

# **Beyond Sunday**

A Sermon Application Guide

## **Come Back (Desert Detour pt 2)**

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**

God takes us from dark places and into the light.

### **Key Concepts/Truths**

God can bring us into light and victory just like He created the world from darkness and chaos and made it into goodness. We have the same spirit of faith that created this world and that we read about in these Biblical examples:

- Elijah praying for rain (1 Kings 18)
- Jonah and Nineveh (Book of Jonah)
- Joseph going from prison to Prime Minister (Genesis 39-41)

Faith can see and hear things before they happen.

Speaking God's word and truth brings light into the darkness.

**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**

As they were about to cross the street, a father noticed his toddler looking up at him. He squeezed his son's hand gently and smiled down at him. The son smiled in return and continued to keep his eyes on his father instead of the busy, dangerous road in front of them. When the father saw a gap in the traffic, he led his son safely across the road and they continued hand-in-hand.

It would have been easy for the toddler to watch the road and become fearful seeing the danger and things he did not understand blocking his way, but instead he had the peace of a child who has faith in his father.

As the children of God, we have that same peace. He is always walking with us and able to guide us across the dangerous parts of our lives. However, we have to choose to reach up and take His hand. We have to choose to trust Him with our lives instead of choosing to focus on what is blocking our way. Darkness caused by fear is not from God, but there is peace and faith for those who keep their eyes on Him.

Wherever God is leading you, know that He is always there beside you. You may be in a dark place, but He is there to guide you through. Are your eyes fixed on Him?

### **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.

I will continue to seek my Father in good times and bad.

I will not fear what is in front of me because God has prepared good things for me.

I will live by faith and not by sight. I choose to let God lead even when I cannot see the path in front of me.

## 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

### Come Back

(Desert Detour Pt. 2)

#### Genesis 1:2 KJV

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

#### Genesis 1:2 VOICE

At first the earth lacked shape and was totally empty, and a dark fog draped over the deep while God's spirit-wind hovered over the surface of the empty waters. Then there was the voice of God.

#### Genesis 1:3 NKJV

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

#### 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.

#### 1 Kings 17:1 NKJV

And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

#### 1 Kings 18:20-40 NKJV

So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup> And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord *is* God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word. <sup>22</sup> Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men. <sup>23</sup> Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*. <sup>24</sup> Then you call on the name of

your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."<sup>25</sup> Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare *it* first, for you *are* many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire *under it*."<sup>26</sup> So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But *there was* no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made.<sup>27</sup> And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he *is* a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, *or* perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."<sup>28</sup> So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them.<sup>29</sup> And when midday was past, they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice. But *there was* no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.<sup>30</sup> Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord *that was* broken down.<sup>31</sup> And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."<sup>32</sup> Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed.<sup>33</sup> And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid *it* on the wood, and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour *it* on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood."<sup>34</sup> Then he said, "Do *it* a second time," and they did *it* a second time; and he said, "Do *it* a third time," and they did *it* a third time.<sup>35</sup> So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.<sup>36</sup> And it came to pass, at *the time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel and I *am* Your servant, and *that* I have done all these things at Your word.<sup>37</sup> Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You *are* the Lord God, and *that* You have turned their hearts back *to You* again."<sup>38</sup> Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that *was* in the trench.<sup>39</sup> Now when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He *is* God! The Lord, He *is* God!"<sup>40</sup> And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.

### **1 Kings 18:41-46 NKJV**

Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain." So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again." Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'" Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel. Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

### **2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV**

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

**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 22:28-29 NKJV**

You will also declare a thing, And it will be established for you; So light will shine on your ways. When they cast you down, and you say, 'Exaltation will come!' Then He will save the humble person.

**2 Corinthians 4:13 NKJV**

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,

**1 Samuel 17:45-46 NKJV**

Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup> This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

**Psalms 30:5 NKJV**

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

**Psalms 105:18-19 MSG**

They put cruel chains on his ankles, an iron collar around his neck, Until God's word came to the Pharaoh, and God confirmed his promise.

