Beyond Sunday

A Sermon Application Guide

Breakthrough (Desert Detour pt 1)

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Our hope is that the living, breathing words of truth that are revealed to you become a part of your everyday life. In the book of James, we read about a key to living life with God. We are told that if we ask for wisdom by faith then we shall receive it generously from our Father in Heaven. One of the best ways to receive this wisdom is by preparing to receive it. We invite you to pray this prayer prior to the message and starting the study guide:

"God, thank You for Your truth and wisdom. Help me to see what I need to see, hear what I need to hear, and know what I need to know. Holy Spirit, help me to understand in a way that shows me the Father's true nature and heart. May this time help me to know You more and become more like Jesus. Amen."

Message Theme

When we speak, in faith, God's light shines in the darkness.

Key Concepts/Truths

Our worship and praise can change our surroundings and circumstances.

Focusing on God's promises causes us to be full of praise.

Unbelief magnifies the darkness and difficulties of life.

What are we saying of Jesus?

Being in Jesus gives us a "Yes!" to God's promises.

Key Verses: Acts 16:25 • Hebrews 13:15 • Romans 8:31 & 38-39 • Mark 11:23

Which one truth do you already have evidence of in your life today? Ask the Lord for new ways to see even more of it for you and others around you. Write your answers out.

Which one truth is the most challenging or least existing in your life today? Why do you think this is? Ask the Lord if there are any beliefs or barriers that are keeping you from believing that particular truth. Write it out.

Real-Life Application

In the message we heard about how Paul and Silas responded while being bound and in prison. Let's look at it again:

"What must I do to be saved?" cried the jailer as he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas had been thrown in prison for delivering a girl from a demon, but instead of giving into fear, complaining, or even blaming God, they began to pray and sing praises to God. They chose to fight against the plans of the devil and hold onto their faith. Suddenly an earthquake shook the prison, and the chains came off and the doors were opened. God had set the prisoners free!

The jailer was so shaken that he fell down trembling and asked how he could be saved. That night, he and his family were baptized and they rejoiced in knowing God! God can use for good what the devil meant for evil. Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown in prison, but when they chose faith over fear and unbelief, God gave them a miracle and the jailer was saved.

Not only did God use the devil's plans for good, but He gave Paul and Silas a part to play also. They had to choose faith and then act on it.

Take note of anything that may have you feeling locked up or tries to imprison you to fear this week. How will you praise God when you are faced with these moments?

This Week's Declarations

Life is released when your words are in agreement with God. Intentionally speaking life and biblical truth out loud is extremely powerful. In fact, you have that very life in the power of your tongue. These words below, when spoken out loud, will cause an acceleration of the reality of God's words in your life. We encourage you to speak the following with an expectancy to renew your mind and see God's fullness.

(Psalm 23 HCSB) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.

He lets me lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside quiet waters.

He renews my life;

He leads me along the right paths for His name's sake.

Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff - they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References Breakthrough Desert Detour Pt.1

Genesis 1:5 NKJV

God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

Acts 16:9-21 TLB

9 That night Paul had a vision. In his dream he saw a man over in Macedonia, Greece, pleading with him, "Come over here and help us." 10 Well, that settled it. We would go to Macedonia, for we could only conclude that God was sending us to preach the Good News there. 11 We went aboard a boat at Troas, and sailed straight across to Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis, 12 and finally reached Philippi, a Roman colony just inside the Macedonian border, and stayed there several days. 13 On the Sabbath we went a little way outside the city to a riverbank where we understood some people met for prayer; and we taught the Scriptures to some women who came. 14 One of them was Lydia, a saleswoman from Thyatira, a merchant of purple cloth. She was already a worshiper of God and as she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart and she accepted all that Paul was saying. 15 She was baptized along with all her household and asked us to be her guests. "If you agree that I am faithful to the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my home." And she urged us until we did. 16 One day as we were going down to the place of prayer beside the river, we met a demon-possessed slave girl, who was a fortune-teller and earned much money for her masters. 17 She followed along behind us shouting, "These men are servants of God, and they have come to tell you how to have your sins forgiven." 18 This went on day after day until Paul, in great distress, turned and spoke to the demon within her. "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her," he said. And instantly it left her. 19 Her masters' hopes of wealth were now shattered; they grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the judges at the marketplace. 20-21 "These Jews are corrupting our city," they shouted. "They are teaching the people to do things that are against the Roman laws."

