

Life
church

BE LIKE
JESUS

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Book 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction: Be like Jesus.....	2-3
Day 1: Knowing God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.....	4-6
Day 2: The Character of God.....	7-9
Day 3: My Identity in Christ.....	10-12
Day 4: Purposeful.....	13-15
Day 5: Love and Joy.....	16-18
Day 6: Peace in the Problems.....	19-21
Day 7: Patience and Kindness.....	22-24
Day 8: Self-control.....	25-27
Day 9: Goodness and Gentleness.....	28-30
Day 10: Faith	31-33

INTRODUCTION: BE LIKE JESUS

Welcome to the second book, 'Be like Jesus.' As we continue our journey with Jesus, this book focuses on who you are becoming. The world around us is trying to mould you into whom they want you to be. Social media beckons us to be liked by everybody; streaming services infiltrate our minds with ideas of whom we need to be popular, famous, and accepted by everyone. Additionally, societal expectations are also attempting to shape us into the personas that others desire. The pressure appears to be relentless, and eventually, we may succumb and become like everyone else around us. However, this is not the identity that God desires for us.

According to Psalm 139, every individual is uniquely created by God, who intricately knits each person together in the womb. This verse highlights the divine craftsmanship involved in human creation, emphasising that each person is fearfully and wonderfully made for a divine purpose. Furthermore, Jeremiah 18:6 illustrates how God, like a potter shaping clay, actively moulds and forms believers into the likeness of Christ. Jeremiah 18:6 'Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.'

The Apostle Paul, in Galatians 4:19, expresses a longing for Christ to be formed within believers, indicating that spiritual maturity involves a deep internal change that manifests outwardly. This process involves surrendering personal will and allowing God's Spirit to work within us, restoring and renewing our inner selves to reflect Christ's character. Sin, however, can distort this divine image, leading to a divergence from God's original intent. Daily surrender and reliance on God's grace are vital in overcoming sin and aligning our lives with His purpose.

Therefore, the answer to the question of 'Who am I becoming', is that you are becoming more like Jesus. The more we become like Him, the more we can act like Him and walk in His purpose. It must begin with our identity, and from there flows our behaviour and actions. As we grow in this identity, our actions and behaviours naturally align with the values and virtues exemplified by Jesus. The fruits of the Spirit, as outlined in Galatians 5:22-23, serve as indicators of this inner transformation. These fruits—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—are evidence of a life being shaped by the Holy Spirit. The more we internally embody these qualities, the more they become visible in our external actions. This is part of us understanding our identity as children of God which is foundational to living a life that reflects Christ. In Jesus' life we can see that these virtues were integral to His character. His life was marked not merely by good behaviour but by holiness and a dedicated purpose to serve God's will.

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.

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 fulfil, 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>

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.

QUESTIONS

1. What are some characteristics of God that you know and were not mentioned in this devotion?
2. What do you think it would be like to live in a World that had compassion but no consequences for wrongdoing? Why is it good to have both compassion and justice?
3. Is the idea of God being both compassion and just make you fear Him or be afraid of Him?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

*God, thank You for the cross, where Your love and righteousness met.
Help me to live gratefully, humbly, and faithfully, reflecting Your character in
my world today.*

EXTRA RESOURCES

- Book: Deep & Wide by Andy Stanley
- DLM Christian Lifestyle
- https://youtu.be/Dp7fwObc_UI?si=nSfAJgH_8G2xCC13
- Character of God: The Character of God Series (Episode 1)
- https://youtu.be/nxwzq1PJImM?si=hjDD-bQMuuCXW_5e

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

We may receive an overwhelming number of messages telling us to define ourselves by external measures, but what would it look like to base our identity on the way God sees us? Benner suggests “an identity grounded in God would mean that when we think of who we are, the first thing that would come to mind is our status as someone who is deeply loved by God.” Our identity begins there. YOU are DEEPLY LOVED by GOD. The more we build our relationship with God the more we will begin to see our identity traits, mentioned in Ephesians 1, become clearer.

This is important, as we can see from the life of Moses that when God calls us to go, what can either stop us or slow us down is our understanding of who you are. Living out your identity will be key to fulfilling the purposed God has destined you for. So take the time to get to know God and ask Him to open your eyes to who you truly are.

QUESTIONS

1. List a few things that have shaped your identity in the past and even recently?
2. Who should be shaping your identity now?
3. What are some identity traits that you are aware of right now?
4. How can you find out more of who you are? Write down 3 practical steps for you to start?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

Thank you, God, that you created me the way I am.

I am designed by you and destined by you.

*I choose to start to listen to what you say about my identity and not
what the world says.*

Holy Spirit speak to me. He me find who you want me to be.

In your name Jesus. Amen.

