

A 28-Day Prayer Devotional

Where is YOUR

Impact?
MATTHEW 28:19-20



First Baptist Church

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im·pact

***verb*; /im 'pakt/ - have a strong effect on someone or something.**

Do you make an impact? Or do others impact you? What would it take for you to have an impact? What about an eternal impact? Are you prepared?

It is our hope that this devotional will lead you in finding the answers to these questions. We pray the Holy Spirit uses these words to speak to your heart and guide you toward your heavenly impact.

Written by fellow FBC members, we hope you enjoy your quiet time with the Lord each day as you read through the scriptures and testimonies compiled to prepare you for your role in our shared journey!

- Better Together -

your prayer team

Week 1, Day 1

So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”
-John 11:16

IMPACT: In John 11, Lazarus becomes deathly sick. At that time, Jesus and his disciples had fled to the wilderness because Judea had become too unsafe for them. When Jesus heard of this, he decided to return to see Lazarus regardless of the potential harm. Thomas, better known later as “Doubting Thomas”, being a pessimist/worrier, figured the worst would happen in returning. Despite his fears, his faith in Jesus reigned and he chose whether it be life or death to follow his Messiah.

Today more than ever we are constantly bombarded with the stresses and worries of this world. Life has been thrown upside down by Covid-19 and other worldly challenges we face daily. Even with Thomas’s assuming the worst for Jesus and his disciples by returning to Judea, he still chose to “die daily”. What kind of impact would we have on today’s world if we chose the same conviction?

Prayer: Dear Lord, strengthen our faith to trust You with every aspect of our life, especially when we experience fear or doubt.

- Patrick Singley

Week 1, Day 2

“Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” –Matt 6:19-21

IMPACT: In modern American society, we are flooded with the idea that material things are a lofty goal of life. The new car, the latest iPhone, a bigger house; these become our motivation to advance. If we allow ourselves to be pulled into this type of thinking, suddenly our whole life is dedicated to obtaining things. The raise, the job promotion, life stages one generally would be proud of, are reduced to this finite goal. This leaves us feeling empty and unfulfilled. Jesus reminds us with this passage that we can devote our efforts toward goals that will last an eternity. Only then can we find true fulfillment.

Prayer: Pray that God will help you to see the areas in your life that are focused on materialism. Ask him to show you ways to move your efforts toward more eternal goals.

- Richard Heard

Week 1, Day 3

“...Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven’.” -Mark 2:1-12

IMPACT: I’ve been watching MaryAnn go through the speed bumps of life this year like kids in the back of the bus going over a speed bump, “WooHoo!” What would knock some down only emboldens her faith. Those guys in Mark 2 knew if they could get their friend to Jesus he would be healed. Others will need healing in the future, like the one down front lifting his/her hands high because the Lord brought them out of addiction or a broken life. The healing from knowing the Lord on that day will authorize the Father to say “This one is with Me.”

Prayer: Lord, I join with anyone in prayer right now willing to grab a corner of that mat to bring someone to Jesus so they can be healed. Lord instead of tearing off a roof let us join together in putting one up so more can be healed!

- Doug Reava

Week 1, Day 4

“Therefore I tell you: Don’t worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Isn’t life more than food and the body more than clothing? ...Therefore do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” -Matt 6:25-34

IMPACT: As a small child I remember my Grandpa Bradford reading his Bible and telling us that “worry is the lack of faith.” Through the years, Grandpa’s voice has come back to me as I have had many worries. I know that God has promised me that He supplies all my needs. If I give Him first place in my life, I am reminded through His voice in scripture that even the lilies of the field do not labor or spin. The Lord knows all our needs. We as believers in Jesus have been given the blessing of the word and prayer. In stressful times we find peace in prayer and God’s word. The more we make God’s word part of our daily lives, the better we can all handle times of worry and stress through faith in Jesus.

Prayer: Thank you Jesus for giving me the blessing of your word and prayer so that I can handle worry and stress through faith in you. Use me as a witness to others demonstrating peace and faith in you during hard times.

- Bennie Ogletree

Week 1, Day 5

“...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the LORD our God will call.”

