

THE HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH INC.

Easter Communique

2026

THERE WILL BE

Glory

AFTER THIS
ROM. 8:18, 2 COR. 4:17-18

BISHOP CLARY K. BUTLER SR.
CHIEF OVERSEER

FORTY DAYS FAST LESSONS
2026 EASTER COMMUNIQUE

THEME: THERE WILL BE GLORY AFTER THIS

Romans 8:18; 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

GREETINGS FROM THE CHIEF OVERSEER
BISHOP DR. CLARY K. BUTLER, SR.

To the True Saints of the Living God, in the True Church of the Living God, The Pillar and Ground of the Truth Without Controversy,

Holy Greetings to all Chief Helpers and Bishops, State and General Elders, Elders and All Ministers, Deacons and Young adults, Lay-members, Youth, and Staff. We are grateful to Almighty God for his richest blessings and His unmatched power for another Lent season. (40 Days of Fasting and Prayer.)

Thank you to each of the past administrations for your labor of love. Your labor was not in vain. I love, honor and respect each of our former Chief Overseers. I want to recognize the patience, acts of kindness, love, and great works that have been accomplished throughout our church since the beginning of the 6th Administration. The Lent Season is a time for Confession and Repentance. The invitation is there. The door is open. Please read John 6:37.

The Holy Ghost is still moving and working in our lives. Saints of the Living God, awake out of sleep, fast and pray, "Bring Back the Love", the Judge is at the door. A Great Revival is URGENTLY needed. I Love You.

In service for the Master,



Bishop C. K. Butler, Sr.

Chief Overseer

Forty Days Fast

Let us join together wholeheartedly as we observe the FORTY DAYS FAST. Our fast begins sundown Tuesday, Februray 17th, 2026 (Ash Wednesday, February 18th, 2026). On a daily basis, the fast will be from midnight to sundown and will continue until sundown on Palm Sunday, March 29th, 2026.

This is a period of sanctification and consecration to help us abide in the True Vine. The fast will bless the Church to reunite into one body as we move forward with the Sixth Administration of this Church.

As we prepare for the Forty Days Fast, let us pray, cry, repent and allow God to fix our hearts and anoint and bless us as we go forth fishing for lost souls in the “Great Sea of Humanity.” Pray for God’s anointing as we sanctify the altar in God’s House that the Church might be filled with the great harvest of lost souls.

As we participate in the Forty Days Fast, let us observe how Paul and Silas in Acts 17:11 searched the Scriptures daily to see whether the things taught were of God. The sacred fast that pleases God can also be the type observed by the Christian Church that was born on the Day of Pentecost when individual believers for the first time were baptized with the Holy Ghost into a unified spiritual organism likened to a body of which Christ is the Head. For there is one Holy body, which is the body of baptized believers, and Jesus died for us all.

FORTY DAYS FAST LESSONS

FAST DAY ONE

February 18, 2026

THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK AND POWERFUL

LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Quick and powerful means that the word of God is alive and active. There is power in the word of God. When the Holy Ghost is operating in us, and we preach, teach or read God's word, we can actually feel the presence of God. For in him we live, and move, and have our being. *Acts 17:28* The word of God being sharper than a two-edge sword.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. John 13:26-27 Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.
2. Deuteronomy 28:20 The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.
3. Proverbs 18:10 The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous run into it and is safe.

Thought for Today: Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. *Joshua 1:9*

Let's Talk About It:

1. How does fasting help you hear God's Word more clearly?
2. What areas of your heart does God want to search during this fast?

I WILL FEAR NO EVIL

LESSON TEXT: **Psalm 23:4** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

For God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind. **2 Timothy 1:7** When we are equipped with power, love and a sound mind we have what we need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

The Lord is my light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? **Psalm 27:1**

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. **Psalm 91:10**

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. **Isaiah 41:10**

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Romans 12:21** Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.
2. **Matthew 10:28** And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
3. **Isaiah 54:17** No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Thought for Today: Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. **Romans 16:17-18**

Let's Talk About It:

1. What does fear look like in your life right now, and how has it shown up during this season of fasting?
2. How do you personally distinguish between natural concern and fear that replaces trust in God?

