



21

— DAYS —

of

PRAYER

CELEBRATE - SEEK - SURRENDER

— | —
DEVOTIONAL

— AUGUST 2026 —



WEEK 1 – CELEBRATE

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Day 2: Who He Is: Good

Day 3: What He's Done: Salvation

Day 4: What He's Done: Eternal Life

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Foreword

Welcome!

I'm so glad you've decided to begin this journey.

Whether you've been following Jesus for years or you're just beginning to explore what it means to know Him, these next twenty-one days are an invitation to grow closer to God through prayer.

And prayer is more than bringing God your requests—it's about abiding in Him. Like any healthy relationship, intimacy grows as you spend time together: talking, listening, and enjoying one another's presence.

*(Did you catch that?...God **ENJOYS** spending time with you!)*

Over the next three weeks, we'll journey through three simple movements of prayer:

- **Celebrate** – Begin by fixing your heart on who God is and all He has done.
- **Seek** – Pursue His presence, His will, and His direction.
- **Surrender** – Trust Him with every area of your life.

Now, here's my challenge to you.

For the next twenty-one days, make time each day to simply be with God. Talk to Him honestly. Thank Him. Listen for His voice. Bring Him your questions, your worries, your victories, and your needs. Don't become preoccupied with finding the right words. Instead, focus on spending time with the One who knows you, loves you, and invites you to walk with Him every day.

There will be distractions and busy schedules, but don't let them discourage you. Healthy relationships aren't built in a single conversation—they're built one day at a time. The same is true of your walk with God. Just keep showing up.

Twenty-one days from now, don't settle for saying, *"I finished a devotional."* Instead, be able to say, *"I know Jesus better than I did three weeks ago."*

If that's true, these twenty-one days will have been well worth it.

Let's begin.



— W E E K —

1

CELEBRATE

Day 1 – Who He Is: Holy

Isaiah 6:3b NIV

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Devotion

As we begin these 21 days of prayer, it's tempting to start with a list of things we want God to do. We all have needs. We all have prayers we're carrying.

But before we focus on our circumstances, let's focus on God.

When Isaiah saw the Lord, he wasn't thinking about himself. He wasn't thinking about his problems or even his ministry. His attention was completely captured by God.

Isaiah saw the Lord seated on His throne. The temple was filled with His glory, and the angels never stopped declaring, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty."

God's holiness means there is no one like Him.

He is completely pure. Completely good. Completely trustworthy. He has never made a mistake, never broken a promise, and never acted outside of His perfect character. Everything He does is holy because everything about Him is holy.

The more Isaiah looked at God, the less he was focused on himself. Seeing God's holiness caused him to realize his own need for God's grace. That's what happens when we truly see God—we stop comparing ourselves to other people and begin standing in awe of Him.

The beautiful part of the story is that God's holiness didn't push Isaiah away. It drew him closer. God cleansed him, restored him, and invited him into His purpose.

The same is true for us.

God isn't asking us to spend the next 21 days trying harder. He's inviting us to know Him better.

Because the better we know God, the more everything else begins to find its proper place.

Reflection

Before bringing God your requests, spend a few moments reflecting on God's holiness and praising Him for who He is.

Prayer

Holy God, there is no one like You. Thank You for being perfect, faithful, and completely worthy of my worship. As I begin these 21 days of prayer, help me lift my eyes off myself and onto You. Fill my heart with awe as I remember who You are. Thank You for inviting me into Your presence through Jesus. Today, I simply want to celebrate You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 2 – Who He Is: Good

Psalm 34:1,8 NLT

I will praise the Lord at all times. I will constantly speak his praises...Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!

Devotion

Some days, God's goodness seems obvious. A breathtaking sunrise, an unexpected answer to prayer, or the encouragement of a friend reminds us that He is caring for us. Other days, His goodness is harder to recognize. Trials linger, prayers seem unanswered, and life doesn't unfold the way we had hoped.

David wrote Psalm 34 after God delivered him from a desperate situation, yet his words reach beyond a single moment of rescue. He declared, "I will praise the LORD at all times." His praise was not based only on favorable circumstances but on the unchanging character of God. Because God is good, He is worthy of praise in every season.

God's goodness is woven into everything He does. His heart is compassionate, His wisdom is perfect, and His purposes are always right—even when we cannot see the whole picture. What feels confusing to us is never confusing to Him. We may not understand His timing or His plans, but we can trust the One whose character never changes.

