

Beyond Sunday

Just Say No to Ungodly Relationships

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.

Message Theme & Prayer Focus

Strengthen Our Faith: Grace to say "NO!"

"Father, thank you for the seed of faith that you have planted in me. Thank you for causing it to grow and increase in me as I continue to follow you and hide your Word in my heart. Holy Spirit, show me the things that I have planted in my own heart that are trying to choke out your Word's growth, and lead me in removing them so that the only thing left is what you want to have growing. I love you, your Word, and all that you've called me to in Jesus' name. Amen!"

Key Concepts/Truths

When it comes to grace, it does not exist to allow us to keep sinning. It teaches us to say "No!" to the world, our flesh, and the devil.

Say "No!" to wrong companions.

- We can find a good indicator of where we are going in life by looking at the people we surround ourselves with.
- Life rises and falls to the level of our associations because we naturally learn from the people around us in our attitude, behavior, and spirit.
- Pure things are quickly and more easily corrupted than corrupted things are at being made pure. It's harder for us to pull somebody up than it is for them to pull us down.
- God's wisdom and His council by the Holy Spirit let us know that there are some people we should not hang around with.
- We need to have a close association with at least four "faith friends", just like the lame man that Jesus healed who was lowered through the roof by his four friends.
- Choosing our friends wisely is important because the way of the wicked will lead us astray, but the way of the Godly will strengthen our walk with God.
- A prime strategy of God to help us grow is to send someone in our life that will encourage us to grow in the Lord.

Say "No!" to complaining.

- God tells us to speak to our obstacles, not complain about them. When we complain about things, it only magnifies the issue. God's will for us is that we give thanks to Him in the midst of everything.

- Having a victim mentality is contrary to the mindset that God wants us to have and actually causes the things of God in our life to become stale and ineffective.
- It is protocol that when we come into God's presence we do it with thanksgiving and praise.
- What we expect from God determines our level of faith, but there is limited room for expectancy when we have a complaining mindset.
- Speaking the testimonies of God's goodness has the power to create faith in us and others. If He has done it once, He can do it again.

Key Verses:

Titus 2:11-14 • Proverbs 13:20 • Proverbs 22:24 • Proverbs 6:23-24 • Proverbs 12:26 • 1 Corinthians 15:33 • 2 Samuel 13:1-5 • Genesis 13:14 • Psalms 77:3 • Psalms 119:111 • Job 34:5 • Job 35:2 • Numbers 14:27 • Philippians 2:14-15; 4:6 • Psalms 78:41-47

Daily Application

Our expectation of God determines our level of faith, and His level of truth, that we experience in our lives. If we expect nothing of God, we will receive nothing. We'll stay in the toxic circles of negative people and continue complaining about our circumstances, all the while missing the goodness of God around us. He wants to do some amazing things in our lives, but when we're blinded to His truth it becomes easy for the devil to lead us astray and destroy us.

However, God's Word says that He has designed us for victory and that since He is for us, nothing can stand against us. We don't have to stay stuck in a complaining and victim mindset. We don't have to surround ourselves with people who only bring storms into our life. We can remember the promises of God and what He wants to do for us and through us. We can surround ourselves with Godly people and stay in regular communication with them. We can do all things through Him who gives us strength.

Who does God want to connect you with in order to strengthen your faith? What goodness of God in your life is He calling you to remember? How can you share that testimony with others to grow God's goodness in their lives as well?

When we remain open and ask the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth, He is faithful to do so. We can trust Him for more than we could ever ask, think, or imagine because His power is endless, He loves us, and He says so.

This Week's Declarations

"I am loved by God and, because of that, I accept and look for His goodness in my life. No longer do I focus on the negative people and circumstances in my life. I give praise and thanksgiving to God and magnify His name in all things. I surround myself with Godly and wise counsel that strengthens my faith. I fill my heart and my mouth with the truth of God's Word that it would infuse every situation with His power, His love, and His goodness. I open my mouth to speak the testimonies of His goodness and inspire it in other people's lives. What God has done before, He is willing and able to do again, in Jesus' name!"

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 *Just say No to Ungodly Relationships*

Titus 2:11-14 NIV

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Proverbs 13:20 NKJV

He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Proverbs 22:24 NKJV

Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go,

Genesis 13:5-7 NKJV

Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents. Now the land was not able to support them, that they might dwell together, for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together. And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land.

Genesis 13:14 NKJV

And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward;

Proverbs 6:23-24 NKJV

For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life, To keep you from the evil woman, From the flattering tongue of a seductress.

1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Proverbs 12:26 NKJV

The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Psalms 77:3 NKJV

I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed.

Job 7:11 NKJV

“Therefore I will not restrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

Job 35:2 NKJV

“Do you think this is right? Do you say, ‘My righteousness is more than God’s’?”

Job 34:5 NKJV

“For Job has said, ‘I am righteous, But God has taken away my justice;

Philippians 2:14-15 NKJV

Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Numbers 14:27 NKJV

“How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me.

Philippians 4:6 NKJV

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Psalms 100:4 NKJV

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,

Psalms 78:41-47 NKJV

Yes, again and again they tempted God, And limited the Holy One of Israel. They did not remember His power: The day when He redeemed them from the enemy, When He worked His signs in Egypt, And His wonders in the field of Zoan; Turned their rivers into blood, And their streams, that they could not drink. He sent swarms of flies among them, which devoured them, And frogs, which destroyed them. He also gave their crops to the caterpillar, And their labor to the locust. He destroyed their vines with hail, And their sycamore trees with frost.

Revelation 19:10 NKJV

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

Psalms 119:111 NKJV

Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, For they are the rejoicing of my heart.

1 Kings 11:9 NKJV

So the Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice,

Psalms 56:9 NKJV

When I cry out to You, Then my enemies will turn back; This I know, because God is for me.