



Life  
church

**BE LIKE  
JESUS**

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Book 2

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The devotions featured in this book are thoughtfully focused on the fruits of the Spirit, aiming to guide you through a meaningful spiritual journey. Our sincere prayer is that your daily Quiet Time with Jesus will serve as a catalyst for profound inner transformation as you become more like Jesus.

## QUESTIONS

1. What is our responsibility to believe and exercise faith? What part does God get to play?
2. Reflect on the trials you have faced as a believer and the outcomes of your faith. Ask God how you can have more faith in the future in similar trials.
3. How can you grow your faith?

## AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

*'Jesus, grant me the courage to trust in Your plans even when the path is unclear, and strengthen my heart to walk in unwavering faith each day. May my belief in Your guidance grow deeper with every step I take.'*

## EXTRA RESOURCES

- Book: The Case for Faith, Lee Strobel  
<https://i0.wp.com/www.christianbooks.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/The-Case-for-Faith.jpg?fit=288,445&ssl=1>
- The Prayer that prevails. By Smith Wigglesworth  
<https://www.hopefaithprayer.com/books/FaithThatPrevails.pdf>
- How To Keep Your Faith In A Desperate Situation | Steven Furtick  
<https://youtu.be/q4JEffwqwjK?si=LunBkOogaV5m15Z1>

## DAY 10: FAITH

### HEBREWS 11:1 NIRV

*"Faith is being sure of what we hope for.  
It is being sure of what we do not see."*

Biblical faith is the confident trust in God, grounded in His character, promises, and the evidence of His work throughout history. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." This means faith is not a blind leap, but a firm assurance rooted in God's reliability.

Faith begins with knowing who God is. Through Scripture, we see His attributes: love, justice, mercy, and faithfulness. Abraham is a prime example of Biblical faith. Called to leave his homeland without knowing his destination (Genesis 12), he obeyed, trusting God's promise. His faith was not passive; it was active, demonstrated through obedience.

Biblical faith also involves trust during trials. Consider Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3), who refused to bow to an idol, declaring that God could save them, but even if He did not, they would not compromise their faith. This "even if" faith reveals a trust that transcends circumstances.

Furthermore, faith is not only for personal benefit but also to glorify God. Jesus taught that faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains (Matthew 17:20), illustrating that the power of faith lies not in its quantity, but in the greatness of the One we believe in.

Lastly, faith grows through hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17) and experiencing His faithfulness in our lives. Prayer, fellowship, and reflection on God's past works strengthen our faith.

In summary, Biblical faith is a dynamic, living trust in God—anchored in His Word, evidenced through action, resilient in trials, and ever-growing as we walk with Him.

## DAY 1: KNOWING GOD AS FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

### JEREMIAH 30:22

*'And you shall be my people,  
and I will be your God.'*

This Scripture is foundational when it comes to our relationship with God. It speaks of an intimacy and closeness, a relationship that is founded on allowing God permission to be our God. As we read about in Book 1, the Godhead is made up of three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For us to fully understand God, we need to understand our connection with each person.

#### GOD THE FATHER:

In the Bible, God is described as our Father. When Jesus teaches the disciples how to pray in Matthew 6:9-13, he begins by saying, 'Our Father in heaven...' Unless we know God as our loving, generous, compassionate and gracious Father, whose desire is always for our very best, the difficulties of this world will drown us. Many of us may struggle with the concept of a Father's love due to the lack of an earthly Father's love. Our father may not have been present, or loving or caring, and so it can be difficult to see God as our Father and therefore experience God as our loving Father. The best illustration of the length and breadth of God the Father's love is the allowance for His Son to go to the cross, taking on our sin, guilt, and shame. He allowed this as He desperately wants to have a relationship with us. This kind of giving speaks volumes of the length God the Father would go to, to have a real relationship with us.

#### GOD THE SON:

Imagine being Jesus and having this mission to fulfill, to save humanity by giving your life. Once again we see the tender-heartedness and love of God, the Son, as He surrenders His life for us to have life. He gave up everything and came to earth with a mission to know us, love us and pull us up out of our sin-filled gutters. We all live in sin, our own selfishness, but even in this God wants us to know Him. We see that repeatedly when Jesus walked on this earth, He spent time with prostitutes, tax collectors and the faithless. God's love oozed out of Him.