SUFFERING IS IN THE CUP

LESSON TEXT: Mark 14:36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

The saying, "suffering is in the cup" refers to the time when Jesus Christ suffered before his Crucifixion. The cup described in Matthew symbolizes suffering, trials, and eventually Victory! Jesus took the cup, and He gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Matthew 26:2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.
2. Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.
3. Matthew 26:22-24 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom. *Matthew 26:27-29*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

1. Have you experienced a season where God did not remove the cup, but instead gave you grace to drink from it? How did you handle it?
2. How can suffering produce spiritual growth, endurance, or deeper faith when we trust God's purpose?

RETURNING UNTO THE LORD WITH THE WHOLE HEART

LESSON TEXT: **Joel 2:12-13** Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

God calls His people to return unto Him with their whole heart, not just outward actions. True fasting brings repentance, humility, and renewal. God desires inward transformation more than outward appearance. It is not enough to rend garments while the heart remains unchanged; the Lord searches the heart and weighs the motives of man. When we return fully unto Him, He restores, renews, and draws us back into right fellowship with Himself. This season of fasting is an invitation to lay aside pride, self-will, and hidden sin, and to allow God to cleanse, heal, and realign our hearts with His will.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Psalm 51:10-12** Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.
2. **Isaiah 55:6-7** Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
3. **Lamentations 3:40** Let us search and try our ways and turn again to the LORD.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. *James 4:8*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

1. What does it mean to return to God with your whole heart?
2. What must you surrender during this fast?

THE WILDERNESS AS PREPARATION

LESSON TEXT **Matthew 4:1-2** Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Before Jesus began His ministry, He was led into the wilderness. God often uses seasons of testing, isolation, and discomfort to prepare us for purpose. The wilderness is not rejection but preparation. It is in the wilderness that God strips away distractions, self-reliance, and pride, teaching us to depend fully upon Him. Though the wilderness may feel lonely and challenging, it is a place where faith is refined, obedience is tested, and spiritual strength is developed. What God allows us to endure in the wilderness is often necessary for the calling, authority, and assignment that lies ahead.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Deuteronomy 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.
2. Hosea 2:14 Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.
3. Psalm 66:10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. *Isaiah 43:19*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What has God taught you in difficult seasons?
2. How can the wilderness strengthen your faith?

MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE

LESSON TEXT Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Physical food sustains the body, but spiritual nourishment sustains the soul. Fasting reminds us that God's Word is our true source of life and strength. As the body grows weaker without natural food, the spirit is strengthened through obedience, prayer, and meditation on the Word of God. Jesus declared that every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God is essential for living, teaching us that spiritual dependency must outweigh physical desire. In this season of fasting, God is realigning our hunger shifting our focus from earthly provision to divine instruction, so that we learn to trust His voice above all else.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.
2. John 4:34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.
3. Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; *Psalm 63:1*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What spiritual hunger has fasting revealed?
2. How can you feast on God's Word daily?

LAYING ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT

LESSON TEXT Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Weights may not be sin, but they hinder spiritual growth and slow our progress in God. These weights can include habits, distractions, relationships, mindsets, or priorities that compete for our attention and weaken our focus. Fasting helps to uncover those things that subtly burden us and interfere with our walk with God. As we deny the flesh, the Spirit God reveals what must be laid aside so that we may run the race set before us with patience and endurance. God is calling us in this season to release anything that drains our strength, clouds our vision, or delays our obedience, so that we may pursue Him freely and wholeheartedly.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Colossians 3:8-10** But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
2. **Proverbs 4:25-27** Let thine eyes look right on and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.
3. **Psalm 139:23-24** Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What weights are slowing your spiritual progress?
2. How can you intentionally lay them aside?

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

LESSON TEXT Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

God desires purity of heart, not merely corrected behavior. Fasting opens the door for repentance, renewal, and the restoration of joy. As we deny the flesh, the Lord reveals areas of the heart that need cleansing, healing, and renewal. A clean heart is not formed by our own effort, but by surrendering to God's refining work within us. In this season of fasting, we invite God to remove anything that contaminates our spirit, renew a right spirit within us, and restore the joy of salvation so that we may walk uprightly before Him with sincerity and obedience.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Ezekiel 36:26** - A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
2. **Isaiah 1:18** - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.
3. **1 John 1:9** - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. *Psalm 24:3-4*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is a clean heart important during fasting?
2. What areas need God's cleansing?