Acts 16:22-23 TLB

A mob was quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the judges ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden whips. 23 Again and again the rods slashed down across their bared backs; and afterwards they were thrown into prison. The jailer was threatened with death if they escaped

Acts 16:24 TLB so he took no chances, but put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet into the stocks.

Acts 16:25 NKJV But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

Hebrews 13:15 NKJV Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Acts 16:26 NKJV Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

Psalms 22:3 KJV

...O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

Psalms 84:6-7 NKJV As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring The rain also covers it with pools. 7 They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion.

2 Corinthians 4:18 NKJV while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Job 2:7 KJ21 So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Mark 9:23-24 NKJV

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

Job 16:12c-13 NKVJ ...He has set me up for His target, 13 His archers surround me. He pierces my heart and does not pity; He pours out my gall on the ground.

James 1:17 NKJV Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Job 9:22-24 NKJV It is all one thing; Therefore I say, 'He destroys the blameless and the wicked.' 23 If the scourge slays suddenly, He laughs at the plight of the innocent. 24 The earth is given into the hand of the wicked. He covers the faces of its judges. If it is not He, who else could it be?

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV ...because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Job 19:25-27 NKJV For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, 27 Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Romans 8:31 NKJV What then shall we say to these things?...

Mark 11:23 KJV

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Romans 8:31 NKJV What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:38-39 NKJV For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 10:8 NKJV

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

Psalms 23:4-6 NKJV

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

Psalms 56:3 NKJV

Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.

Psalms 91:2-13 NKJV

2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." 3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. 4 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. 5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, 6 Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. 8 Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place, 10 No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; 11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. 13 You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

Psalms 91:14-16 NKJV

"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. 15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. 16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."

Romans 8:28 NKJV

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Genesis 50:20 MSG

Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good...

Daniel 6:10-24 NKJV

10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. 11 Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. 12 And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter." 13 So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day." 14 And the king, when he heard *these* words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set *his* heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. 15 Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed." 16 So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you." 17 Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed. 18 Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him. 19 Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" 21 Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! 22 My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you." 23 Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.24 And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions—them, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den.

Daniel 3:4-27 NKJV

Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, 5 that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; 6 and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace." 7 So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, and lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. 8 Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews. 9 They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! 10 You, O king, have made a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the gold image; 11 and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. 12 There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up." 13 Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king. 14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up? 15 Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?" 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. 17 If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. 18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. 20 And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace. 21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. 22 Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." 25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here." Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. 27 And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

Romans 8:31 KJV

What shall we then say to these things?

Jeremiah 30:17 NKJV

For I will restore health to you And heal you of your wounds,'

2 Corinthians 1:20 NKJV

For all the promises of God in Him are Yes...

2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 1:20 NKJV

...and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

Galatians 3: 18 TPT

...We receive all the promises because of the Promised One—not because we keep the law!

Galatians 3:29 TPT

...you are now Abraham's "child" and inherit all the promises of the kingdom realm!

2 Peter 1:4 NKJV

...exceedingly great and precious promises...

Galatians 4:28 TPT

Dear friends, just like Isaac, we're now the true children who inherit the kingdom promises.

Jeremiah 29:11 TLB

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Psalms 30:5b NKJV

...Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning.

Romans 10:8 NKJV

... "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" ...

Psalms 69:30b NKJV

...And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

Isaiah 30:18 NKJV

Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you; And therefore He will be exalted...

Philippians 2:8-10 NKJV

...He humbled Himself ... Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in

heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Isaiah 30:18 NKJV

...And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the Lord is a God of justice...