only be given by the hand of God.

Many times we make mistakes and fall short of giving glory to God. We sin against the One who has given us life and sometimes turn our back on Him to follow our desires. Even though we continue to fall short, God continues to reach out to us with His healing hand of compassion and salvation. Something deep inside of us longs to accept this free gift of grace but we feel so unworthy. We cannot fathom this type of love and we continue to put up a wall between us and God. Praise God that even when we put up our wall, He does not give up. He is persistent and pursues us with the intent of freeing us from our bondage through unconditional love. It is not by our hands that we are saved but by the free gift of God’s divine grace!

DAY NINETEEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: It is by God’s divine grace that we experience eternal life!

Verse of the Day: For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works so that no one can boast. *Ephesians 2:8-9 - NIV*

Question to Consider: How would you describe God’s divine and unconditional grace to your non-Christian friend?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



IMMERSING OUR LIVES INTO CHRIST

One of the most beautiful pictures seen in the New Testament comes to us in Romans 6:4-5. Paul paints a vivid picture of what takes place when a Christian is united with Jesus Christ through immersion.

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father; we too may live a new life. If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection.”

Every Christian must be united with Jesus Christ in order to experience eternal life. Scripture clearly states that we must join Christ through the covenant of immersion in water. Peter reminds us in Acts 2:38 that those who desire to sincerely repent of their sins and seek forgiveness will ultimately accept Christ as their Savior and make the conscious choice to be immersed for the forgiveness of sins.

The act of immersion is an act of obedience in which we follow the command of our Heavenly Father. However, many desire to rewrite Scripture in order to avoid the act of immersion. God states it plainly: Each Christian is commanded to be immersed for the forgiveness of sins in order to be united with the Savior in His resurrection.

DAY TWENTY - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus commands us to be immersed!

Verse of the Day: Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 - NIV

Question to Consider: Have you made the decision to enter into the covenant of immersion? Why or why not?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



COMPASSION FROM A DISTANCE

As a football fan growing up in the state of Michigan, I naturally rooted for the Detroit Lions. Anyone remotely familiar with the NFL in the last, oh, *forever*, knows that the Lions have been a miserable team. Each year, scores of fans are disillusioned into thinking “this will be the year,” only to spend every Sunday afternoon yelling at the quarterback for another dumb play.

It’s easy to criticize from a distance. It’s dangerous to criticize when we may not have all the details or completely understand all the contributing factors that go into someone making another seemingly “dumb” play.

How would you define “mercy?” William Barclay’s commentary on the book of Matthew defines it this way: “mercy means the ability to get right inside the other person’s skin until we can see things with his eyes, think things with his mind, and feel things with his feelings.”

Let’s spend more time showing mercy towards others by “getting in their skin.” Understand the situation from their perspective. It may greatly change yours.

DAY TWENTY-ONE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: All may not be what it seems from the outside.

Verse of the Day: Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. *Matthew 5:7 - NIV*

Question to Consider: Are you in the habit of judging someone too quickly?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

COMPASSION LIKE JESUS



What sacrifice are you willing to give up in order to show compassion toward someone else? I have been thinking about those phone calls we receive time after time...the phone calls from reputable organizations that are looking for donations of food, clothing, or simple cash. Honestly, I am not always the most receptive to these phone calls because they seem to occur at an inappropriate time for *me*. How selfish of me! You know as well as I do, that these innocent callers experience a great amount of rejection over the phone, handling it well, even in the midst of constant bad attitudes and ill manners.

Jesus always had time for others, no matter His condition, frame of mind, or personal schedule. How often we fall short to giving time to others, showing compassion toward them the way Jesus showed compassion to all He came in contact with.

Christ showed the greatest amount of compassion when He sacrificed His life for ours. We often see being a Christ-follower as an annoyance or another thing to do in my day. Christ made time for you.

DAY TWENTY-TWO - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Christ made time for you. Make time for Him.

Verse of the Day: This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:16 - NIV

Question to Consider: What will it take to turn your focus to the compassion Christ has for you?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



COMPASSION TOWARD ONE ANOTHER

My wife is a great example of compassion. For starters, she puts up with me and all my quirks and faults. More importantly, however, she has a genuine concern toward the lives of others.