THE FAST GOD HAS CHOSEN

LESSON TEXT **Isaiah 58:6** Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To lose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

True fasting breaks bonds of wickedness and releases freedom. God connects fasting with justice, compassion, and obedience. The fast God has chosen is not limited to abstaining from food, but it produces a transformed life that reflects His heart toward others. When we fast according to God's will, He exposes areas where we may be bound by sin, pride, selfishness, or indifference, and calls us to act with mercy and righteousness. This kind of fasting moves us beyond personal sacrifice and into purposeful action and loosening burdens, lifting the oppressed, and walking in obedience that brings healing not only to us, but to those around us.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Micah 6:8** He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?
2. **Matthew 25:35-40** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.
3. **Zechariah 7:9-10** Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother: And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. *Galatians 5:1*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How does fasting produce freedom?
2. How can fasting change how we treat others?

DENYING SELF TO FOLLOW CHRIST

LESSON TEXT Luke 9:23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Following Christ requires daily surrender. Fasting teaches discipline and submission to God's will. To deny oneself is to lay aside personal desires, comfort, and control in order to fully follow Christ. This denial is not a one-time act, but a continual choice to place God's will above our own. Through fasting, we learn to crucify the flesh, silence competing voices, and yield our lives as a living sacrifice unto God. As we take up our cross daily, God shapes our character, strengthens our obedience, and aligns our hearts to walk in step with Christ, no matter the cost.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
2. Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
3. Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. *John 12:24*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does denying self-look like in daily life?
2. How does fasting help develop discipline?

TRUSTING GOD WITH THE PROCESS

LESSON TEXT Proverbs 3:5–6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Fasting builds trust in God, even when the outcome is unclear. Faith grows when control is surrendered. As we fast, God teaches us to rely less on our own understanding and more on His wisdom and direction. Trusting God with the process requires patience, humility, and obedience, especially when His timing does not align with our expectations. In this season, fasting helps us release anxiety, fear, and the need to manage every detail, allowing God to order our steps according to His perfect will. When we acknowledge Him in all our ways, He faithfully directs our paths, even through uncertainty.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.
2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
3. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. *Hebrews 11:6*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is trusting God difficult?
2. What area of your life needs full trust?

OBEDIENCE IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

LESSON TEXT **1 Samuel 15:22** And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

God values obedience above religious acts. Fasting must be paired with obedience to be effective. Sacrifice without obedience may appear spiritual, but it does not please the Lord if the heart refuses to submit to His voice. True fasting brings us into alignment with God's will, compelling us not only to hear His Word but to obey it fully. Obedience demonstrates trust, humility, and reverence for God; while disobedience reveals reliance on self rather than submission to Him. In this season of fasting, God is calling His people to move beyond outward sacrifice and walk in wholehearted obedience; knowing that obedience unlocks blessings, favor, and divine direction.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.
2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.
3. James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. *Luke 11:28*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How does obedience reflect love for God?
2. What is God asking you to obey?

NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE

LESSON TEXT Matthew 26:39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Jesus models complete surrender in the Garden of Gethsemane. Though He understood the suffering that lay ahead, He chose obedience over personal desire and submitted fully to the will of the Father. Fasting teaches us this same posture of surrender, where we learn to release control, expectations, and personal plans into God's hands. Saying "not my will, but thine" does not mean the absence of struggle, but the decision to trust God even when obedience is difficult. In this season of fasting, we are invited to align our hearts with God's purpose, trusting that His will, though sometimes costly, leads to redemption, growth, and eternal purpose beyond what we can see.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.
2. Hebrews 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;
3. Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. *Romans 8:18*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What makes surrender difficult?
2. How does fasting strengthen obedience?

THE SUFFERING SERVANT

LESSON TEXT **Isaiah 53:3–5** He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus bore our pain and suffering willingly, not because He deserved it, but because of His great love for us. He carried our griefs, sorrows, and sins so that we could experience healing, peace, and restoration. Fasting aligns our hearts with Christ's sacrifice by helping us reflect on the depth of what He endured on our behalf. As we deny ourselves during this fast, we are reminded of the compassion, humility, and obedience Jesus demonstrated through His suffering. This season invites us to not only receive the healing He provides, but also to walk in greater gratitude, empathy, and surrender as we follow His example of sacrificial love.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. 1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
2. Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
3. Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. *John 15:13*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why did Christ willingly suffer?
2. How does His sacrifice impact your faith?

CARRYING THE CROSS

LESSON TEXT Luke 23:26 And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus.