David invites us to "taste and see that the LORD is good." This is more than learning about God from a distance. It is an invitation to experience His faithfulness firsthand by placing our confidence in Him. As we walk with Him through both joyful and difficult seasons, we discover again and again that He is our refuge, our strength, and our constant source of hope.

No matter what this day brings, God's goodness remains unchanged. His character is good, His heart is good, and His ways are good. We can trust Him because He is always faithful.

Reflection

How have you seen God's goodness in your life recently, even in the middle of difficult circumstances?

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your unfailing goodness. Even when I cannot understand everything happening around me, I know that Your character never changes. Help me to trust Your heart when I cannot see Your plan. Open my eyes to recognize Your goodness each day, and let my life be filled with praise in every season. Thank You for being my refuge and my hope. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 3 – What He’s Done: Salvation

Ephesians 2:8 NLT

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is **a gift from God**.

Devotion

If someone asked you to describe the greatest thing God has ever done for you, what would you say?

You might think of a prayer He answered, a difficult season He carried you through, or a blessing He provided. Those are all reasons to celebrate. But today, we're celebrating something even greater.

We're celebrating salvation.

Before Jesus, we were separated from God because of our sin. No amount of good works, religious effort, or trying harder could fix what was broken. We needed a Savior.

That's exactly what God provided.

Ephesians tells us that because of His great love, God made us alive with Christ. Jesus took our place on the cross, paid the penalty for our sin, and rose from the dead so that everyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and made new.

Notice who takes the initiative in this passage. God loved. God showed mercy. God made us alive. God saved us.

Salvation isn't something we earn—it's something we receive.

That's why the gospel is called **good news**. We don't spend our lives trying to earn God's love; we live in response to the love He has already shown us through Jesus. Today, celebrate the greatest gift you've ever received—the gift of salvation by grace.

Reflection

What does your salvation through Jesus mean to you today? Take a few moments to thank God for His grace and celebrate the gift of your salvation.

Prayer

Father, thank You for loving me enough to send Jesus to save me. Thank You that my salvation is a gift of Your grace and not something I could ever earn. Thank You for forgiving my sin, making me new, and giving me the hope of eternal life. Today I celebrate all that You have done for me through Jesus. May I never lose my wonder at the gospel. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 4 – What He's Done: Eternal Life

John 3:16 NIV

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 17:3 NIV

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

Devotion

When you hear the words *eternal life*, what comes to mind?

For many of us, we immediately think about heaven. And that's certainly part of God's promise. Because of Jesus, we have the assurance that death is not the end and that one day we will be with Him forever.

But eternal life is more than a future destination.

Jesus said, "This is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

Eternal life begins the moment we place our faith in Christ. It's not simply living forever—it's living in relationship with God. Through Jesus, we have been invited to know the Father, walk with Him, hear His voice, and experience His presence every day.

That changes the way we see today.

We don't have to wait until heaven to enjoy life with God. We can experience His peace in the middle of uncertainty, His joy in difficult seasons, His wisdom when we need direction, and His presence wherever we go.

One day our faith will become sight, and we will spend eternity with Him. But today, we can already enjoy the relationship that Jesus made possible through the cross.

What an incredible gift.

Because of Jesus, eternal life isn't just something we're waiting for—it's something we're living.

Reflection

What about the gift of eternal life gives you the greatest reason to celebrate today? Thank God for the relationship you have with Him now and the hope you have for eternity.

Prayer

Father, thank You for the gift of eternal life through Jesus. Thank You that I don't have to wait until heaven to know You, but that I can walk with You today. Help me grow in my relationship with You and live each day with the hope and confidence that comes from knowing my future is secure in Christ. Thank You for inviting me into life with You, now and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 5 – What He Is Doing: Transformation

2 Corinthians 3:18 NIV

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Devotion

Before Jesus, the law revealed what was right, but it could not give us the power to become righteous. It exposed our need for God without providing a way for us to be transformed. But through Jesus, the veil has been removed. We have been given something incredible: **access to the presence of God.**

And in His presence, transformation happens.

We don't become more like Jesus by trying harder, following enough rules, or fixing ourselves. We become like Him by drawing near to Him and allowing His Spirit to do what only He can do. As we behold Jesus—spending time in His presence, knowing His Word, and surrendering our lives to Him—the Holy Spirit changes us from the inside out.

