

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

Living to Give.

Key Concepts/Truths

Jesus did not accomplish everything so that we could do nothing. He did everything to pay for our salvation and our work is to spread the word of what He has done and live in the new life that is available to us.

Many times we are focused more on our own tangible life and personal comfort, but Jesus calls us to be focused primarily on His eternal Kingdom.

When we let anything other than the Kingdom of God become our focus it has the potential to choke out the word of God in our lives.

Everything we have is a gift from God and should be used to bring him glory.

Our gifts and talents given by God are meant for us to be able to support one another. “Love God, love people” should be the mission statement of every believer.

What we believe is important, foundational, and necessary. Our actions are tied to what we believe.

God has prepared good works for us to do while we are on earth in order to bless others. As we bless others, we too are blessed.

Key Verses: Matt. 6:33 • Jonah 4:4-11 • Matt. 22:39-40 • Eph. 2:10, 4:26 • Prov. 3:9-10

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

The impact that our giving has on both our own lives and the Kingdom of God is astounding. When we bless others by giving of our time, finances, and talents, we genuinely add to the Kingdom, bringing more of it here on Earth. We find ourselves blessed as we bless others, and it becomes easier and more enjoyable to give.

We can overlook people and problems so easily due to issues of our own. Ask yourself, “When is the last time that I checked in on someone to see what needs they have in their life?”

Many times we can make a purposeful decision to give, but without something specific in front of us to give to we can lose track of that mission. Ask God to put something or someone on your mind and in your heart. Ask how you can be a blessing to them this week and watch God build his Kingdom through your obedience.

Partnering with God is always a blessing to everyone involved.

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 choose to use my gifts, talents, and finances for the Kingdom of God.
- I choose to use my gifts, talents, and finances to bless others.
- As I give of what God has given me, I know that I will receive a reward from my Heavenly Father.
- Father help me to have a heart that desires to DO ALL THE GOOD that I CAN. BY ALL THE MEANS that I CAN. IN ALL THE WAYS that I CAN, and ALL THE PLACES I CAN. AT ALL THE TIMES I CAN. TO ALL THE PEOPLE I CAN. AS LONG AS I EVER CAN.

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.

Live to Give

Colossians 1:24 NKJV

I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church...

Matthew 6:33 NKJV

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Jonah 4: 4-11 NKJV

Then the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" 5 So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. 6 And the Lord God prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant. 7 But as morning dawned the next day God prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered. 8 And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." 9 Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "It is right for me to be angry, even to death!" 10 But the Lord said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?"

MARK 5:2-12 NKJV

And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, 4 because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. 5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones. 6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. 7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me." 8 For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" 9 Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. 11 Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. 12 So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them."

Matthew 22:36-40 NKJV

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" 37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

EPHESIANS 2:10 AMP

For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), [a]recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do....

Acts 2: 37 NKJV

Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Mark 10: 45 NKJV

the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...

Job 42:10 NKJV

And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends.

2 Corinthians 12:15 NKJV

And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.

Isaiah 49:4 NKJV

Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain....

Luke 16:1-10 NKJV

He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.' "So he called every one of his master's debtors to him, and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light. "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home. He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.

Ephesians 4:28 NKJV

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.