Following Jesus requires endurance and faith, especially during difficult seasons. Carrying the cross means continuing to follow Christ even when the journey is hard, uncomfortable, or misunderstood. Fasting strengthens us to persevere by teaching us patience, humility, and reliance on God rather than our own strength. Just as Simon helped carry the cross behind Jesus, we are reminded that God gives us strength and help along the way. This season of fasting encourages us to remain faithful, trusting that obedience and perseverance will lead to spiritual growth and deeper closeness with Christ.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
2. Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
3. Romans 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; *2 Corinthians 4:17*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does your cross represent?
2. How does fasting help build endurance?

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM

LESSON TEXT Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Jesus forgave even while He was suffering, showing us the power of mercy and love in the hardest moments. While enduring pain and rejection, He chose forgiveness instead of anger or bitterness. Fasting helps soften our hearts so that we can release hurt, resentment, and unforgiveness that we may be holding on to. As we draw closer to God during this fast, He gives us the grace to forgive others just as He has forgiven us. This season invites us to let go of past wounds, trust God with our healing, and walk in freedom through forgiveness.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Matthew 6:14-15 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
2. Colossians 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.
3. Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression. *Proverbs 19:11*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is forgiveness necessary?
2. Who do you need to forgive?

IT IS FINISHED

LESSON TEXT John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

When Jesus declared, "It is finished," He was announcing that the work of redemption was fully completed. Nothing more was required to be done for our salvation. Through His sacrifice, sin was defeated and the way to God was made open.

Fasting reminds us that we do not strive for victory, but we walk in the victory Christ has already secured. This season helps us rest in God's grace, trust in what Jesus has accomplished, and live with confidence knowing that forgiveness, freedom, and eternal life have already been provided through Him.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
2. Colossians 2:14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
3. 1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. *Romans 8:1*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does "It is finished" mean for believers?
2. How does Christ's victory affect your walk?

WAITING IN THE SILENCE

LESSON TEXT Matthew 27:59–61 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre.

The silence before the resurrection requires faith and patience. There are moments in life when God seems quiet, and answers do not come right away. In those seasons, it can feel like nothing is happening, yet God is still at work behind the scenes.

Fasting teaches us how to wait with trust rather than fear and how to remain faithful when we cannot see what God is doing. Just as the women sat and waited by the tomb, we too are called to remain steady and hopeful during times of uncertainty. This season reminds us that waiting does not mean God has forgotten us, but that He is preparing something greater than we can yet understand.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Psalm 27:14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.
2. Lamentations 3:26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.
3. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. *Habakkuk 2:3*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How do you handle waiting seasons?
2. What strengthens your faith while waiting?

HE IS RISEN

LESSON TEXT Matthew 28:6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

The resurrection of Jesus declares victory over death, sin, and despair. It reminds us that no situation is final when God is involved. While fasting helps sharpen our spiritual awareness, this lesson reaches beyond the fast into daily life by teaching us how to live with hope even after loss, failure, or disappointment. Just as Jesus rose from the grave, God is able to bring new life to broken dreams, weary hearts, and difficult circumstances. This truth encourages us to stop living as if defeat has the final word and to walk forward with confidence knowing that resurrection power is still at work today.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
2. Romans 6:9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
3. Revelation 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: *John 11:25*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is the resurrection foundational to the Christian faith and daily hope?
2. How does believing in resurrection power change the way you face challenges?

PEACE AFTER FEAR

LESSON TEXT John 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Jesus entered the room where fear had taken hold and spoke peace to His disciples. This same peace is available to us in our everyday lives when anxiety, uncertainty, and fear try to overwhelm us.

While fasting increases spiritual sensitivity, this lesson reminds us that peace is not tied to circumstances but to the presence of Christ. God does not promise a life without challenges, but He does promise peace in the midst of them. Learning to trust God daily helps us move from fear-driven living to faith-filled confidence, knowing that His presence brings calm even when situations feel unstable.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.
2. Philippians 4:6–7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
3. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. *Psalm 56:3*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What fears has God helped you overcome in your life?
2. How does trusting Christ bring peace during uncertain times?