-Acts 2:38-39

IMPACT: Longing to impact your family, church, community, and world? The Holy Spirit, which resides in every believer’s heart, is our Helper, Comforter, Counselor and Guide. When we experienced salvation, the Spirit came into our hearts to reveal God’s truths, produce fruit (Gal. 5:22-23), and provide spiritual gifts. Why then do we quench the Spirit by relying on ourselves and others for help, comfort and advice? The Holy Spirit is the most valuable, impactful gift we will ever receive. Ask the Spirit to lead you to a life of spiritual impact on your family, friends, church, community and world. Just look at what the Spirit did through Peter at Pentecost! (Acts 2:14-41)

Prayer: Come Holy Spirit, fill my heart with the fire of your love and light. Help me relish what is right. Lead me to always seek your help, comfort, counsel and wisdom as I strive to serve the LORD with impact in His world.

- Allegra Brigham

Week 1, Day 6

“...Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.” -Matt 10:5-8

IMPACT: These few verses are packed full of insight and instruction spoken directly from Jesus himself. Go to the lost. Proclaim the message. Heal and perform miracles. But how? Through being a receiver of the message along with the power to do these miraculous wonders! Are you a receiver? Do you, on the other side of the resurrection, contain the power of the Holy Spirit? Upon receipt of such a gift, we are then charged to give. I think of the quote, “To whom much is given, much is expected.” All we have is from Him and I personally have been blessed beyond measure. As my cup runneth over, I am reminded to: go to the lost, share the gospel and the hope that I have, utilize the power and the gifts given me, and to freely give. Give of my time, money, gifts, skills, knowledge, love... and as we give, we are continually blessed.

Prayer: Lord thank you for providing us with everything we need through your gifts to do all you have instructed us. Help us to utilize everything at our disposal to accomplish your purposes and make an impact for your kingdom!

- Rachel Smith

Week 1, Day 7

“...But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and said, ‘It is a ghost!’ and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid’.” -Matt 14:22-33

IMPACT: So often there are times when we seem to be overtaken by the circumstances we are facing and take our eyes off Jesus. I find so much encouragement from this passage. The twelve are in the boat together and Jesus appears walking on water. He announces His presence. Peter cries out, “Lord if it is you, command me to come to you.” Jesus says, “Come”. Peter steps out of the boat by faith. Faith that the Lord Jesus had commanded him to do something. As he responded to Jesus’s command, Peter began to walk on water! As the winds became more boisterous, Peter took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink. How true it is that when we take our eyes off Christ, we become easily overtaken. Praise God the story does not end there! Peter cries out, “Lord, save me” and the Lord reaches down to pull Peter to safety. Some people might think that this is a story of failure, however only Peter got out of the boat.

Prayer: God may we, no matter what the circumstances, always stand willing to get out of the boat and leave our comfort zone to be obedient to your calling.

- Kevin Styron

Week 2, Day 1

“...Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God.” -2 Samuel 6:5-7

IMPACT: We must always remember to do God’s business in God’s way. Had David been faithful to the instructions God gave to move the ark, Uzzah may have lived to see the ark in Jerusalem. The problem was a temporary lapse in fearing God. God is holy, set apart! He is so “other than” that no man can see his face and live. (Ex.33:20) I can assure you, we will not waltz nonchalantly into God’s presence at the judgment. He is holy, holy, holy! (Isaiah 6) That should cause us to check up and pause while we are about the Lord’s business. The manner in which we serve the Lord is of great importance. So whatever God has called us to do, we must make sure that we have not lost the fear of the Lord so that our conduct may be respectful toward the Holy One! He deserves no less.

Prayer: Holy God. You are the Creator, Life Sustainer, and Lord of all. You alone are worthy of all worship. You are God and there is no other. Thank you for life and life everlasting. Please forgive me when I have taken your grace for granted. I am your servant. Use me as you please. Thank you Lord!

- Marcus Cochran

Week 2, Day 2

“... ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?’” -Luke 8:22-25

IMPACT: I sat glued to the television the entire Spring Break. Only hours into the breaking news of COVID-19, I was already paralyzed with fear. Just a few days into the pandemic, I was a mess and bringing my children along for the ride. I prayed desperately that God would calm my anxious heart. Almost six months in, I keep praying, and He continues delivering. There is a supernatural peace in my home amidst the chaos. My family and I know that Jesus isn't asleep on the job. Sure, there are times when He allows the storm, but sometimes it is in that storm that He calms His child and blesses us with His peace. I don't hold the answers; however, Hallelujah! I know the one who does.