Today, celebrate not only what Jesus has done **for you**, but what He is doing **in you**. You are not who you once were, and by His grace, you are still becoming more like Him.

Reflection

Where can you see evidence of God transforming you to become more like Jesus?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for giving me access to Your presence and for the freedom I have in You. Thank You that I don't have to transform myself. Help me keep my eyes on You and surrender to the work of Your Spirit. Change my heart, my thoughts, my desires, and my actions so that my life looks more and more like You. Amen.

Day 6 - What He is Doing: Purpose & Power

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Acts 1:8 NIV

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Devotion

When our hearts are fixed on who God is, everything else in life comes into clearer focus. He is not only our Creator but also our Redeemer, Sustainer, and Friend. From the very beginning, God has been writing a story of love and redemption, and by His grace, we are invited into it. He has not only saved us from sin but also called us into a life of purpose—one that reflects His glory and advances His Kingdom.

God's work in us doesn't end at salvation. He doesn't simply rescue us and then leave us to figure things out on our own. Instead, He gives us the Holy Spirit—the very presence and power of God within us—to guide, strengthen, and equip us for the work He has prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 2:10). This means that every act of love, every word of truth, every step of obedience is part of His divine plan.

When we fix our hearts on Him, we remember that our purpose is not self-made but God-given. We are called to participate in His mission—to be light in the darkness, hope to the hopeless, and witnesses of His transforming grace. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live beyond our own strength, to forgive when it's hard, to serve when it's inconvenient, and to trust when the path is unclear.

Reflection

You are not aimless—you are chosen, equipped, and sent. How does God want you to trust His power for his purpose in your life? As you walk with Him today, watch how He uses your life for His glory and celebrate His faithfulness, rejoice in His calling, and walk boldly in the Spirit's power.

Prayer

Lord, fix my heart on You. Thank You for saving me, calling me, and empowering me to live for Your purpose. Use me today for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 7 – What He Will Do: Return

John 14:1-3

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Devotion

Life has a way of throwing unexpected curveballs our way. We face shifting global events, personal hardships, and daily uncertainties that can easily make us feel anxious about what tomorrow holds. It is easy to look at the world around us and let fear creep into our hearts. However, Jesus gives us a powerful anchor for our souls in this passage. He spoke these exact words to His disciples right before facing the cross, knowing they were about to walk through a season of intense confusion and grief.

Jesus did not promise that we would know every single detail about the future. He did not map out a step-by-step timeline of our lives or explain every mystery of the world. Instead, He gave a much deeper, unshakeable assurance: He promised a person and a place. Jesus explicitly told us that He is personally preparing a home for us in His Father's house. Even better, He gave a ironclad guarantee that He will return to gather us to Himself.

For a new believer, this is a beautiful reminder that your future is completely secure in Christ. You do not have to worry about whether you are strong enough to make it to the end, because Jesus is the one holding onto you and coming back for you. For the mature believer, this truth serves as a vital course correction. It reminds us not to get too comfortable in a world that is temporary, or too discouraged by trials that will soon pass.

Our ultimate hope is not found in predictable circumstances, a stable economy, or perfect health. Our ultimate hope is the reality that Jesus Christ is coming again. We can look toward the future with bold confidence and peace, not because we know exactly *what* is coming, but because we know *Who* is coming.

Reflection

How does the personal promise that Jesus is preparing a place for you and returning to bring you home give you tangible hope and confidence to face your current circumstances today?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the incredible promise that You are coming back for me. When my heart feels troubled by the uncertainties of this world, help me fix my eyes on the eternal home You are preparing. I choose to trust Your words rather than my fears. Fill me with hope and confidence today as I look forward to the day I will see You face to face. Amen.



— W E E K —

2

SEEK

Day 8 – Alignment: Seek His Presence

John 15:4,5b NIV

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me...apart from me you can do nothing.

Devotion

We don't naturally like the word *dependence*.

We admire people who are independent, self-sufficient, and capable of handling life on their own. We celebrate phrases like, "I've got this."

Jesus says something completely different.

"Apart from Me you can do nothing."

Those words can sound harsh at first, but they're actually an invitation. Jesus isn't saying we can't accomplish anything. People can build careers, raise families, start businesses, and achieve success without following Him. What He's saying is that we cannot accomplish anything of eternal value apart from Him. We can't produce the fruit that He desires in our lives by relying on our own strength.

That's why He tells us to remain in Him.