Jesus also came to experience what we experience so that He could identify with us. Imagine that, having a friend that will go through a snake bite with you, just to show you that they know and understand their pain. Because Jesus knows how it feels, the connection with us can be so much greater.

**GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and also fully God. He has been sent to continue the ministry of Jesus after His ascension to Heaven. That is why He is called the 'Paraclete' or helper, the Counsellor, the Comforter, or Advocate who Jesus promised to send to us to work in His place (John 14:16). He is now available to all God's people abundantly and permanently (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2; John 14:26). When we are not sure which direction to go, the Holy Spirit can help us. He brings light into the darkness. He will be the One who can guide us and comfort us. He also convicts us of our sin but draws us close to God in times of need. He is our Teacher, sent by Jesus to walk with us daily.

May this devotion be an encouragement to connect with Father, Son and Holy Spirit whenever and wherever you are. Address each of them in your prayers. The Godhead wants personal relationship with you. Do not allow busyness, guilt, shame, or doubt to cloud your clear vision of who God is and how He wants to be a part of your life.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Read Luke 15:11-32 and John 8:2-11. What do these stories tell you about God how He loves us?
2. Would you feel nervous or peaceful if you had to account to God for your life today? Why? Spend 15 minutes this week thinking about the acceptance and unconditional love that we see in Jesus.

**AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER**

*'God, thank you for being my Father.  
 Jesus, thank you for surrendering your life for me.  
 Holy Spirit speak to be daily. May I be your vessel.  
 Amen'*

**EXTRA RESOURCES**

- <https://share.google/zDaLNnXeGWSwYuisd>
- <https://youtu.be/ruSSzMV7ZOk?si=0p1quBLs-JorE49Q>

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## DAY 2: THE CHARACTER OF GOD

### EXODUS 34:6-7

*"6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."*

What are God's attributes? When we talk about the attributes of God, we are trying to answer questions like, 'Who is God', 'What is God like', and 'What kind of God is He?' Unfortunately, we are limited human beings, and we cannot possibly fully comprehend God, but He has graciously revealed himself in his World in a variety of ways.

Exodus 34:6-7 describes the character of God; compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, loving and faithful. Yet we also capture the tension between His character traits, specifically, Mercy and Justice. On one hand, God reveals Himself as overflowing with compassion, grace, patience, steadfast love and faithfulness. An example is found in Exodus 32 when Israel sinned, worshipping a golden calf, God could have abandoned them, but instead, He renewed His covenant. This is the God who leans toward forgiveness, who gives people chance after chance.

Yet, He is not a God who winks at sin. He does not leave the guilty unpunished. A God who ignored sin would not be good, nor worthy of worship. Therefore, we understand that His justice is an expression of His love.

This tension is expressed in John 1:17 NIV, 'For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.'

Let me end with this story that happened at a time when Jesus was walking down the streets of Jerusalem. A woman was found guilty of a hideous sin at that time: she was caught in adultery. She was then brought to Jesus and since the sentence for such sin was known in the Law of Moses, it was expected that the woman should be stoned. Jesus took his sweet time but because the Pharisees kept on pressing him for an answer, He finally said: "let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!". That answer was not expected and the woman's accusers all left. Jesus turned to her and asked "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more." Here we see God's character working in perfect unity; love and justice.

## DAY 9: SELF CONTROL

### PROVERBS 25:28

*"A person without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls."*

As human beings, we are continually subject to our desires, feelings, and wills—most of which are selfish and self-centred. However, when we are born again, we receive the Holy Spirit of God, who comes to dwell within us and produces the fruit of the Spirit in us. This fruit is the manifestation of God's character and nature in our lives, with the purpose of making us more like the Lord Jesus and glorifying God in everything we are and do.

The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) is the result of regeneration (salvation) in the believer's life. After becoming a new creation, the fruit of the Spirit becomes evident—not as a result of our own effort, but through the presence of the Lord Jesus in us and our daily communion with the Father. Self-control is one aspect of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and it must be cultivated daily in our lives.

Proverbs 16:32 teaches us that the one who masters himself is better than the one who conquers a city. This is because self-control requires us to deny our ego and submit to God. We naturally want to put ourselves first—our wills, desires, and pleasures at the centre of our lives—and when we do so, we allow ourselves to be led by our ego. Yet every time we master ourselves and refuse to respond immediately to our ego—just as a mother instinctively runs to her newborn baby at the sound of its cry—we are practicing self-control and living a life of surrender.

