

Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Is the Devil Stealing Your Destiny? (Reversing the Devil's Decisions pt 2)

This guide offers 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

How the Devil Distracts Us from Our Purpose

Prayer Focus

Almighty Father, thank You for Your love and enduring patience. You alone are worthy of my worship and devotion. As I dive into scripture, please reveal more of Your divine nature and help me understand who You've created me to be. Grant me a heart that deeply loves people and genuinely desires to bring Your Kingdom to Earth. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

God has plans for us, but we have to remain vigilant because the Devil roams around, seeking whom he can devour. As our enemy, he desires for us to fail. Without awareness of his tactics, we can easily fall for his tricks and become distracted from God's purpose for our lives. Satan tries to shift our focus onto the wrong things. Allowing anything to replace our pursuit of God will choke out His Word in our lives. Recognizing us as threats, Satan will attempt to bring storms to prevent us from achieving the victories God has planned for us. God's blessings are in our future, and the Devil strives to keep us from believing it.

God calls us to focus on the unseen. The Kingdom of God is not something we can observe externally; it resides within each of us. Our goal on this planet is not merely to be forgiven and go to Heaven but to bring the Kingdom here through our actions and words.

Practical Application

Consistently reading our Bibles is necessary. The more we immerse ourselves in God's Word, the better equipped we'll be to resist Satan's attempts to distract us.

Reflect on these questions:

- What part of the Bible are you currently reading?
- What are you learning about God's character and who He says you are?
- How does it influence the way you speak with and encourage others?

Reference Verses

- Jeremiah 29:11
- 1 Peter 5:8
- John 10:10
- Job 9:21-24, 38:1-2
- James 1:16-17
- Mark 4:18-19
- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
- Luke 17:20
- Matthew 6:33, 8:23-34, 11:12
- 1 Timothy 5:24
- Ecclesiastes 11:3
- Revelation 20:11-15
- 1 Thessalonians 2:18
- Acts 19:15
- Isaiah 61:7
- Joshua 1:8

Declarations

- God's Kingdom resides within me, and He called me to bring it to Earth.
- I am vigilant against the enemy's tactics and will not be distracted from God's plan for my life.
- With God's Word in my heart, I'm prepared to resist Satan's schemes and remain focused on God's blessings.

What's Next?

Do you feel like the devil is trying to steer you off course? Maybe you're facing distractions, anxieties, or even discouragement that's keeping you from the abundant life God has planned. The good news is, you don't have to be a victim!

Let's overcome these challenges together and walk confidently on the path God has laid out for you! Here are 4 steps you can take to help get your life back on track:

- 1. **Identify the Devil's Tactics:** The devil tries to get you focused on unimportant things to keep you from pursuing God's kingdom. This can include worldly desires, anxieties, or even religious activities that don't lead to a deeper relationship with God. When facing difficulties, the devil can make you feel like God has abandoned you and your situation is hopeless.
- 2. Stay Focused on God's Kingdom: Seek first the kingdom of God, make pursuing God's purpose your top priority. This involves studying the Bible, praying, and serving others. Keep your eyes on the eternal and don't get discouraged by temporary troubles. Remember, God's plan is ultimately good, and your reward in heaven is eternal.
- **3.** Resist the Devil and Claim Your Blessings: Recognize You have Authority in Christ, You have power over the devil through Jesus. Use prayer and scripture to resist his attacks. Claim Your Inheritance,

God has blessings waiting for you, but you need to receive them by faith. This includes healing, deliverance, peace, and provision.

4. Receive Jesus (if you haven't already): emphasizes that having your name written in the Book of Life requires receiving Jesus as your Savior. If you haven't done this yet, click on the Say Yes to Jesus link Now! Don't wait, tomorrow is never promised. By prioritizing God's will, resisting temptation, and claiming your inheritance in Christ, you can overcome the devil's distractions and live the abundant life God has planned for you. Say Yes To Jesus (https://walkingbyfaith.tv/salvation/)

Scripture References Is the Devil Stealing Your Destiny?

Psalm 139:16 TLB You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!

1 Timothy 2:4 KJV ...1 Timothy 2:4 KJV ...who will have all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

John 10:10 NKJV The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Job 9:22-24 NKJV It is all one thing; Therefore I say, 'He destroys the blameless and the wicked.' If the scourge slays suddenly, He laughs at the plight of the innocent. The earth is given into the hand of the wicked. He covers the faces of its judges. If it is not He, who else could it be?

Job 38:1-2 NKJV Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: "Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge?

James 1:16-17 NKJV Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Mark 4:18 NKJV REF Now these are the ones sown among thorns; *they are* the ones who hear the word...

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.

2 Corinthians 4:16 NKJV Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing...

2 Corinthians 4:16 NKJV ... though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NKJV For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 11:23-27 NKJV Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, 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…

Luke 17:20 NKJV "The kingdom of God does not come with observation..."

1 Timothy 5:24 NKJV Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later.

Revelation 20:11-12 NKJV Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life.

Revelation 22:12-13 MSG "Yes, I'm on my way! I'll be there soon! I'm bringing my payroll with me. I'll pay all people in full for their life's work.

1 Thessalonians 2:18 NKJV Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us.

Matthew 8:23-26 NKJV Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

Matthew 8:27-33 NKJV So the men marveled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.

Acts 19:15 NKJV "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?"

Matthew 11:12 NIRV Since the days of John the Baptist, the kingdom of heaven has been under attack.

Matthew 11:12 HCSB From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been suffering violence, and the violent have been seizing it by force...

Isaiah 61:7 NKJV Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, And instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; Everlasting joy shall be theirs.

Job 42:10 NKJV And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Job 42:12-13 NKJV Now the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters.

James 5:11 NKJV Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord...