



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Highly Favored

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

Down To Earth

"Thank you God for the promises you have given to me. Thank you for blessing me beyond what I deserve and setting a perfect example of gracious love. God, I trust that your plans for me are good. I will speak life over every situation as I desire to look more like you. I love you Lord, Amen."

Key Truths

In Luke 1:28, an angel named Gabriel appears to Mary and calls her 'highly favored one' and in Ephesians 6:1 we learn that we are highly favored as well. Too often we can fall into believing that God is mad, but in reality, we are highly favored and accepted in Christ. The word 'favored' is a synonym of grace.

One of the most beautiful stories of favor is told in Genesis. Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers, but God gave him wisdom and favor. His journey led him to a position of power, then to prison, then he was called upon and given a role of great importance.

One day of God's favor can do more for us than a thousand days of labor. In the same day, Joseph woke up in a prison and went to bed as the Prime Minister.

Another great story of favor is the story of Ruth. She is a widow living with her mother-in-law and she ends up finding favor with her boss. Through the course of the story she goes from being a bit blessed to owning the entire field. She spoke out loud that she would find favor. We need to confess favor in our life.

There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. His favor is not dependent on our behavior. Some things that move our hearts towards God are worshiping, praising, and praying. Those things don't make God love us more but it makes us love Him more. Sin doesn't make God love us less but it does make us love God less because it hardens our hearts towards him.

Practical Application

Reminder: God can get you anywhere in 24 hours.

The word that God speaks to you, needs to be spoken through you. Say what God says about you and agree with Him. The power to accomplish what He said is in His word. There is power in saying Gods will out loud over your life.

In prayer, ask God how he feels about you, what he says about you, and what his plans are for you.

Key Verses

- Luke 1:26-38
- Hebrews 4:12
- Luke 1:26-38, 2:52, 1:32-33
- Ephesians 1:6
- Acts 7:10, 27:24
- Psalms 5:12
- Ruth 2:2
- Hebrews 3:13, 4:12
- Matthew 6:21, 19:28, 25:46
- Romans 10:8
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- John 1:14, 1:2-3
- Genesis 3:15, 12:2
- Isaiah 9:6-7
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- Revelation 20:4-6
- Matthew 8:29, 16:19
- Revelation 20:1-3

Declarations

“God means what he says. What he says goes. His words are powerful, mighty, and cannot be overlooked. When God speaks to me, I will listen and obey. I will speak God's promises over my life and always remember that I am highly favored by God.”

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References Highly Favored

Luke 1:26-38 NKJV Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:28 NKJV And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

Ephesians 1:6 NKJV ...to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

Genesis 37-41 NKJV REF

Acts 7:10 NKJV ...and delivered him out of all his troubles, and gave him favor and wisdom in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

Luke 2:52 NKJV And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor...

Psalms 5:12 NKJV For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

Ruth 2:2 NKJV So Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Please let me go to the field, and glean heads of grain after him in whose sight I may find favor."

Ruth 2:3 NKJV And she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz...

Ruth 2:16 NKJV REF “Also let *grain* from the bundles fall purposely for her; leave *it* that she may glean, and do not rebuke her.”

Luke 1:29-31 NKJV But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.

Hebrews 3:13 NKJV ...lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Luke 1:31 NKJV ...you will conceive in your womb...

John 1:14 NKJV And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Genesis 3:15 NKJV REF And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

Isaiah 9:6-7 NKJV For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Amos 3:7 NKJV Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

Luke 1:37 AMPC For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power...

Hebrews 10:5 NKJV Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me.

Isaiah 9:6 NKJV For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given...

Colossians 1:16 NKJV For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

2 Corinthians 5:19 NKJV ...that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...

Luke 1:32-33 NKJV He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

Acts 1:6-7 NKJV Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

Matthew 19:28 NKJV “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 NKJV But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen [a]asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who [b]sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are [c]asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Revelation 20:4 NKJV And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for [a]a thousand years.

Matthew 25:46 NKJV "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Revelation 22:5 NKJV And they shall reign forever and ever.