Prayer isn't simply a spiritual discipline to check off a list. It's our daily reminder that we were never meant to live the Christian life on our own. We don't seek God's presence because He needs our company—we seek His presence because we desperately need Him.

The longer we walk with Christ, the more we realize that dependence isn't a sign of weakness; it's the pathway to spiritual strength. His wisdom becomes our wisdom. His peace steadies our hearts. His power enables our obedience. His life produces fruit in us that we could never produce ourselves.

Before we seek God's direction, His provision, or His answers, we first seek His presence. Everything we need flows from Him.

Jesus' invitation is simple: **Remain in me.**

Reflection

Where have you been relying on your own strength instead of Jesus? Take a few moments to seek His presence today, remembering that apart from Him you can do nothing.

Prayer

Father, thank You for reminding me that I was never meant to live apart from Your strength. Teach me to remain close to You each day. Help me depend on Your wisdom, Your peace, and Your power in every area of my life. Today I choose to seek Your presence above everything else. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 9 – Alignment: Seek His Kingdom

Matthew 6:33a

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else...

Matthew 5:16 NLT

In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, **so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.**

Devotion

It's easy to spend our lives building our own kingdoms. We pursue success, influence, security, and recognition. We want our lives to matter, and it's easy to believe those things will give us the significance we're looking for. But Jesus calls us to seek something far greater—**His Kingdom.**

When He tells us to seek first His Kingdom, He calls us to live for the honor of the King rather than the promotion of ourselves. The goal of our lives isn't to become more recognized, but for Jesus to become more known. Not that our names are lifted up, but that **His name is exalted.**

This temptation is often subtle. We can begin measuring our lives by our accomplishments, our influence, or our success—even in ministry. We start asking questions like, "*Am I making an impact?*" or "*Do people appreciate what I'm doing?*" Those aren't wrong questions, but they should never become the measure of a faithful life. The better question is, "*Is Jesus being glorified through me?*" God's Kingdom isn't built to showcase us. It's built to reveal Him.

That's why Jesus tells us to let our light shine before others—not so we'll receive praise, but so that people will glorify our heavenly Father. Every gift He's given you, every opportunity He places before you, and every act of obedience is another chance to point people beyond yourself and toward Him.

When we seek His Kingdom first, our greatest desire becomes His glory. We begin asking different questions: *How can Jesus be seen? How can His name be honored? How can others be drawn to Him through my life?*

A life that seeks God's Kingdom doesn't point people to itself. It points people to the King.

Reflection

Who is receiving the glory through the way you're living? Ask God to help you live in a way that points others to Jesus.

Prayer

Father, forgive me for the times I've sought recognition for myself instead of glory for You. Let my life point people to Jesus. May Your name be lifted high, Your kingdom advance, and Your glory be seen through everything I do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 10 – Alignment: Seek His Righteousness

Matthew 6:33a NIV

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness...

2 Corinthians 3:18b NLT

And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

Philippians 1:6 NLT

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Devotion

Our world is obsessed with doing. What have you accomplished? What's next on your list? How productive have you been today?

It's easy to bring that same mindset into our relationship with God. We can begin to measure our spiritual lives by what we're doing—serving, giving, reading our Bible, attending church, or checking off another spiritual discipline.

Those things matter, but Jesus points us to something deeper.

When He tells us to seek His righteousness, He's inviting us to focus less on what we're doing and more on who we're becoming.

God's greatest work isn't simply changing our behavior. He's changing our hearts. He's shaping our character. He's making us more like Jesus.

That's why seeking His righteousness isn't about trying harder to impress God. It's about drawing near to Him and trusting Him to continue the work He's already begun in you. As you seek Him, He changes your desires, your attitudes, your words, and your actions—not because you're striving harder, but because you're becoming more like Christ.

The goal of the Christian life isn't just to do more for Jesus. It's to become more like Jesus.

Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on the work God has already done in your life. Where have you seen Him shape your heart, change your desires, or make you more like Jesus? Then ask Him to reveal the areas where He wants to continue His work in you.

Prayer

Father, as I seek You today, continue the work You're doing in me. Shape my heart to reflect Yours. Transform my desires, my character, and my life until I become more like Jesus. Thank You for Your faithfulness to finish the work You've begun in me. Amen.

Day 11 – Seek His Will

Romans 12:2 NIV

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Luke 22:42 NIV

Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.