She recently amazed me once again as she walked alongside an employee who was going through a difficult circumstance. At the drop of a hat, she would make time for her employee, talking with her, running errands with her, or accompanying her on a doctor's visit.

Christ was another great example of compassion toward others, the ultimate example, in fact. We see time and again in Scripture that Christ always put the needs of others before His own. Christ commands us multiple times to be kind toward one another. Are we observing that practice today with a humble heart or are we viewing those opportunities as another burden on our own plate?

DAY TWENTY-THREE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Focus on others and your joy will be more complete.

Verse of the Day: And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31-32 - NIV

Question to Consider: Who can you show compassion toward today? A friend, a lonely neighbor, a needy soul? Offer whatever you can to them today.

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

COMPASSION FOR YOURSELF



Galatians 6:7 states the following: “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; A man reaps what he sows.” As this verse applies to positive actions, it also refers to negative ones as well. Having compassion for ourselves is an important act of our Christian walk. That compassion should not be expected to bear fruit, however, if we are not showing compassion first and foremost to other people.

Jesus promises that those who show compassion will receive compassion. Would we plant an apple tree and expect that tree to give us watermelons? No way. We do reap what we sow, although we must remind ourselves that the return is always in God’s timing and in His format, not our own.

Luke 6:38 says, “For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

DAY TWENTY-FOUR - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Show compassion toward others and it will be returned back to you.

Verse of the Day: With the merciful you will show yourself merciful.
2 Samuel 22:26 - NIV

Question to Consider: Are you anxiously awaiting some compassion to be shown to you? Unselfishly and sincerely offer your heart to someone else today and see how God bears fruit in your life!

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



GIVING THANKS

Psalm 136 paints a vivid picture of giving thanks to our God for His love and mercy that “endures forever.” Personally, I find it incredibly easy to complain about the smallest of details, forgetting the promises God continues to give me through His own grace and mercy.

As we journey with Jesus each day, may we be humbled to remember that scripture tells us that even the hairs on our heads are numbered (Matthew 10:30). We can give thanks to God for that simple act of compassion and concern for us, His children.

As I think about our church, I am astounded by the incredible generosity and greatness of our God. He has provided us with an incredible place to worship and learn more about Him. He has given us so many tools to enable us to faithfully serve the needs of those in our church and community. His love indeed endures forever! “Forever God is faithful. Forever God is strong. Forever God is with us...forever.”

DAY TWENTY-FIVE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Christ cares about you more that you could ever imagine!

Verse of the Day: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever. *Psalm 136:1 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are three ways you can give thanks to God *today* for His mercy in your life? Praise the Lord!

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



WE HAVE A GOD OF PEACE

Paul writes these words in 2 Thessalonians 3:16, “Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” The key thing to remember is that if God is with us, and God is peace, then we will be at peace. Peace is more than a feeling; it is a state of mind. When we are at peace we know that whatever happens in the world around us, our Lord is with us.

I’m reminded of the author of “It is well with my soul.” Horatio G. Spafford had just suffered great financial loss in the Chicago Fire of 1871. If that weren’t enough, shortly after, he lost all four of his daughters in a shipwreck. It was when his ship passed over where his daughters had died that he wrote those famous words of peace, “When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul.” The peace of God is powerful, and can comfort us in the most dire of circumstances.

DAY TWENTY-SIX - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God can only grant you peace when He is near to you.

Verse of the Day: Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

2 Thessalonians 3:16 - NIV

Questions to Consider: How peaceful is your life? Is God near?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

MAKING PEACE WITH GOD



Eliphaz was one of Job's friends. He was a good man and wanted to see his friend at peace. Eliphaz spoke these words to Job, "*Submit to God and be at peace with Him; in this way prosperity will come to you. Accept instruction from His mouth and lay up His words in your heart. If you return to the Almighty, you will be restored: if you remove wickedness far from your tent.*" (Job 22:21-23) Great advice was given to Job, however it didn't apply to him. Job had already lived a life that was righteous in God's eyes.