EXTRA RESOURCES

- <https://www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/al-growth/core-christian-beliefs/identity-in-christ.html>
- <https://share.google/YlcjYaZQL6tSz5JCr>
- <https://share.google/jEY9w3l36mpWMYJtM>

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

QUESTIONS

1. How did Jesus' sense of purpose shape the way He lived each day, and what does that teach us about how we should live as His followers?
2. What are some areas in your own life—school, friendships, family, hobbies—where you can be more intentional about seeking God's Kingdom first?
3. When you think about Matthew 6:33, what does “seeking first the Kingdom of God” look like in practical, everyday choices?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Father in Heaven, thank You for the example of Jesus, who lived with purpose and obeyed Your will. I admit I often get distracted, but I want to seek Your kingdom first in all I do. Help me be intentional in my choices and give me courage to follow You, even when it's hard. Fill me with Your Spirit, so my life shows Christ's love and brings glory to Your name. I trust You with my life and my future.

In Jesus' name, Amen.'

EXTRA RESOURCES

- Book: The Purpose Driven life – Rick Warren
- Podcast: Called – John Bevere (Podcast on Messenger x)
- Podcast: Multiply – John Bevere (Podcast on Messenger x)

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

QUESTIONS

1. How has God shown His Agape love to you?
2. Scripture tells us to remain in His love, what can you do to remain in His love?
3. What is the benefit of having the joy of Jesus in us?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Lord, help me to grasp how much you love me and make me an instrument of your love. May the way I live, be a testimony of your love in me and may the world know your love through me.

Amen.'

EXTRA RESOURCES

- PODCAST: How God Loves Us: John Piper

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oT8s6yZ8oBI#:~:text=Light%20+%20TruthEpisode:%20279Speaker:%20John%20PiperSeries:%20The,Great%20Goal%20of%20the%20GospelScripture:%20John%2011:1%E2%80%935Playlist:%20https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAcB0f>

- The Bible: 1 Corinthians 13

JOURNAL PAGE

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,

QUESTIONS

1. What do you do when a problem comes your way?
2. What does it mean to surrender to God when struggling with problems?
3. How do you find rest in God?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Lord Jesus, forgive me for all the times I tried to solve my problems on my own and became frustrated. Help me to surrender my problems into Your presence and to find peace and rest in You, Lord. Please, Lord. Amen!

EXTRA RESOURCES

• <https://share.google/gq1YgQCZ23VIYRgcO>

• <https://share.google/SI2haRliVngnkFdkF>

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.

QUESTIONS

1. How sensitive are you to the needs of those around me? When was the last time I did something good without expecting recognition?
2. Choose one person to bless today: bring them a snack, send them a message of encouragement, or help someone with a simple task. An act of kindness brings a smile to someone's face and let God receive the glory.
3. Do I usually react with anger or calmness when life goes wrong, or when someone wrongs me? What would happen if I chose to respond with gentleness instead of arguing?
4. When someone irritates you today, wait 10 seconds before responding. Breathe, pray silently (Lord, give me gentleness), and then speak calmly.

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Holy Spirit, help me to be a true Christian who demonstrates kindness and gentleness even in difficult times. Help me to do things unconditionally, without expecting recognition from people but believing that the Lord above all is our rewarder. Help me to always do things for your glory alone, so that through my character people may know you and your name may be exalted. I surrender everything into your hands, in the name of the Lord Jesus!

Amen!'

EXTRA RESOURCES

• <https://www.navpress.com/sites/thedisciplinemaker/2021/04/-four-steps-to-start-growing-in-patience/>

• <https://www.awomancreatedonpurpose.com/news/kindness#:~:text=You%20look%20out%20for%20others,our%20Lord%20by%20our%20actions.>

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

QUESTIONS

1. The Bible talks about goodness as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, and we can only experience it if we crucify the flesh. Describe how you have been experiencing God working with your inner being. Reflect on whether you have noticed changes in your character.
2. What are three practical actions that you can do to show others the goodness of God and patience?
3. Explain the changes that can happen in your community if you and other believers can start living by the Spirit as we practice patience and goodness.

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Holy Spirit help me to crucify the flesh and live by the Spirit so that I will be able to see the manifestation of the fruits of the Spirit in my life. Amen.'

EXTRA RESOURCES

- Song: The Goodness of God: Cece Winans

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sE5kEnitqE>

- CeCe Winans on the Goodness of God | Sadie Robertson Huff

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgrpZObl0tiM>

- @vladhungrygen

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/H829m0AhWxl>

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

QUESTIONS

1. Have you been praying for the manifestation of self-control in your life?
2. In which areas of your life do you need to practice self-control?
3. What steps are you taking to gain mastery in these areas?

AN EXAMPLE OF A PRAYER

'Dear God and beloved Holy Father, thank You for rescuing me from the world and choosing to dwell within me. Lord, I come before You acknowledge all my weaknesses, especially my selfish and prideful desires. Father, I ask that by Your Spirit, you transform me into the image and likeness of Jesus. Teach me to master myself and to decrease so that You may increase. In Jesus' name, Amen. '

EXTRA RESOURCES

- The Bible
- Proverbs 16:32, Proverbs 25:28
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/self-control-and-the-power-of-christ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8D2zYSB-h4g>

JOURNAL PAGE

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.

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>