Devotion

Surrender can feel like loss. When we think about laying down our own will to follow God's, we often focus on what we might have to give up. But surrender to God isn't bondage—it's freedom. Jesus showed us this perfectly in the garden when He prayed, "Not my will, but yours be done." The Father's will led Him to the cross. It was costly, but through His surrender came salvation, freedom, and eternal life for anyone who would receive Him. What God does through our sacrifice is always way bigger than the sacrifice.

We can trust the will of a God who was willing to give His Son to rescue us.

God sees what we cannot see. He knows what will truly satisfy us, what will bring life, and what will accomplish His purposes through us. His will may not always be easy, and it may look different from what we would choose for ourselves, but it is **good, pleasing, and perfect**.

When we stop gripping our own plans and begin seeking His, we discover that surrender isn't about what we lose. It's about trusting the One who loves us incomprehensibly and wants what is best.

Today, instead of simply asking God to bless your plans, be willing to lay your plans down, ask Him to reveal His—and choose to follow wherever He leads.

Reflection

What part of your own will are you holding tightly to?

Prayer

Father, I trust that Your will is better than my own. Forgive me for the times I have held tightly to my plans instead of seeking Yours. Renew my mind and help me desire what You desire. Give me the faith to surrender even when I cannot see or understand where You are leading. Today I choose to pray as Jesus did: not my will, but Yours be done. Amen.

Day 12 – Seek His Strength

Isaiah 40:29-31 NIV

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Devotion

We live in a culture that treats self-reliance like a superpower. From a young age, we are taught to dig deep, pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, and push through exhaustion. It is easy to carry this exact same "grind" mentality into our faith. We try to force ourselves to be perfect Christians, relying entirely on our own human willpower to love our enemies, resist temptation, and serve others. However, white-knuckling your way through the Christian life always leads to the exact same destination: total spiritual burnout.

God never intended for you to live the Christian life through human effort alone. In fact, Jesus makes our human limitations remarkably clear in John 15:5 when He states that apart from Him, we can do absolutely nothing. If a branch disconnects from the vine, it cannot force itself to grow fruit through sheer effort; it simply withers. Similarly, Isaiah reminds us that even the youngest, strongest, and most capable among us will naturally grow tired, stumble, and completely exhaust their resources. True spiritual maturity begins when we finally stop trying to be self-sufficient and fully acknowledge our desperate daily dependence on God.

When you exhaust your own strength, you are finally in the perfect position to receive God's supernatural power. Isaiah promises a beautiful divine exchange: when we place our hope in the Lord, He exchanges our fragile, limited energy for His boundless, unwearied power. The Holy Spirit lives inside you to sustain, empower, and breathe new life into your daily walk. You do not have to conquer today by your own grit. Lift the heavy weight of self-reliance off your shoulders right now and invite the Holy Spirit to do through you what you could never accomplish on your own. Remember He cannot do "through" you what you do not allow Him to do "to" you!

Reflect

Where are you currently trying to operate in your own strength, and how can recognizing your dependence on the Holy Spirit today change the way you approach that specific situation?

Pray

Heavenly Father, I confess that I often try to live for You using only my own strength and effort. Forgive me for my self-reliance. I acknowledge today that apart from You, I can do absolutely nothing. Holy Spirit, I invite You into my weakness right now. Please fill me, strengthen me, and sustain me through Your power today. I place my hope entirely in You to renew my energy. Amen.

Day 13 - Notice Where God is Working

John 5:17 NIV

Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working."

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Devotion

Pursuing God's presence, His will, and His direction begins with a simple but profound step—opening our eyes to see where He is already at work. Too often, we rush through life with our own plans, asking God to bless them, rather than pausing to notice the blessings and movements He has already set in motion.

God is never idle. Jesus reminds us in John 5:17, *"My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I too am working."* His fingerprints are on the sunrise, in the kindness of a stranger, in the quiet conviction of the Holy Spirit, and in the opportunities that align with His purposes. He intentionally intersects our path with His plans because He wants to include us.

When we slow down and truly look, we begin to see divine patterns—doors opening, hearts softening, needs arising that match the gifts He's given us. Noticing where God is working shifts our prayers from *"Lord, bless what I'm doing"* to *"Lord, help me join what You're doing."*

This posture requires humility and attentiveness. It means letting go of preconceived ideas about how God *should* work and trusting that His ways are higher than ours. As we train our hearts to notice, we'll find that He is always at work—and it's woven into the very fabric of our days.