However, this cannot be achieved by our own strength, but only through a life of connection with and dependence on God.

We believe that self-control already resides within us through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, but each of us must daily nurture it in order to grow in this vital aspect of our spiritual life.

Proverbs 25:28 also states: "A person without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls." Just as a city without walls is vulnerable to every kind of attack and danger, so too—and even worse—is the person who allows himself to be guided by his ego and sinful desires.





## DAY 8: GOODNESS AND PATIENCE

### GALATIANS 5:22-25

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."*

The Bible shows us that goodness is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Many people can do good works without faith, but good works led by the Spirit brings true and significant change for God's Kingdom. This change begins in us as God works in our inner spirit when we accept Jesus as our personal Saviour with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. The moment we accept Jesus and let the Spirit lead us instead of the flesh, we will start experiencing a difference in our character. Part of this character change is a shift in how we do things. Now when we practice goodness it is highly effective to bring change in our families, church, communities and other areas of influence.

Goodness is the ability to love and care for God's creation which is why he created us. God brings goodness in our lives through His grace. For us to experience the goodness of God we need to accept Him and allow him to change our inner man through the Holy Spirit. His grace and mercy are sufficient to bring His goodness out of us. The Bible encourages us to do good to all people and not to grow weary, which shows us goodness is not a onetime thing but a lifestyle of believers. His goodness also manifests itself through patience. When you experience the goodness of God for yourself, you also experience God's patience. Patience is the ability to endure hardships and delays with calmness and joy. As a believer you will be able to accept that God's time is the best unlike when you are living by the flesh.

When we belong to God the fruits of the Spirit should be growing and visible in our lives. Other people will be able to experience the goodness and patience of God through us. All this was made possible by His grace and mercy which He poured out to all those who have accepted Him and allows the Holy Spirit to guide each one of us. When you have patience, you will be able to trust and have faith in God and show goodness even towards those whom you need to forgive. Sometimes you will face temptations and tricky situations which will make you respond negatively but if you have patience, you will be able to believe and know that God will always make a way. Patience enables us to be good to others, treating them with kindness and respect irrespective of how they treat us.

## DAY 3: MY IDENTITY IN CHRIST

### EXODUS 3:7-12

*"Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" (v11)*

**Do you know who you are?** This is a question that has mystified people throughout the generations. The answer can give you real understanding of who God has created you to be and what He has created you for.

#### WHAT IS YOUR IDENTITY?

David Benner, a psychologist and author of the book "The Gift of Being Yourself," defines identity as "who we experience ourselves to be — the each of us carries within."

So how do you find out who you are?

Is it how we see ourselves? Our jobs, education, success, financial stability, appearance, or our abilities?

Is it how others see us, our social identity? What people say, how people act with you, the experiences you have with others or what media says about who we should be?

If we base our identity on how we see ourselves or how others see us, are these not just the externals of our life? External elements that could change so easily? Surely there is something more solid that we can base our identity on. What about how God sees us?

God is your creator, so does it not make sense that our identity is based in how God sees you?

Ephesians 1:3-14, gives us some insight into how God sees us.

It is one of the richest passages about identity in the Bible. In this passage, Paul addresses the church in Ephesus, explaining the new identity given to a person when they are in Christ.





## DAY 4: PURPOSEFUL

### MATTHEW 6:33 (ESV)

*"But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."*

As a believer in Jesus Christ, it is important to live with purpose. Being purposeful as a Christian means making intentional choices that honor God and reflect the life of Christ. Jesus Himself lived every moment with clear direction from His Father. He did not wander aimlessly or live without focus—He came with a mission, and He fulfilled it with love and obedience.

From the very beginning of His ministry, Jesus declared His purpose: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me... He has sent Me to proclaim good news to the poor" (Luke 4:18). Everything He did flowed from this mission. Whether He was teaching, healing, or even resting, His life was guided by the will of His Father. Even when it led to the cross, He did not turn aside. His prayer in Gethsemane shows His intentional surrender: "Not My will, but Yours be done." (Luke 42:22)

As Christians, being purposeful begins with knowing why we live: to glorify God and make Him known. This means setting our priorities according to God's Word and His kingdom. When school, work, friendships, or hobbies compete for attention, we are called to choose in ways that reflect Christ's love and mission. Purposeful living is not about being busy—it's about aligning our steps with God's plan.