However, his advice may apply to you. Making peace with God requires action. It is continuous. We must submit ourselves to Him. When we accept God's instruction and rid ourselves of wickedness, we are able to be at peace with God. Job is an example of a man who had done all of these things.

DAY TWENTY-SEVEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Submission, accepting God's instruction, and cleansing our lives of wickedness. leads to peace with God.

Verse of the Day: Submit to God and be at peace with Him; in this way prosperity will come to you. *Job 22:21 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What is in the way of you submitting to God?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



LEADING OTHERS TO MAKE PEACE WITH GOD

In order to lead others to peace with God, first we have to make peace ourselves. Once we have done, that we are ready to guide others. Ephesians 6:15 talks about having “*your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.*” As part of the full armor of God, the “shoes” of peace are effective only when we are ready.

Guiding others to peace with God can be as simple as explaining how you were able to make peace. Sometimes you will have to give advice like Eliphaz did in yesterday’s reading. Listening to another as they pour their heart to you will be an opportunity to lead another to peace with God. The key is to be ready, which means that you have to prepare your heart and mind, to be a witness at a moments notice.

DAY TWENTY-EIGHT - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Make peace with God first, then you can lead others to peace with God as well.

Verse of the Day: ...and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. *Ephesians 6:15 - NIV*

Question to Consider: How ready are you to lead someone else to peace with God?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

HELPING OTHERS MAKE PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER



There are many things that can get in the way and cause us to not have peace with each other. We have arguments big and small. We betray each other. We lie, cheat, steal, and a host of other things. As a result we become offended, hardened, and stubborn. Peace with one another can be elusive and difficult. Forgiveness is the first step. It isn't the easiest one, but once you can get past it, peace can begin. Colossians 3:13 says, *"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."*

The following verse helps us to take it to another level. *"...over all these virtues (compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience) put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."* Colossians 3:14. Desiring unity with a heart of love leads to peace.

DAY TWENTY-NINE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Desiring unity with a heart of love leads to peace.

Verse of the Day: ...over all these virtues (compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience) put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. *Colossians 3:14 - NIV*

Question to Consider: Who do you need to make peace with?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



FINDING AGREEMENT TO BEGIN WITNESSING

Your peace makes you different. Having God's peace sets you apart from the rest of the world. People notice your peacefulness. So just as we should be ready to help others make peace with God, we need to prepare ourselves to be a witness to them. 1 Peter 3:15 says, "*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.*"

You can only share Christ with others if you are at peace with that person. Make sure there is no grievance between you and the person you are witnessing to. Then, as you lead them to peace with God, you can share the gift of salvation with them. Keep in mind to be gentle and to show respect as you witness. Pray for that person and for the conversations you will have. Let the Holy Spirit guide you and speak through you. May you pass on the gift of peace through salvation in Jesus Christ.

DAY THIRTY - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Can people notice the peace that God gives you?

Verse of the Day: But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give the reason for the hope that you have.

But do this with gentleness and respect 1 Peter 3:15 - NIV

Question to Consider: Who can you lead to Christ?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



PURE AS A CHILD

Christmas is one of the best times of the year. The singing, the lights, the food, the presents, the I-don't-know-what-to-buy-Uncle-Marvin-who-has-everything panic, are just some of the reasons that make Christmas so great. There's nothing like watching children on Christmas morning. They tear through the wrapping paper and reveal the gift they've been waiting to open for so long. The expression of joy is written all over them and they can't contain their excitement.

Jesus teaches us in Luke 18, "...*anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.*" No matter how confident we may be in our goodness, even at our best our righteousness is still filthy rags in comparison to God. It's only by becoming a child of God and being born again do we find ourselves able to approach God and enter His kingdom.

DAY THIRTY-ONE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Purity begins with humbling ourselves and becoming like children.

Verse of the Day: I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

Luke 18:17 - NIV

Question to Consider: What are some areas that I need to change to become like a child?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

SETTING AN EXAMPLE



As a youngster, I was always watching my dad and trying to become just like him. I remember relentlessly trying to wear my dad's shoes. They were way too big for me, but I never quit trying. I wanted to be just like him in every single way. I would dress like dad and wear ties to church. I would tell the barber to cut my hair just like dad. I would try to walk like him, talk like him, and even look like him. I was following his example in everything.