Prayer: Dear Lord, Thank you for Your peace that is available to me regardless of my circumstances. I don't know all the answers, but I know YOU. That will always be enough. No matter the storms, I pray that I can always be a calming presence showing YOUR blessed assurance to others.

- Amy Sumrall

Week 2, Day 3

“But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart’.” -1 Samuel 16:7

IMPACT: When you give your heart to Jesus, He can do the unexpected. 1 Samuel 13:14 records how the Lord “sought out a man after his own heart” after telling Saul his kingdom would not continue. No one expected God to choose David as King. Saul appeared as the obvious pick. However, God did not look at David’s outward appearance. God looked at his heart. Though his heart wasn’t perfect, it was open, receptive, and desired to be. While man saw a young shepherd boy, God saw a king. While man saw a sinner, God saw a life leading to the Savior. God sees you and has great plans for you. May your life lead others to Jesus even when least expected!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, give me the desires of Your heart. May my life point others to You. And even in the uncertain or confusing events in our lives, help us to remember you see the bigger picture and will always have our best interests at heart. We trust you to shape our hearts today!

- Raye Ann Carlisle

Week 2, Day 4

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” -James 1:17

“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.” -1 Chronicles 29:14

IMPACT: Take some time today to think about your blessings. Search your heart from the smallest of things to the grand and miraculous. Be sure to thank Him for each one! It is AMAZING to think that all of your blessings come from God! We can use the good and perfect things that God has given us to impact those around us. Sharing our joy and thankfulness towards God is a great way to share the gospel with those who are lost.

Prayer: Hey God! Thank you for my blessings. I pray that you will help me to be reminded that everything good comes from you. Help me to use these blessings for your glory in sharing the gospel with others. Also help me to notice you in all good things.

- Chloe Barr

Week 2, Day 5

“The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the Lord said, ‘I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.’ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” -Genesis 6-7

IMPACT: During Noah’s day the people were greedy and immoral. God was grieved. However, Noah found favor with God because of faithful obedience. God told Noah that he was going to destroy the people with a flood because of their disobedience. He said to build an enormous ark on dry land so that he, his family, and all kinds of animals could be saved. God explained exactly how to build it and what to take on the ark with him. Noah impacted the Kingdom by trusting God and following His instructions. Will you impact the Kingdom as Noah did?

Prayer: Lord, give me the courage to be obedient even when others are not. Show me how to take an active part in plans and actions that will affect your Kingdom in years to come. Help me to listen and hear what you have planned for my part. Use me in ways that will show you others your faithfulness.

- Dale Rainey

Week 2, Day 6

“...And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick. Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus...” -Luke 5:17-26

IMPACT: The way isn't always easy. Sometimes it isn't so clear. Obstacles arise, but as long as we seek the will of God, we will always find a way. In this passage, the friends of the paralyzed man indeed physically could not find a way, but the group's faith and persistence placed their friend right beside Jesus himself. And as usual when we seek, we will find, and in return we receive more blessings than we ever could conceive. These men searched for healing with great faith and expectation. Consequently, they received healing and forgiveness. Ask yourself, Am I that kind of friend? Ask God what you can do to be that friend.

Prayer: Heavenly Father I thank you for blessing me beyond measure and the forgiving grace that saved me. I pray I would be the Biblical definition of a friend loving at all times and that I would do my part to help this and future generations find the peace that comes only from a relationship with You. I know that all is possible in your hands, and I rest easy in that assurance.

- Chris Bonner

Week 2, Day 7

“We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part...”
-2 Corinthians 8:1-15

IMPACT: When the Macedonians learned that Paul was collecting money for the believers in Jerusalem, they sacrificially gave even more than Paul expected. Not only did they give, they “pleaded for the privilege of sharing in the service“ (v.4). The Macedonians understood that generosity wasn’t just the amount they gave, but how and why they gave. Scripture says that the Macedonians' giving was “out of overflowing joy and extreme poverty (which led to) rich generosity“ (v.2). The Macedonians weren’t solely giving to the believers in Jerusalem; they were giving to the Kingdom. Yes, they gave from an overflow of their pockets, but more importantly, out of the overflow of a willing and eager heart.