HEARTS BURNING WITH TRUTH

LESSON TEXT Luke 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

When the disciples encountered Jesus, their hearts burned as truth was revealed to them. This lesson teaches that God desires to open our understanding and ignite our hearts with His truth, not just during fasting but throughout everyday life. Truth brings clarity, direction, and freedom when confusion or doubt tries to settle in. As we spend time with God through prayer, Scripture, and reflection, He reveals truth that strengthens faith and guides decisions. A heart that burns with truth becomes sensitive to God's voice and bold in obedience, allowing us to walk confidently in His wisdom.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Psalm 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.
2. John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
3. Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay. *Jeremiah 20:9*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How does God reveal truth to His people?
2. What truth has God been revealing to you in this season?

WALKING IN NEWNESS OF LIFE

LESSON TEXT **Romans 6:4** Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

New life in Christ means more than a fresh start. It means a transformed way of thinking, living, and responding. This lesson encourages believers to move beyond old habits and mindsets and embrace the change God is working within them. While fasting can prepare the heart for renewal, walking in newness of life is a daily decision to live differently through faith, obedience, and purpose. God calls us to leave behind what no longer serves us spiritually and to step into a life that reflects His grace and power. This new life shapes how we love, forgive, and pursue God's calling.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2. **Colossians 3:1-3** If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
3. **Ephesians 4:22-24** That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. *Galatians 6:9*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does new life in Christ look like in everyday living?
2. How do you plan to live differently moving forward?

COUNTERFEIT RELIGION

LESSON TEXT: Romans 16:17-18 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Counterfeit religion, like counterfeit money, simply means it is not real. Your Holy Ghost may not be real. Many people fake the Holy Ghost, make up their “tongues” and pretend to be dancing under the power. For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. *2Corinthians 11:13-15*

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. James 1:26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. (Vain religion)
2. 1 Timothy 4:1-3 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.
3. 2 Peter 2:1-2 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

Thought for Today: He that lacks the following is considered blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins: faith, godliness, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, charity.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How can you ensure that you are not following nor practicing counterfeit religion?
2. What attributes can you exhibit to be an example of true religion to others?

HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS

LESSON TEXT: **Isaiah 53:5** But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus was despised and rejected by mankind. He was a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief and pain. We hid our faces from him; and we esteemed him not. He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we held him in low esteem. Jesus was stricken, smitten and afflicted of God. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, so he openeth not his mouth. Jesus was taken from prison and from judgment: he was cut off out of the land of the living. He was stricken for the transgression of his people. He made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death. He had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; and to put him to grief. *[Isaiah 53: 3-10]*

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **1 Peter 2:21-24** For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
2. **Jeremiah 30:17** For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.
3. **Romans 10:9-11** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Thought for Today: And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: In his

humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. *Acts 8:30-33*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How have you taken advantage of Jesus' great sacrifice?
2. How do you show appreciation for what Jesus did for us all?

SEARCH ME, O GOD

LESSON TEXT Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

God desires honesty in our hearts, not perfection. David invited God to search him so that hidden attitudes, thoughts, and behaviors could be revealed and corrected. This lesson teaches us the importance of self-examination before God, not to bring shame, but to bring growth and healing. In everyday life, it is easy to overlook areas that need change, especially when they are familiar or comfortable. Allowing God to search our hearts helps us walk in truth, humility, and freedom. When we invite God to lead us, He gently directs us away from harmful patterns and towards a life that reflects His purpose.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Lamentations 3:40 Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.
2. Proverbs 20:27 The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.
3. 1 Corinthians 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart. *Psalm 26:2*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is self-examination important for spiritual growth?
2. What areas of your life may need God's guidance and correction?

RENEWING THE MIND

LESSON TEXT Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Transformation begins with how we think. Our thoughts shape our attitudes, decisions, and responses to life. This lesson reminds us that lasting change does not come from behavior alone, but from allowing God to reshape our minds through His truth. In everyday life, negative thinking, fear, and worldly influences can slowly pull us away from God's perspective. When we focus on God's Word and wisdom, our minds are renewed and aligned with His will. Renewing the mind helps us respond with faith instead of fear and wisdom instead of impulse.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Philippians 4:8** Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
2. **Colossians 3:2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
3. **Isaiah 55:8-9** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith 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.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; *2 Corinthians 10:5*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What thought patterns may need to change?
2. How does God's Word help reshape your thinking?

