

THE NEXT 40 DAYS

WEEK 4

DAY 1: READ LUKE 22:31-34

In the ESV translation, Jesus tells Peter that Satan “demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat.” We are engaged in a spiritual war with spiritual enemies of the Most High God. Do not lightly regard the salvation Jesus has given us or the mission we’ve been He’s assigned. Be encouraged by Jesus prayer to God the Father against the demands of Satan in verse 32. We have a compassionate high priest whose name is Jesus and whose banner is the love of God.

DAY 2: READ LUKE 22:54-62

Remember yesterday’s passage and what Jesus told Peter? Yet, Peter still denied Jesus in his actions. We are no different. We hear the truth, know the law of the Lord and yet repeatedly fail to follow His call to righteousness. When Peter remembered what Jesus had told him, he wept bitterly. Let’s realize our trespass against God, repent and remember what Jesus told Peter in verse 32. “And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” When we repent, God still has holy purpose for us. Let’s not abuse the grace He’s already shown us.

DAY 3: READ JOHN 21:15-22

Do you see the beautiful ways Jesus seamlessly fulfills scripture and His promises? Who does Jesus keep directing Peter toward when he asks, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Take time today to dwell on Christ’s care for His lambs and desire to see those who’ve formerly abused and abandoned His calling restored to purpose with His holy mission. We serve a wonderful Father.

THE NEXT 40 DAYS

DAY 4: READ PROVERBS 3:11-12 & ROMANS 8:26-30

When we are caught in our sins and insulting trespasses against God, we deserve death, but have hope in Jesus. When we are called to account by other believers or convicted by the Holy Spirit, let's not despise His discipline and seek the easier, unhealthy ways of our former, dead lives. Let's savor His holy involvement in our lives and recognize His intercession as the perfect love of our Father.

DAY 5: READ 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

In the presence of God and Christ Jesus, what have we been charged to do? Are we doing it? Personally, are you doing it? Are you pursuing myths and teaching that caters to you or are you clinging tightly to the Holy Spirit and His word? Today, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the areas you are not following the call. Set time aside to listen quietly for His voice. He will speak, but we must be willing to wait and listen because we desire Him.

DAY 6: READ ACTS 9:1-19

Saul was a dangerous, fierce opponent of the Gospel. His reputation preceded him. Look at what the Lord tells Ananias, though. Are we willing to obey God's call to share the hope of Jesus with others so they, too, can be filled with the Holy Spirit?

DAY 7: READ ACTS 9:19-22

God is faithful to use those who yield their lives to Christ. Through the risky act of obedience of Ananias, God inspired Saul's heart to see and understand that Jesus is the Christ. We, too, can be like Ananias and Saul/Paul, obeying His voice and following His mission for His glory and the rescue of others. What's His mission for you today?