In daily life, this might look like spending time in prayer before rushing into decisions, showing kindness when it would be easier to ignore someone, or using your gifts to serve others instead of keeping them for yourself.

Purpose is found in the small moments as much as in the big ones.

The encouragement is this: you don't have to figure out your entire future today. Start by seeking God first, as Matthew 6:33 reminds us. When you walk closely with Jesus and let His Spirit guide you, your life will take on His direction. Just as Christ lived with intention, so can you—rooted in God's will, filled with His love, and committed to His kingdom.

## DAY 7: PATIENCE AND KINDNESS

### GALATIANS 5:22-23

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."*

True Christianity is not measured by words alone, but by a transformed character. Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:16). This means that the presence of the Holy Spirit in one's life must produce virtues that everyone can see — and among them are kindness and gentleness.

Kindness reflects God's generous heart: "The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all his works" (Psalm 145:9). Gentleness reveals Christ's attitude toward people and difficulties: "Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Matthew 11:29). Being kind and gentle is not being weak; it is being strong enough to love, help, and forgive even when the world chooses otherwise. These virtues are like the fragrance of Christ in us: discreet but transformative.

#### 1. Kindness

Kindness is acting with a heart willing to serve, offer help, and do good, even when no one is watching and when nothing is expected in return.

#### 2. Gentleness

Gentleness or meekness is controlling your strength and responding calmly, even when you are right. It is choosing peace over provocation.

Kindness and gentleness are marks of those who walk in the Spirit. These virtues do not come from human effort, but from a constant relationship with God.

Kindness is what you do with love. Gentleness is how you respond with wisdom. Both show who is really in control: the Holy Spirit.





## DAY 6: PEACE IN THE PROBLEMS

### 1 PETER 5:7

*"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."*

In this world corrupted by sin, problems, restlessness, and a lack of peace are part of our daily lives. We must understand that walking with the Lord Jesus does not make us immune to crises or difficulties.

This verse invites us to cast all our worries and concerns onto God. His promise to care for us brings us hope and peace as we recognise His sovereignty and love. Only God can solve our problems and relieve our anxiety.

#### WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN IN TROUBLE?

1. Seek the Lord—ask God for help. He wants to help you with your problems.
2. Surrender the trouble/challenge to God—He has the solution to your problems.
3. Ask for help from trustworthy, God-fearing people: your cell leader, supervisor, or pastor. Request their guidance.
4. Rest in the Lord.

Matthew 11:28. Find in Jesus a place of rest and peace. He invites us to rest in His presence.

Problems in our lives come from every direction and every area. But we have a place—and a Person—to whom we can surrender these problems and find peace. That place is in God's presence, and He is the One who can truly help us. May we always first turn to Him every time a problem comes our way,

## DAY 5: LOVE AND JOY

### JOHN 11:9-12

*"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."*

One of creation's greatest needs is to be loved. More specifically human beings need to be loved for them to thrive. Now there are 3 types of love that we can talk about that are available to us.

1. The first one is **Philia** which is a deep and meaningful friendship or brotherly love that followers of Jesus must have for one another, 1 Corinthians 13.
2. The second one is **Eros** which refers to passionate or romantic love between husband and wife as described in the Song of songs.
3. The third one is **Agape** which is selfless, sacrificial and unconditional love. This involves loving even those who are not worthy and may not reciprocate that love.

**Agape** is the love that Jesus is explaining to us in the Bible. He traces the origin of this love back to its source, which is God. God's love for us is constant, unshakeable and it endures forever. Understanding this love helps us know how much we are loved by God although we are undeserving of His love. This helps us to also love others with this Godly kind of love just as we have been loved. In the Bible we see that loving others is not just a nice suggestion but a command.

The reward of keeping this command is that Jesus' joy will be in us and then our joy will be complete. The enemy is very good at throwing stuff in our way that can steal our joy. It might be sickness, failure or disappointment but Jesus is saying we can remain joyful in the midst of all these challenges. The key in this is to know that you are unconditionally loved, irrespective of what happens to you. Keep His love at the center of your joy.