While we naturally look up to others and follow their examples, God wants us to follow His example. He then tells us to go beyond that and set the example. In 1 Timothy 4:12 we read, "*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.*" God doesn't give us a chance to make excuses. Despite our age, gender, occupation, or any other excuse we can come up with, God expects us to set an example for others.

DAY THIRTY-TWO - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God calls me to step up and set an example in purity.

Verse of the Day: Be imitators of God... *Ephesians 5:1a - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are three ways that I can set an example for others in purity today?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



BASIC ARITHMETIC

$2+2=9$

Danny Ozark, who was a baseball manager for the Philadelphia Phillies, once said, “Half this game is ninety percent mental.” We’ve all heard things that just don’t seem to add up.

Too often the world hears Christians professing their desire to live a life of purity on Sunday morning; only to see that same person turning around and living like the world on Monday. It just doesn’t add up. If we’re serious about living lives of purity, then the battle begins with our minds. Paul told the Corinthian church, “...we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 10:5) In order for us to live a life of purity we must take control of our thoughts. It is our thoughts that control our actions, feelings and attitudes. Capturing and mastering our thoughts, and making them obedient to Christ, is the only way we can live lives of purity.

DAY THIRTY-THREE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: My thoughts will determine what I do. If my mind is in tune with God then I will be in tune with God.

Verse of the Day: Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.
1 Peter 1:13 - NIV

Question to Consider: What are some negative influences in my life that are keeping my thoughts from being pure?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

SOBERING REALIZATIONS



I love to fly. There's no greater thrill to me than to get in an airplane and watch the world below get smaller and smaller until eventually everything looks like a small dot. My wife on the other hand hates to fly. It is horrible continually trying to convince her that flying is safe and much better than driving. I'm so glad that she wasn't on the flight that had a rough landing in Phoenix and the attendant came on over the intercom with:

“Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Capt. Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal.”

While flying may be scary to a lot of people, there are times when considering the destructive power of sin can be overwhelmingly frightening. The problem is that we don't understand how horrible sin truly is or else we wouldn't do it. Sin must be very heinous or else the consequences of sin would not be so terrible. God realizes how horrific sin truly is and its destructive power. Therefore, as a loving Father, He pleads with us to live pure and holy lives free from sin.

DAY THIRTY-FOUR - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God hates sin because it is destructive.

Verse of the Day: Be holy, because I am holy. *1 Peter 1:16b - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are some ways that a lack of purity is destroying my life?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



SPOILERS

There's nothing better than a great story. I remember listening to my dad tell me stories as a kid. The way dad would tell stories was always sure to entertain. He would do voices and motions that absolutely captured a boy and his friends' attention.

I remember one story dad would tell that came from the Bible. It's the story of Daniel and the lion's den. I went back and read that story the other day imagining my dad was telling it to me again for the first time. I never realized but Daniel spoils the end of the story right there in the first chapter. Daniel 1:8 says, "*But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine...*" From the very beginning you know that Daniel is not going to back down. No matter what the king, the evil royal advisors or anyone else threw at Daniel, his mind was made up: He would remain pure for God.

DAY THIRTY-FIVE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Daniel began with the end in mind. To be successful we must begin with the end in mind. Resolve in your mind right now that you will not defile yourself, but remain pure for God.

Verse of the Day: ...then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:15 - NIV

Question to Consider: How can I remain as pure as possible for God?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



STUPID BIRDS

I remember getting into trouble a lot as a kid. I would cover my tracks and think I was going to get away with whatever mischief I had been in only to find out that my mom already knew what I had done before I even walked in the door. Mom never told me how she always knew what I had done. The only source my mother would give up was, “A little birdie told me.” So then I declared war against the birds with my Red Ryder bb gun. The stupid little birdie told my mom about that too.

“Your faith ought to get you into trouble at times.” (Charles Swindoll)
Living out our faith will make us stand out from the world. This opens us to attacks (persecutions) from the world.