Reflection

Today, look for one way God is moving, and ask Him to show you what He would have you do. Then, share that experience with another Christian.

Prayer

Lord, open my eyes to see Your hand at work around me. Remove the distractions that keep me from noticing Your presence. Give me the courage to step into the places where You are moving, even when it stretches my comfort. Align my heart with Your will, and let my life be a willing response to Your direction. Amen.

Day 14 – Awareness: Listen to What He Is Saying

John 10:27 ESV

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

James 1:22a NLT

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says.

Devotion

Have you ever been in a crowded room and instantly recognized the voice of someone you love? You didn't have to think about it. You knew their voice because you'd heard it so many times.

That's the kind of relationship Jesus describes with His followers. His sheep recognize His voice because they know Him. Sheep don't learn their shepherd's voice overnight. They learn it by staying close to the shepherd day after day. In the same way, we become familiar with God's voice as we spend time with Him.

God still speaks—not usually through dramatic signs or audible voices, but through His Word, the Holy Spirit, and the gentle promptings that align with His truth. As we intentionally make room for His presence through His Word and prayer, our hearts become more attentive to His leading. The more we walk with Him, the easier it becomes to recognize His voice.

But hearing is only the beginning. Jesus says, **"My sheep hear my voice... and they follow me."** God doesn't speak just so we can hear Him. He speaks so we will follow Him. Every time we trust Him and obey, our relationship grows stronger. Every step of obedience teaches us to trust Him even more.

Today, slow down. Spend time in His presence. Ask God to speak, then trust Him enough to follow where He leads.

Reflection

How has God been speaking to you recently? Is there something He's asking you to trust, obey, or surrender?

Prayer

Father, thank You that You are a God who speaks. Help me slow down and make room to hear Your voice. As I spend time with You, teach me to recognize Your leading and give me the faith to respond with joyful obedience. Prepare my heart to follow wherever You lead. In Jesus' name, Amen.



— W E E K —

3

SURRENDER

Day 15 – Choose This Day

Joshua 24:15 ESV

...Choose this day whom you will serve...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV

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 straight your paths.

Devotion

Have you ever known the right thing to do but struggled to take the first step? Often, the hardest part isn't knowing God's will—it's choosing to trust Him enough to obey.

That's what surrender is. Surrender isn't giving up; it's giving God control. It's choosing His way over our own, even when we don't know where it will lead.

Throughout the past week, you've been seeking God's presence, His Kingdom, His righteousness, His will, and His strength. You've learned to notice where He is working and to listen for His voice. Now comes the next step: saying "yes" to what He is asking.

Joshua challenged God's people to choose whom they would serve. Every day, we face that same decision. Will we trust our own understanding, or will we trust the One who knows the way?

Surrender begins with a simple choice to say, "Lord, I place my trust in you." It means laying down our own plans, opinions, and desires so we can embrace His. Every day we choose whose voice we'll follow—our own or His. As we surrender control and follow His leading, we discover that His plans are always better than anything we could have planned for ourselves.

Today, don't just ask God to speak. Ask Him to show you one step of obedience, then choose to take it. Every act of surrender is another step of trust.

Reflection

What is one area of your life where God is asking you to trust Him more fully? What would it look like to say "yes" to Him today?

Prayer

Father, thank You for leading me so faithfully. Today, I choose to trust You. Help me surrender my plans, my fears, and my desires to You. Give me the courage to obey whatever You ask, knowing that Your way is always best. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 16 – Choose To Stay

John 15:4 NLT

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

Colossians 2:6-7 NLT

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

Devotion

Making the decision to follow Jesus is an important moment, but surrender isn't a one-time decision. It's a daily choice.

Jesus invites us to **abide** in Him—to remain close, stay connected, and depend on Him every day. Just as a branch has no life apart from the vine, we cannot live the life God has called us to on our own. Everything we need—strength, wisdom, peace, joy, and spiritual fruit—flows from our relationship with Him.

The temptation is to rely on our own ability. We may start the day trusting God, only to spend the rest of it depending on ourselves. Jesus reminds us that apart from Him we can do nothing of eternal value. Surrender means returning to Him again and again, choosing His presence over self-reliance.

Remaining in Christ isn't about trying harder; it's about staying closer. As we spend time with Him through His Word, prayer, worship, and obedience, our hearts become more like His. The more we remain in Him, the more His life is seen through us.