**Galatians 6:9 NKJV**

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

**Psalms 112:4 TLB**

When darkness overtakes him, light will come bursting in. He is kind and merciful—

**Isaiah 58:8 NKJV**

Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

**Acts 2:2 NKJV**

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

**Acts 7:23 NKJV**

"Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel.

### **Exodus 2:11-22 NKJV**

Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.<sup>12</sup> So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.<sup>13</sup> And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?"<sup>14</sup> Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"<sup>15</sup> When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.<sup>16</sup> Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock.<sup>17</sup> Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.<sup>18</sup> When they came to Reuel their father, he said, "How *is it that* you have come so soon today?"<sup>19</sup> And they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock."<sup>20</sup> So he said to his daughters, "And where *is* he? Why *is* it *that* you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread."<sup>21</sup> Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses.<sup>22</sup> And she bore *him* a son. He called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

### **Philippians 1:6 NKJV**

6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

### **Jonah 1:1-3 NKJV**

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me." But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

### **Jonah 1:5 NKJV**

...Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep.

### **Jonah 1:7-17 NKJV**

And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble *has come* upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.<sup>8</sup> Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause *is* this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"<sup>9</sup> So he said to them, "I *am* a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry *land*."<sup>10</sup> Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.<sup>11</sup> Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?"—for the sea was growing more tempestuous.<sup>12</sup> And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest *is* because of me."<sup>13</sup> Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them.<sup>14</sup> Therefore they cried out to the Lord and said, "We pray, O Lord,

please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O Lord, have done as it pleased You." <sup>15</sup> So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. <sup>16</sup> Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the Lord and took vows. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

**Ephesians 2:10 AMPC**

...[living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

**John 10:10 NKJV**

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

**Jonah 2:1 NKJV**

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the fish's belly.

**Jonah 3:1-2 NKJV**

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.”

**Romans 11:29 KJV**

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

**Philippians 1:6 NKJV**

...that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

**2 Peter 1:3 NKJV**

as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...

**Acts 11:5 NKJV**

“I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me.

**Acts 9:1-8 NKJV**

Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. <sup>4</sup> Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” <sup>5</sup> And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” <sup>6</sup> So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” <sup>7</sup> And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought *him* into Damascus.

**Acts 2:17 NKJV** 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.

### **Genesis 37:1-11 NKJV**

Now Jacob dwelt in the land where his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup> This *is* the history of Jacob. Joseph, *being* seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad *was* with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father. <sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he *was* the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of *many* colors. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. <sup>5</sup> Now Joseph had a dream, and he told *it* to his brothers; and they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed: <sup>7</sup> There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf." <sup>8</sup> And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. <sup>9</sup> Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." <sup>10</sup> So he told *it* to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What *is* this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?" <sup>11</sup> And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter *in mind*.

### **1 Samuel 16:1-13 NKJV**

Now the Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup> And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears *it*, he will kill me." But the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' <sup>3</sup> Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you." <sup>4</sup> So Samuel did what the Lord said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. <sup>6</sup> So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the Lord's anointed *is* before Him!" <sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the Lord does not see* as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." <sup>8</sup> So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>10</sup> Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these." <sup>11</sup> And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." <sup>12</sup> So he sent and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this *is* the one!" <sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed



him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

**Numbers 12:3 NKJV**

(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

**Romans 12:2 NKJV**

Don't become like the people of this world. Instead, change the way you think. Then you will always be able to determine what God really wants—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

**Genesis 28:11 NKJV**

So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep.

**Genesis 28:12 NKJV**

Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

**Genesis 28:13-16 NKJV**

And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: "I *am* the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. <sup>14</sup> Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. <sup>15</sup> Behold, I *am* with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." <sup>16</sup> Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know *it*."

**Philippians 1:6 NKJV**

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

**2 Corinthians 5:19 MEV**

...that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their sins against them...