Prayer: Lord help us to see sacrificial giving as a “privilege.“ Father soften our hearts and loosen our hands to openly and generously give to Your kingdom's work.

- Lisa Read

Week 3, Day 1

“Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy... The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ Then Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening’ ... “The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel’s words fall to the ground.” -1 Samuel 3

IMPACT: I believe the only way the Lord can use us to share the gospel is to be in perfect harmony with Him. Only He can lead us to be an example to others. I am convinced that our church body is ready to complete our mission in moving to Bluecutt. The only way we can do this is through prayer and giving. When we are used as God’s instrument, we need to remember that He is the one who accomplishes all things. Many believe they can’t give more gifts, but by remembering, “I can do all things thru Christ who strengthens me,” we will be able to fulfill our role with His help. For He will always equip us to accomplish what He has called us to do. Let this be your challenge to seek out that harmonious relationship where you sense and recognize His calling and are able to confidently answer! “Yes, Lord! Your servant is listening!”

Prayer: Lord make me an instrument of thy peace! Thank you that our sacrifice leads to a true investment in your kingdom and our faithful obedience will always lead to blessings, never void or falling to the ground.

- Carolyn Pope

Week 3, Day 2

“Then Moses said to the Lord, ‘Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.’” -Exodus 4:10

IMPACT: We see here how a mighty man of the Bible, Moses, in all that he would accomplish through God, doubted his own qualifications to carry out the task asked of him by the Lord. Going as far as to ask God to send someone else in vs.13. If you know your bible you know this did not happen. He went and accomplished the task assigned, sometimes reluctantly.

Today I can be the same way. When an opportunity to serve, lead or take action comes available I can find myself backing away, remembering my past life, counting myself out in the sense of unworthiness. Why would He desire to use a sinner like me? I’m not qualified! Well as a matter of fact I am, He told me I was when I asked Him to save me and forgive me, qualified because of His blood and His calling to whatever task at hand. If you know Him so are you! Step out, step up and make an Impact.

Prayer: Father, show us in our daily time with You how we can be of service to You and those around us. Give us the wisdom to look past the lies of Satan and count ourselves worthy to go, give, and serve wherever You may lead.

- Steve Tamboli

Week 3, Day 3

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you” -Luke 6:38

IMPACT: Everything we have, from the air we breathe, our spouse, children, jobs, even the ability to read this devotional is a gift from the Lord. God even gives us the free will to choose what we do with His gifts. Scripture tells us to be good stewards with what we have been given, which includes our money, time, resources, skills, and gifts. We are called to use and/or give these gifts to further His kingdom and help others. Here in Luke, Jesus is telling his disciples to give to others, and it will be given back to you in abundance. Although this should not be our motive or anticipated end (2 Corinthians 9:7, Deuteronomy 15:10, Luke 6:34-35). When we give, it should come from the heart, longing to give back what we've been blessed with. God wants us to trust Him, and if we only give the minimum of what we think we can give, are we fully trusting Him? Giving more requires more trust, in the ultimate giver of everything you have to give.

Prayer: Lord, mold our hearts and minds to align with yours. Give us a heart of giving and may our gifts be pleasing to you and your will. Help us trust you with whole hearts knowing you will provide all that we need.

- Josh Read

Week 3, Day 4

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.” -Genesis 2:15

IMPACT: This chapter of Genesis and specifically this verse have brought me to the realization that the earth and everything in it has been created for us, for use by us, to meet our every physical need. It's not that we are a byproduct of it as many would think. However, with this gift also comes the great responsibility of caring for and protecting it, as stewards, not only for now, but for the generations to come. There will be a day when we will be called to answer for how we have treated this most gracious gift from God. What will be our answer?

Prayer: Pray that God will help us to see the importance of caring for our earthly home. Ask him what you can do daily to make our world a better place.

