

Day 1

Josie Self

Read

Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Think

Joshua was just given a huge task: to lead the Israelites into the promised land! It's understandable why Joshua might be feeling scared, overwhelmed or not ready, but God commands him to be brave and to trust in Him. Oftentimes when God calls us to something new (maybe a new step of obedience, a new leadership role, or a new level of devotion) it's easy to feel fearful or unprepared. God often calls us to something bigger than we can handle so that we can learn to rely on *His* strength and *His* power and protection.

Reflect

Is there something new that God is calling you into? What step is He asking you to take toward Him? How do you feel? Confident? Insecure? Ready? Hesitant? Take some time to ask God to equip you with His strength to take the next step that's ahead. God has promised that He will be with you wherever you go. The step may be bigger or more challenging than we can handle, but it's not too big for God! Invite Him into this process.

Pray

God I thank you that you promise to always be with me. You will never leave or abandon me and you go before me every step of the way. I pray that you would clearly reveal to me what my next step in my relationship with you is. Help me to listen and trust your words and your promises. I want to go deeper with you and I trust that you have a plan for my life. Thank you for your goodness and your faithfulness. Amen.

Day 2

Chrissy Davis

Read

Acts 1:6-8 So when they had come together, they asked Him *repeatedly*, “Lord, are You at this time reestablishing the kingdom *and* restoring it to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power *and* ability when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be My witnesses [to tell people about Me] both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth.”

Think

Jesus’s close followers asked Jesus what was to come- how long would the time they were experiencing last? What is coming next? Jesus responded to them saying it is not for them to know, but God knows. He then reminds them they can, however, receive power from the Holy Spirit when they ask. Power to thrive not survive, the power to share the gospel of hope all over the world.

Reflect

All we have to do is ask for the Holy Spirit to give us power in this season of uncertainty. Power to thrive not just survive. Power to grow and to find healing and to reach people in our lives who are far from God. The Holy Spirit is a promise from Jesus to all who believe in him and follow him. He always keeps his promises, so ask daily for the Holy Spirit to empower you.

Pray

Jesus thank you for the Holy Spirit. Thank you that in this season I can thrive in my relationship with you, not just get through and survive. Holy Spirit, empower me to grow and heal and to follow after Jesus. Amen.

Day 3

Dayne Scanlon

Read

James 4:13-15

Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

Think

This season has revealed a lot of things... mainly, we have NO CLUE what will happen tomorrow. The reality is if we could actually plan for our futures, we would all probably have a life with no pain. I love what James says in verse 14, reminding all of us that our lives are just mist. They come and go so quickly. So let's not live for tomorrow, but let's stay present and allow God to work through us in the now, and trust him for tomorrow.

Reflect

How can you trust God with today? What is happening in your life that you need to surrender to him?

Pray

God, thank you for being in complete control. Thank you that I don't have to know what's happening tomorrow and that I can just be present today. Help me trust that you have a future for me, and that your plans are greater than mine! AMEN.

Day 4

Dan Self

Read

Psalm 50:9,13-15

“I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine...Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats? Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High, and call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

Think

What is God saying here? He’s saying the act of sacrifice does not matter to Him if the heart that is offering the sacrifice is not in the right place. What does matter to God? *Thanks* offerings; his people calling on him when they are in trouble and then his people praising him for delivering them. God cares more about how you respond to the work he’s currently doing than any empty act of praise.

Reflect/Apply

What parts of your spirituality do you feel like are just sort of mechanical- that is, things you do for God not because you *want* to, but things you feel like you have to in order to be a good Christian? What is God doing in your life/the world right now? Ask Him to reveal himself to you and then thank him for what he’s doing. It’s only out of our realization that he *is* working now that we are able to truly partner with Him and love Him.

Pray

Lord, you are worthy or so much more than empty gestures and hollow praises. You are the King of the world, and all good things come from you. Open my heart to what you are doing now; train my heart to cry out to you in my times of trouble- I know you will answer me. I praise you not because you used to do great work in the world, but because you are doing great work now, in me. Teach me your ways and lead me in your love.

Day 5

Marty Miranda

Scripture

“My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever.”

Psalms 73:26 NLT

“...each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.”

2 Corinthians 12:9 NLT

Think

When we feel overwhelmed, out of sorts, tired, weary, and weak, God loves to show us his strength, give us his power, and cover us in his grace.

1. Where do you feel weak? What has been challenging for you today?
2. How have you experienced God’s grace, power and strength?

Apply

Tell God where you feel overwhelmed and weak, and thank him for his grace today

Pray

God, thank you that your power works best in my weakness. Thank you that the power of Christ is at work in my life when my strength fails. Help me to trust you and rely on your strength and your grace today. In Jesus name, Amen.