WAITING WITHOUT WAVERING

LESSON TEXT **Isaiah 40:31** But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Waiting can be one of the hardest parts of faith. This lesson teaches that waiting is not wasted time, but a season where God builds strength, trust, and patience. In everyday life, we often want quick answers and immediate results. God uses waiting to develop endurance and deepen our reliance on Him. When we choose to trust God while we wait, He renews our strength and prepares us for what is ahead. Waiting without wavering means believing that God is working even when progress is not visible.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Psalm 62:5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him.
2. Hebrews 10:36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.
3. James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. *Psalm 37:7*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is waiting difficult?
2. How has God strengthened you during a waiting season?

STANDING FIRM WHEN THE FLESH IS WEAK

LESSON TEXT **Matthew 26:41** Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Every believer faces moments of weakness. This lesson reminds us that while the flesh may struggle, God provides strength through His Spirit. In daily life, temptation, exhaustion, and pressure can cause us to feel overwhelmed. God encourages us to remain watchful and prayerful, so we do not fall into harmful patterns. Learning to depend on God during weak moments helps us grow spiritually and make choices that honor Him. Strength comes from relying on God, not from our own ability.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Galatians 5:16** This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.
2. **Romans 7:18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.
3. **1 Corinthians 10:13** There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. *2 Corinthians 12:9*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What areas of weakness do you notice most?
2. What helps you stay spiritually strong?

CONTINUING WHEN IT GETS HARD

LESSON TEXT Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Weariness can affect anyone who is trying to do what is right. This lesson encourages perseverance when motivation fades and challenges increase. In everyday life, discouragement can come from unmet expectations, slow progress, or repeated struggles. God reminds us that faithfulness produces results in His timing. Continuing when it gets hard builds spiritual maturity and strengthens trust in God's promises. Choosing not to give up allows God to complete the work He has begun.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Hebrews 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.
2. James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
3. 2 Thessalonians 3:13 But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. *1 Corinthians 15:58*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What causes discouragement?
2. How does God help you stay faithful?

WALKING IN HUMILITY

LESSON TEXT Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Humility keeps the heart open and teachable. This lesson teaches that walking humbly with God means recognizing our dependence on Him in every area of life. In daily interactions, pride can quietly affect decisions, relationships, and attitudes. God values humility because it allows Him to guide, correct, and grow us. Walking humbly helps us listen more closely to God and treat others with grace and compassion.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
2. Proverbs 22:4 By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.
3. 1 Peter 5:5-6 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. *Philippians 2:3*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does humility look like in daily life?
2. Why does God honor a humble heart?

GUARDING THE HEART

LESSON TEXT Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

The heart influences choices, emotions, and direction. This lesson teaches the importance of protecting what shapes our thoughts and desires. In everyday life, distractions, relationships, and experiences can affect the heart in subtle ways. Guarding the heart means being mindful of what we allow to influence us. When the heart is aligned with God's truth, our actions and decisions reflect wisdom and faith.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Matthew 15:18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.
2. Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?
3. Psalm 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. *Psalm 51:6*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What influences your heart most?
2. How can you protect your heart moving forward?

LEANING ON GOD'S STRENGTH

LESSON TEXT Psalm 28:7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

This lesson reminds us that human strength has limits, but God's strength does not. In daily life, exhaustion, pressure, and responsibility can cause us to rely too heavily on ourselves. God invites us to trust Him as our source of help and strength. Leaning on God means acknowledging our need for Him and allowing His power to sustain us. When we depend on God, we find peace and confidence even in difficult situations.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. **Isaiah 41:10** Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
2. **2 Corinthians 12:10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.
3. **Psalm 46:1** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our LORD: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. *Nehemiah 8:10*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How does self-reliance show up in your life?
2. What does it mean to depend on God daily?

WALKING IN OBEDIENCE DAILY

LESSON TEXT **John 14:23** Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Obedience reflects love and trust in God. This lesson teaches that obedience is not about perfection, but about consistency and willingness to follow God's guidance. In everyday life, obedience shows up in choices, habits, and attitudes. When we align our actions with God's Word, our relationship with Him deepens. Obedience leads to spiritual growth and helps us walk in God's purpose.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Deuteronomy 5:33 Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.
2. Psalm 119:1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.
3. Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

THOUGHT FOR TODAY And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. **1 John 2:3**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why is obedience important?
2. What daily habits need alignment with God's truth?

FINISHING STRONG

LESSON TEXT 2 **2 Timothy 4:7** I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

God values faithfulness from beginning to end. This lesson encourages perseverance and commitment even when the journey feels long. In everyday life, finishing strong means remaining faithful in character, belief, and action. God continues His work in us and gives us strength to endure. Reflecting on what God has taught and applying it moving forward helps ensure lasting growth and spiritual maturity.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.
2. Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
3. Revelation 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. *Matthew 24:13*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does finishing strong mean to you?
2. How can these lessons shape your life moving forward?

