

Beyond Sunday

Live To Give

A Sermon Application Guide

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

You are, first, a follower of Jesus Christ.

Key Concepts/Truths

God created the church to be salt, to preserve, and to be light. The antichrist spirit has been working in the world since the first century, but it is the church that holds him back until God's appointed time.

The church has always been counter cultural and has opposed cultural wrongs for ages like gladiatorial blood games, infanticide, emperor worship, divorce, and the list goes on of things that are influenced by the antichrist spirit working throughout politics and culture.

Political issues can also be spiritual issues.

When we ask ourselves if God is on our side we should really be questioning if we are on God's side. Be informed and seek God's principles, ideas, and Kingdom on earth.

Key Verses: 1 John 4:1 • Joshua 5:14 • Revelation 17

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 Applications

Who are you? What are your priorities as you make decisions, navigate relationships, and work toward your goals? Is your identity defined by your family, job, political party, or hobbies? As a believer recognize that you are, first, a child of God and follower of Jesus. Letting ourselves get swept away in fighting for what we've decided is right, just, and true without actively seeking God and getting on his side of the matter is attempting to replace God's word with our own truth and desires. By doing this we live by our own strength even though the content of the decision seems right. Proverbs says our ways seem right to us but that we are wise to listen to instruction. Isaiah says that God's thoughts and ways are on a whole different level, higher than ours, even as high as heaven is over earth. That's a pretty massive difference.

By relying on our ability to determine what is right and fighting for it we can actually be standing in opposition to what God is trying to accomplish by his plan. It's very easy, at that point, to go down the wrong path, get caught up in sin and believing lies. It's so important to bring matters to the benchmark of God's word, to listen as he speaks, and to move from his strength rather than our own. In him we live, move, and have our being. No amount of good ideas, social justice warring, or policy mandate can truly change hearts or set anyone truly free. Jesus is the one that saves. Let's live by Christ's standard and wisdom, receiving his identity and freedom.

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 am, first, a follower of Jesus Christ.
- I actively remain on God's side according to his word.
- I choose to live my life by Christ's standard.
- I seek first God and his wisdom to gain understanding on life's issues.
- I align my beliefs and actions with what God's word says and make every choice based on his truth.

Greater Things

What you put into your heart is what will come out. When you consume the world's ideas, systems, and values, your priorities will be affected. And as believers, we are called to be countercultural. Not because we are fighting against the people around us, but because we are fighting for the Kingdom of God. Sow God's Word into your heart so that your life is shaped by the ideas, systems, and values of the Kingdom of God!

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

The 8th Empire (Government Endings pt 4)

Revelation 17:3 NKJV

So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17:9-11 NKJV

“This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. 10 They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for only a little while. 11 The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 NKJV

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

2 Thessalonians 2:7 NKJV

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

Matthew 16:18 NKJV

... I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 5:13 & 14 NIV

“You are the salt of the earth... “You are the light of the world...

2 Thessalonians 2:8 NKJV

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Daniel 9:27 NKJV

Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the

Ezekiel 28:2 NKJV

2 “Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Because your heart is lifted up, And you say, ‘I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, In the midst of the seas,’ Yet you are a man, and not a god, Though you set your heart as the heart of a god Desolate.”

Acts 13:6-7 NKJV

6 Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, 7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.