Today, make it your goal to remain in God's presence. Throughout the day, pause often to turn your heart toward Him and remember that He is with you. As you stay close to Him, may your thoughts, words, and actions be fully surrendered to His leading.

Reflection

What tends to pull your attention away from Christ during the day? How can you intentionally remain close to Him today?

Prayer

Father, thank You for inviting me to remain in You. I don't want to depend on my own strength. Help me stay close to You throughout this day. Teach me to find my life, my strength, and my joy in Your presence. May my life bear fruit because I choose to remain in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 17 – Choose to be Transformed

Romans 12:1-2 NIV

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Devotion

It is very easy to confuse saving faith with a comfortable lifestyle. When we accept Christ, we are completely forgiven and secure for eternity. However, God never intended for salvation to be a finish line where we settle into spiritual complacency. He does not just want to change our eternal destination; He wants to completely transform who we are right here and now. Spiritual growth is not a passive waiting room. It is a dynamic, lifelong journey of surrender.

True transformation requires us to actively reject the mold of the culture around us and daily present ourselves to God. The Apostle Paul uses the powerful imagery of a "living sacrifice." Unlike an Old Testament sacrifice that was placed on an altar dead, a living sacrifice must voluntarily choose to stay on the altar every single day. This means consistently yielding our minds, our desires, our attitudes, and our character to the sharpening work of the Holy Spirit.

For a newer believer, this truth is incredibly encouraging because it means you do not have to fix yourself before coming to God. You simply bring Him your raw materials, and He does the heavy lifting of reshaping your heart. For the seasoned believer, this serves as a serious warning against settling for spiritual comfort. It is dangerously easy to let our habits become routine and our hearts become rigid. The Holy Spirit wants to take you from "glory to glory," breaking down old thought patterns and building up the character of Jesus inside you.

Do not settle for a safe, stagnant faith that requires nothing from you. Transformation can be uncomfortable because it forces us to confront our pride, our secret sins, and our desire for control. Yet, the result is beautiful. As you surrender, the Holy Spirit will renew your mind, giving you a front-row seat to the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

Reflect

Where can you see clear evidence that God has already changed your desires or attitudes, and what is one specific area of your life you need to surrender to Him today to prevent spiritual complacency?

Pray

Lord God, I thank You that You love me too much to leave me exactly as I am. I confess that I often prefer comfort and convenience over the hard work of spiritual growth. Today, I present myself to You as a living sacrifice. Holy Spirit, please renew my mind, reshape my desires, and break down any complacency in my heart. Transform me more into the image of Jesus today. Amen.

Day 18: Choose to Obey

John 14:15 NIV

If you love me, keep my commands.

James 1:22 NIV

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Devotion

Obedience can sometimes feel like a list of rules—things we have to do to be “good Christians.” But Jesus gives us a different picture: **“If you love me, keep my commands.”**

Obedience isn’t how we earn God’s love; it is our response to it.

When we truly understand who God is and what He has done for us, surrender becomes the natural response. We obey because we love Him. We trust His Word because we trust His heart. And when what He asks is difficult or conflicts with what we want, we choose His way because we believe He knows better than we do.

James reminds us that hearing God’s Word isn’t enough. Truth is meant to change the way we live. Knowing what Scripture says without allowing it to shape our choices leaves our faith incomplete and our lives susceptible to our own fallible understanding and choices.

Surrender says, **“God, You don’t just have my worship—you have my yes.”**

Today, obedience may look like forgiving someone, letting go of something God has asked you to release, taking a step of faith, changing a habit, having the courage to face your past and pursue healing, or simply doing what He has already asked you to do.

We don’t obey to make God love us. **We obey because He already does love us.**

Reflection

Is there an area where you know what God is asking of you, but you have not yet given Him your “yes”?

Prayer

Father, thank You for loving me, knowing I could never earn it. Let my obedience be a response to Your love, and nothing more. I give you full access to my heart. Show me where I have been resistant to Your Word or to the Holy Spirit's guidance. Give me the courage to surrender my own desires, trust Your heart, and choose Your way. Help me to make this surrender more than words—help me give You my unconditional yes. Amen.

Day 19 – Choose His Way

Proverbs 3:5 ESV

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

Isaiah 55:8-9 ESV

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Devotion

Have you ever wanted the right outcome but tried to accomplish it the wrong way? We often desire God's blessing, God's purpose, and God's direction, yet we can be tempted to rely on our own wisdom, strength, or methods to get there.