Jesus is very clear that we will face hardships if we follow Him. However, instead of running from these hardships, we should embrace them. The hard times are what make us fruitful. Our attitude should be the same as the disciples in Acts 5:41. Right after they had just been flogged for preaching Christ they “...left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.”

DAY THIRTY-SIX - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Facing trials because we follow God are not hardships, but blessings.

Verse of the Day: Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 5:10 - NIV

Question to Consider: What are some trials that I can thank God for, instead of complaining about them?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

DISAPPOINTED EXPECTATIONS



David Roper once pointed out, “It’s been said, ‘Cheer up, things could be worse.’ I cheered up and things got worse.” Life is full of disappointments. The question is not will the disappointments come; the question is how will you handle them when they come?

The Jews expected a conquering kingdom, and its citizens to be lords among the nations; but Jesus pronounces a blessing on those who are persecuted for righteousness. The kingdom belongs to the righteous. The Jews never expected the kingdom of God to come in the way that it did. They never expected the Messiah to be born in a stable. They never expected Him to come from a little town called Nazareth. They never expected Him to reach out to the Gentiles. They never expected to be the ones to crucify the Messiah. In fact, many were expecting a kingdom that was flashier and ruled in this world. Many were truly disappointed.

We need to watch carefully, or we too could miss out on what God is doing with His kingdom.

DAY THIRTY-SEVEN - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: We sometimes miss what God is doing because of our own expectations.

Verse of the Day: And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered for a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

1 Peter 5:10 - NIV

Question to Consider: How can I focus on God’s will and not my own?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



WE CAN'T STAND SITTING DOWN

My wife and I have completely different tastes when it comes to decorating. I remember trying to convince her that we needed to put Astroturf down in the backyard with a huge Colts emblem. I've never seen such determination and power come from such a little person as she made it abundantly clear to me that my Astroturf idea is not and will not ever be a good idea.

Taking a stand with relentless determination is what God expects us to do. Paul tells the Ephesians to, "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." God equips us with His mighty power in order for us to take a stand. If we don't stand up for God, then who will? In Revelation 21:8 we find a list of people who will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The very first group in that list isn't the murderers, the liars, or the unbelieving; instead it's the cowardly. God expects us to be men and women of courage, who aren't afraid to stand for Him.

DAY THIRTY-EIGHT - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: God expects me to stand for Him.

Verse of the Day: Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. *1 Corinthians 16:13 - NIV*

Question to Consider: How can I take a stand for God today?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



People have often said, “There’s no safer place to be than in the center of the will of God.” While I understand what they’re trying to say, I have to disagree at the same time. In Hebrews 11 we read tremendous examples of men and women living out their faith. It is truly amazing how they “through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice...shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword...”(Hebrews 11:32-34)

Then in verse 36 we read, “Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword.” Obviously being in the will of God is not always the safest place for our earthly bodies. However, we know that no matter what happens, God will deliver us safely to His heavenly kingdom.

DAY THIRTY-NINE - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Following God is risky business. However, ultimately we will be kept safe.

Verse of the Day: The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. *2 Timothy 4:18 - NIV*

Question to Consider: What are some ways that I can live out my faith?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS



ARE WE THERE YET?

I remember one summer as a kid my family decided we were going to do a month long road trip to Saskatchewan. To a second grader, the back of a car is exciting for a whole two minutes. Before we even got out of the driveway I was asking how much longer? It is truly amazing my parents brought me back. While I absolutely hated the car ride, I'll never forget the sights we saw along the way. We stopped at Mount Rushmore, we saw Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park, we saw the Northern Lights, and several other amazing sights. It was a trip that I'll never forget.

The Christian walk is a lot like a road trip. The ride can be long and hard, but in the end it is totally worth it. While you may think that you are reaching the end of these forty days with Jesus, the reality is that it is just the beginning. Never stop in your journey with Him. Press onward and don't forget to enjoy the ride.

DAY FORTY - MY TIME WITH JESUS

Point to Ponder: Jesus died for me, the least I can do is live for Him.

Verse of the Day: I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14 - NIV

Question to Consider: What will I do now in order to continue growing in Him?

REFLECTIONS ON MY DAY WITH JESUS

It's not about me, it's all about Jesus.

This devotional booklet was prepared by the
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