PERSEVERING IN PRAYER

LESSON TEXT Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

As believers, we must understand that prayer is not something we do only when life is easy or when answers come quickly. Prayer is how we stay connected to God in every season. Jesus taught that persistence in prayer keeps our faith alive when circumstances feel heavy and answers seem delayed. God is not moved by repetition but by trust. When we continue to pray, we declare that God is faithful, that He hears us, and that His timing is perfect. Persevering prayer shapes our character, strengthens our dependence on God, and keeps us aligned with His will even when the journey is long.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Colossians 4:2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;
2. Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
3. James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Pray without ceasing. *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What causes people to give up on prayer too soon?
2. How has consistent prayer strengthened your faith over time?

REJOICING IN OBEDIENCE

LESSON TEXT Psalm 119:60 I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

Obedience is not a burden but a pathway to peace and joy. Many believers struggle because they view obedience as restriction rather than protection. God's commands are given out of love, not control. When we obey quickly and willingly, we position ourselves to experience the confidence that comes from walking in God's will. Obedience removes confusion, quiets the conscience, and builds trust between us and God. A life of obedience produces joy because it aligns our steps with God's purpose and keeps us walking in truth.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. John 15:10-11 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.
2. Deuteronomy 30:16 In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes, and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.
3. Isaiah 1:19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

THOUGHT FOR TODAY I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. *Psalm 40:8*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How has obedience brought peace into your life?
2. What step of obedience is God currently calling you to take?

PREPARING FOR WHAT IS NEXT

LESSON TEXT **Joshua 3:5** And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

God often prepares us privately before He moves publicly. Preparation is not punishment but positioning. Before God does something new, He calls His people to consecration, reflection, and alignment. Preparation involves letting go of old habits, renewing our commitment, and making room for God to work in new ways. When we prepare our hearts, God prepares our future. What God is about to do next often depends on our willingness to be set apart today.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Exodus 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,
2. Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.
3. 2 Timothy 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. *Isaiah 43:19*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Why does preparation matter before God moves?
2. What is God asking you to release or adjust in this season?

HOLDING FAST TO FAITH

LESSON TEXT Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Faith is what anchors us when life feels uncertain. Holding fast to faith means choosing to trust God even when answers are delayed and circumstances are unclear. Faith does not ignore reality but believes that God is greater than what we see. God calls us to remain steady, confident, and unshaken because His promises are trustworthy. When we hold fast to faith, we refuse to let fear, doubt, or disappointment determine our direction.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
2. Mark 11:22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.
3. Romans 4:20-21 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded, that what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.
Psalm 119:114

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What tests faith most in everyday life?
2. How has God proven Himself faithful in your past?

A RENEWED COMMITMENT

LESSON TEXT **Joshua 24:15** And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

God honors intentional commitment. A renewed commitment is a decision to live fully for God, not out of obligation but out of love. Commitment requires consistency, discipline, and a clear choice to serve God wholeheartedly. When we recommit ourselves to God, we realign our priorities, our actions, and our devotion. This is a moment to reflect, choose, and move forward with purpose, knowing that serving God is the greatest decision we can make.

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Psalm 116:12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?
2. Ecclesiastes 5:4 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.
3. Romans 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. *Luke 9:62*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does commitment to God look like in daily life?
2. What areas need renewed focus and faithfulness?

WALKING FORWARD TRANSFORMED

LESSON TEXT 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

God does not transform us so that we return to old ways. Transformation is meant to be lived out daily. When God makes us new, He calls us to walk forward with purpose, obedience, and confidence. Old patterns are replaced with new desires, and old thinking gives way to renewed vision. Transformation is not just about what God has done in us but about how we live because of it. We move forward changed, strengthened, and ready to fulfill God's purpose.

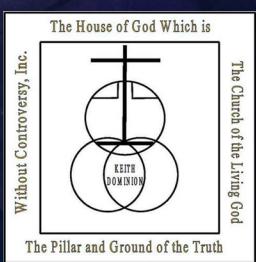
SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1. Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
2. Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
3. Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. *Galatians 2:20*

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. How has God changed your perspective through this journey?
2. What new habits and commitments will guide you forward?



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