

# **Beyond The Sermon**

## A Sermon Application Guide

Title: **But For a Moment** (Going Deeper: a series on Romans 1:21)

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**

Deep Calls to Deep

*"Father God, I thank you that your word renews my mind, teaching me to think your way. I pray that you would grow in me a deeper desire for you and your Word. I believe that what you say is true. Continue to empower me to live a righteous and Spirit-led life before you, in Jesus' name. Amen."*

### **Key Truths & Applications**

Romans 1:21 talks about how the people fell away from God by doing four things. If we take these four things and put them in reverse, it shows us clear steps to take growing closer to Him.

Steps that take you away from God:

1. They glorified Him not as God
2. Neither were thankful
3. Became vain in their imaginations
4. Their foolish hearts were darkened

In reverse, positively, returning to God seeking God:

1. Glorify God
2. Be Thankful
3. Recognize the power of your imagination (Meditate on God's Word)
4. Have a Good Heart

What does it mean to glorify God?

1. Glorify- to render (or esteem) glorious
2. Render- to value, to prize, or to reverence
3. Esteem, value, prize (God's Word)

To focus on glorifying God, means to exalt and consider Him to be right, over our personal preference, culture, and what the world says. The Lord told Abraham that he was going to be the father of many nations, but Abraham was roughly one hundred years old and had no children of his own at that point. Abraham didn't look at his own body and doubt. He remained unwavering as he waited on God's promise, praising God, and growing strong in his faith. He minimized the things that were not a part of the Kingdom of God and His promise, while focusing on the things that were, and what God had told him.

“Faith is believing and acting as if what God said to you in His Word is true, it's responding to what He has said.”

In 2 Corinthians, Paul dis-esteemed (devalued) all that he had been through in the past and looked only to God's future for him and the reward that would be there. He looked at his severe pain and turmoil and still called it a “light affliction, which is but for a moment.” Our troubles and pain, however long we have them or how deep they go, are temporary compared to the eternal glory that can be found when we focus on God and what He is doing in the world.

The world tells us that if we just had more we would be happy, but anything that is prioritized or admired over the word of God needs to be removed or reevaluated. We shouldn't place greater value in things of this life than in the things of God. Earthly things may not be bad, but we have to esteem God's word as more valuable.

God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. When something comes into our hands, part of that is for us. Our first thought, when we find ourselves in abundance, should be to take the blessing and see what we can do for others, ultimately worshiping God and giving back to Him.

Every time we do something God's way, it strengthens and builds us up. When we miss the mark, it doesn't make God love us any less, but it does make us love God less because we've turned our hearts away from Him. The more we sin, the easier it gets to do so.

### **Key Verses:**

- Romans 1:21, 4:19-21
- 2 Corinthians 4:17, 9:8-10, 10:4-5, 11:23-29
- Hebrews 3:3, 11:24-26, 12:2
- Mark 4:19
- Luke 14:16-23
- Deuteronomy 8:18, 30:11
- Proverbs 10:29, 11:24
- Psalms 42:7, 119:72, 138
- 3 John 2
- Malachi 3:10
- Philippians 3:7-8

### **Declarations**

*“My faith in God means I trust and believe everything God says, and I value Him and His word over everything else. Every time I do something God's way, I know I am strengthened and my faith continues to be built as I see Him be faithful to His word. I believe that when I pursue the Lord, I will find Him. I will glorify and praise the Lord all the days of my life.”*

### **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

### But For a Moment

#### **Psalms 42:7A ESV**

Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls

#### **Genesis 5:24 NKJV**

And Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took him.

#### **Romans 1:21 NKJV**

because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

#### **Matthew 12:33 ESV**

Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad...

#### **Romans 4:19-20 NKJV**

And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,

#### **Genesis 17:5 NIV**

...I have made you a father of many nations.

#### **Romans 4:20 NKJV**

He did not waver at the promise of God

#### **Romans 4:19 ESV**

No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith

#### **Romans 4:21 NKJV**

And being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform

#### **Hebrews 6:12 NKJV**

...imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

#### **2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV**

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

### **Hebrews 12:2 NKJV**

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **2 Corinthians 11:23-29 NKJV**

...in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness...

### **2 Corinthians 4:17 NKJV**

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

### **Mark 4:19 NKJV**

And the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the Word, and it becomes unfruitful.

### **Luke 14:16-23 NKJV**

Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'

### **Philippians 3:7-8 KJV**

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

**Proverbs 10:29 NKJV**

The way of the Lord is strength for the upright...

**Hebrews 3:13 NKJV**

but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

**Hebrews 11:24-26 NKJV**

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.