- Dwaine Smith

Week 3, Day 5

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” -1 Peter 4:10

IMPACT: Black holes have always fascinated me (which my wife thinks qualifies me as weird). Strange regions of space that are falling inwards toward a finite point at speeds greater than the speed of light. They are like a treadmill belt moving faster than anything in the universe is capable of running, dooming all to fall off the back edge and disappear. They take everything and give nothing back. Our current church location has given my family many treasured memories over the years... my son playing drums, a baptism, an upcoming wedding... How do I pass up extending the opportunity for those same spiritual experiences, the gifts that I received, to reach as many other families as possible? Not to be a black hole, only taking, but to offer life. I have been out at Bluecutt multiple times and seen people looking for church services stop because they saw our buildings. What incredible opportunity are we missing!?! He has provided a field rich for harvest. Let us finish His storehouse and get busy filling it for Him.

Prayer: Father God, thank you for the gifts you have so faithfully given to me and help me faithfully bring those same gifts back to you and in furtherance of your kingdom, have a small part in the blessing of others.

- Kenny Akins

Week 3, Day 6

“Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd... Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.” -Mark 12:41-44

IMPACT: This woman represented three things that automatically make her an unlikely example to notice. Her gender makes her voiceless, her marriage status makes her needy, and her poverty makes her empty-handed. Seemingly this woman has nothing to offer. Yet, Jesus draws a beautiful picture and uses this woman as an example of faith and worship. This woman gave all she had to offer in order to further the kingdom. To many this offering was insignificant but the fact of the matter is that the woman showed immense faith and trust in God by giving of all she had. Jesus reminds us that we are all commanded to give of what we have whether we feel we have an abundance or not. When we give sacrificially, it's amazing the things that can be accomplished for His glory.

Prayer: Lord help me to realize the impact that I can have for future generations in the advancement of your kingdom. Lead me to give of what I have whole heartedly in order to advance the kingdom of God.

- Nicole Miller

Week 3, Day 7

“In all things that I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’.” -Acts 20:35

IMAPCT: Are you one of those people who gets so excited about a gift you have for someone else that you can hardly wait to give it to them? That is exactly what God did for you and me when He gave His only son, Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sin and resurrected Him on the third day that we might have eternal life. He gave the ultimate gift. Because of this it is important for us to also give... of our time, talents, and money to ensure that others may experience eternal life.

Prayer: Lord, help me to be willing to give my time, my talents, and my money so that others will know you as their Lord and Savior.

Week 4, Day 1

“‘Test me in this way’, says the Lord of Hosts. ‘See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure.’” -Malachi 3:10

IMPACT: This scripture has always stood out to me, because of the language God uses. “Test me”, He says. When I read this, I can just hear Him saying “I dare you to try this! See if I don’t keep my word.” And goodness, what do we have to lose? Money can be such a stronghold in our lives. No matter how much we make, we think we’d be happier if we had more. What sense does it make to sacrifice a part of our income to build a building? No sense at all, except for God. And I believe, just like God told the Isrealites then, He’s telling us today... “Test me First Baptist. Trust me with your money, and see if I won’t open the floodgates of heaven. See if I won’t pour out blessings without measure on your church, and your town.” What a challenge, church! God is daring us to trust Him with our money. Will we take the dare?

Prayer: Lord of Hosts, thank you for challenging us and stretching us to make us grow. Jesus soften our hearts and show us our individual impact that we will have in accomplishing the goal of a new church building. Thank you for blessings beyond measure that we surely don’t deserve.

- Rebecca Evans

Week 4, Day 2

“And he said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease’.”

-Mark 5:34

IMPACT: The Greek term, *dynamis*, appears 119 times in the New Testament as a word that corresponds to “mighty work” or “miracle” in English. This would be considered a more common term, and this is likely because we see how Jesus and the disciples progressed the kingdom of God through miracles. In Mark 5:21-43, we see where Jesus performs two miracles in hopeless situations. The woman who had a bleeding disorder for 12 years and Jairus’ daughter who was considered dead; both these women were without hope outside Jesus. This is the common theme of our lives today as the world is full of confusion, death, and sin to such an extent that our hope can be robbed from us. Jesus sees us in our desperation and need just as He saw these people, but will we have the faith like Jairus and the ill woman to call out to Christ in our time of need?

Prayer: Lord, please give me the strength to call out to you in my need and to have faith that you are still in the miracle performing business. May I draw near to you confidently that you will supply help in my time of need.