Surrender means trusting not only **what** God wants to accomplish, but also **how** He chooses to accomplish it. We don't fulfill God's purposes by doing things our way. His plans are carried out through His wisdom, His timing, and His methods.

That's why Proverbs tells us not to lean on our own understanding. Left to ourselves, we'll often choose what seems quickest, easiest, or most logical. But God's way frequently calls us to patience instead of rushing ahead, humility instead of self-promotion, dependence instead of self-reliance, and obedience instead of convenience. His methods may stretch our faith, but they also shape our character.

God is just as concerned with who we become as He is with what we accomplish. When we insist on doing things our way, we may achieve our desired outcome, but we can miss what God wants to do in us along the journey. His way is never wasted. Every step of obedience is forming us into the likeness of Christ.

Today, surrender not only your plans but also your methods. Ask God to show you where you may be relying on your own understanding. Trust His process, follow His leading, and believe that His purposes are always best accomplished His way.

Reflection

Is there an area of your life where you're asking God to bless your way instead of seeking His? What would it look like to trust both His purpose and His process?

Prayer

Father, forgive me for the times I've wanted Your results while relying on my own understanding. Teach me to trust not only Your plans but also Your ways. Help me surrender my methods, my timeline, and my desire for control. Shape my character as I walk in obedience, and accomplish Your purposes in me and through me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 20 – Choose His Power

2 Corinthians 12:9 NLT

Each time [the Lord] 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.

Philippians 4:13 NLT

For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Devotion

Have you ever felt like God was asking more of you than you had the strength to give? The truth is, He often does. God never intended for us to live the Christian life in our own strength.

One of the greatest temptations after surrender is to start relying on ourselves again. We may trust God's plan and even follow His way, but then try to accomplish His work through our own ability, determination, or effort. Before long, we become weary, frustrated, and discouraged because we were never meant to carry that burden alone.

God's work is accomplished by God's power. Throughout Scripture, God repeatedly chose ordinary people who knew they were inadequate so that His strength—not theirs—would receive the glory. He delights in working through people who depend on Him.

Walking in the Spirit means recognizing our constant need for God's presence and power. As we remain connected to Him, He provides the wisdom, courage, strength, and grace we need for each step of obedience. Our responsibility is not to manufacture strength but to depend on the One who has all power.

Today, stop striving and start depending. Whatever God has called you to do, ask Him to fill you with His Spirit and strengthen you for the task. His power is more than enough for whatever lies ahead.

Reflection

Where have you been relying on your own strength instead of God's? What would it look like to depend more fully on His Spirit today?

Prayer

Father, I confess that I often try to accomplish Your work in my own strength. Forgive me for relying on myself instead of depending on You. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me the wisdom, courage, and strength to do what You have called me to do. May my life point to Your power, not my ability. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 21 - Choose Every Day

Luke 9:23 NIV

Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Colossians 2:6-7 NIV

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Devotion

Trusting God is not a single moment—it's a daily choice. Surrender isn't something we check off a list; it's a lifestyle of continually placing every part of our lives into His hands. Each morning, we are faced with new opportunities to trust Jesus, obey His voice, and follow wherever He leads.

Today we choose to surrender to God. We choose to let go of our need to control outcomes and trust that His plan is better than ours. We are choosing His way over our own, even when it's uncomfortable or uncertain. It's saying "yes" to His leading, even when we can't see the whole path ahead.

As we grow in our relationship with God, our trust will also grow. The more we know Him, the easier it becomes to follow Him. Our prayer is that you can confidently say, *"I know Jesus better than I did three weeks ago."* And tomorrow, you'll know Him even more.

Keep choosing Jesus. Keep surrendering. Keep trusting. This is the beautiful, ongoing journey of walking with the One who is faithful in every season.

Reflection

The end of our 21 days of prayer is not the finish line—it's the starting point of a lifelong journey. Over these past weeks, you may have experienced moments of clarity, conviction, or comfort in His presence. God's desire is that this closeness doesn't fade when the calendar changes. What will you choose to do to continue your journey closer to God?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, Today, I choose You again. I give You my plans, fears, and hopes. Teach me to trust You and obey Your voice. Thank You for drawing me closer over these 21 days. Let this be the start of a deeper walk with You. Keep my heart surrendered daily. I will follow wherever You lead. Amen.