- Sam Ivy

Week 4, Day 3

“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.” -Proverbs 11:24-25

IMPACT: Grace amazes us with forgiveness, family, fellowship, and opportunity. God, being all that he is has no real need for us or our actions to accomplish his will. Yet, he allows us to be a part. Kids are curious as to what their parents do at work. Most kiddos have no clue just ask them! The Lord works in many ways and allows us the chance to be willing participants in his activity. One of those opportunities arises in how we give. Give time. Give finances. Give talents. Give hurts. Give victories...the list can go on and on. The key is to give whatever he asks and to give it freely. When following Jesus turns into an opportunity to give, give what you should. Do it freely knowing that God is doing something, and he is allowing you to bring **IMPACT!** You will be **IMPACTED** as well. Working with Dad is awesome!!!

Prayer: Lord, please help me know what you would have me give today. Whether you ask for my time, patience, attention, money, or anything else, please help me to give freely. In all things, may you be glorified and impacted for your kingdom cause.

- Jason Morrow

Week 4, Day 4

“And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." -Job 1:21

IMPACT: Ultimately we are "stewards" of what we receive in this life. We came into the world with "nothing", and we shall leave this world with "nothing". So, all that we receive while on earth should be understood to be used to further the Kingdom of God....THIS life is a temporary one. We are on a journey with God and our hearts will be more inclined to give of ourselves and our finances as we grow closer in our relationship with God. The best way to get to know Him is through reading His Word, daily prayer and responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. As we receive from God in our personal time with Him, we are then equipped to give to others....whatever that may be.....finances, prayer, or a helping hand.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank You for being with me now... speaking to me, guiding and directing me. I dedicate all I have to You. Help me to learn to give more of myself, time, talents, finances, etc...to further Your Kingdom.

- Heather Madison

Week 4, Day 5

“Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” -2 Corinthians 9:6-7

IMPACT: God’s Word commands us to be generous, compassionate servants to those who need our support. As believers, we have been richly blessed by our Creator. We, in turn, are called to share our gifts, our possessions, our testimonies, and our talents.

The theme of generosity is one of the cornerstones of Christ’s teachings. If we are to be disciples of Christ, let’s be cheerful givers as we water each other with the love of Jesus Christ!

Prayer: Lord, help us to give with the purest of motivations. Not because we feel we have to. Not because we are hoping for something in return (though God does promise bountiful blessings). But to give because we have truly experienced change in our hearts with a desire to demonstrate Your genuine love for others. I pray it becomes an automatic response to reflect the ultimate Giver of all things.

- Brad Barr

Week 4, Day 6

“He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: listen to him.’ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified.” -Matt 17:1-8

IMPACT: The story of the transfiguration is one of my absolute favorites because of the depth of it! On the surface, we read a story about the disciples going up a mountain, Jesus starting to shine like the sun, Moses and Elijah coming to hang out, God speaking, disciples falling to their faces, and Jesus comforting them. It was clearly an awesome thing! The little detail that is sometimes overlooked is Peter wanting to build tents. This is representative of Peter wanting to stay in the awesomeness that was taking place on the mountain-top! I would have responded the same way, I’m sure. But, Jesus knew the mountain-top was not where the work was needed. He needed to go **DOWN** the mountain to continue to bring glory to God.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for the awesomeness of those mountain top moments! Please keep our eyes open to the work that needs to happen “down the mountain”. Let us press on doing the work of the Lord and follow **HIS** direction in our lives and in our ministries!!!

- Connely Dale

Week 4, Day 7

Today we encourage you to search for your IMPACT by answering the following question as you pray these lyrics.

“What can I do with this fire on the inside
I'm burning up with a truth I can't hide
You're the reason for this hope in my life
I'm gonna let it shine; I have to let it shine

[Chorus]

This is what we live for, to go where You say go
To let the whole world know, You're the Light in the darkness
This is what we live for, to love the way You love
So God be lifted up; come be Light in the darkness
This is what we live for

When You breathe even dry bones come alive
When You speak God you shut down every lie
You're the reason for this Hope in our lives
I'm gonna testify; I have to testify

[Chorus]

Chasing Your heart and all that You are
We surrender, Surrender all
Your favor with us, Your presence in us
Now Jesus, Your Name above it all

Whatcha gonna do with this fire on the inside
I said, whatcha gonna do with this fire on the inside?”

“This Is What We Live For” by Big Daddy Weave

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