



# Living the Gospel: Full Commitment to Jesus



Explore the Gospels' call to unwavering commitment. Discover how following Jesus demands focus, faith, and a transformed heart.



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# Table of contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
<u>Day 1: 🌱 The Call to Follow Without Turning Back</u>	4
<u>Day 2: 📖 Following Jesus: Faith in Action</u>	10
<u>Day 3: 🔥 Committed to the Kingdom Life</u>	16



## Introduction

Welcome to this 3-day Bible study on the Gospels, the heart of the New Testament that reveals the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—invite us into a transformational journey, not just to learn about Jesus but to follow Him wholly.

*The focus of this study revolves around Luke 9:62, where Jesus said, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”* This powerful metaphor reminds us that following Jesus requires **full commitment and unwavering focus**. Like a plowman who must keep his eyes forward to furrow straight lines, so must every disciple keep their heart set fully on Christ.

As we dive into the Gospel narratives over the next three days, we’ll explore Jesus’ call to steadfastness, examine examples of wholehearted following, and reflect on the challenges that competing distractions can pose. These Scriptures show us that following Jesus is not a casual or half-hearted endeavor; it means surrendering our past, our fears, and even our personal ambitions to embrace His will completely.

Whether you are new to faith or have walked with Jesus for years, these passages offer fresh insight and encouragement to live a life marked by courage, persistence, and love. Let us open our hearts to let the Spirit guide us as we look forward, not backward, to serve God’s kingdom faithfully.





# Day 1: 🌱 The Call to Follow Without Turning Back



## Your Verse

*Luke 9:62 – Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 16:24 – Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”*
- *Philippians 3:13-14 – Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead.*



Day 1: 🌱 The Call to Follow Without Turning Back

## Devotional: Eyes Forward: The Cost of Discipleship

Jesus' words in **Luke 9:62** serve as a sobering reminder of the level of commitment required to follow Him. The image of a plowman who must keep his eyes fixed straight ahead illustrates the necessity of undivided attention and determination. In agriculture, glancing backward means crooked furrows and wasted effort—similarly, a divided heart leads to a compromised discipleship.

Jesus invites us to a radical lifestyle, where self-denial is not merely a suggestion but a prerequisite for participation in God's kingdom. *Taking up the cross* involves embracing sacrifice and prioritizing Jesus over personal comfort, relationships, and past identity.

Paul's words in Philippians reinforce this with a practical approach: to move forward, we must intentionally forget what lies behind us—past mistakes, regrets, or even former achievements—and set our hearts toward the prize of the heavenly call. This means we cannot dwell on previous failures or be distracted by worldly concerns without risking becoming ineffective in God's service.

Today challenges us to examine where we might still be looking back—whether to fear, sin, or familiar habits—and invites us to refocus on Christ with fresh resolve.



## Reflect and Apply

1. What areas of your life are you tempted to look back on instead of pressing forward with Jesus?

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2. How does Jesus' call to deny yourself challenge your current priorities?

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3. In what ways can forgetting what is behind help you grow stronger in faith?

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# Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when looking back held you back from fully following God.

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2. List practical steps you can take to keep your focus on Jesus daily.

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3. Reflect on what 'taking up your cross' means in your personal journey.

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Day 1: 🌱 The Call to Follow Without Turning Back

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, help me to fix my eyes firmly on You.** Teach me to resist the temptation to look back or cling to past fears and failures. Give me courage to deny myself and fully embrace Your calling. *Strengthen my heart to serve Your kingdom without hesitation or distraction.* May my life produce straight furrows of faith and obedience, glorifying You always. In Jesus' name, Amen.





## Day 2: Following Jesus: Faith in Action



Day 2:  Following Jesus: Faith in Action

## Your Verse

*Mark 1:17 – “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *John 10:27 – My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.*
- *Luke 14:27 – Whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.*



# Devotional: Faith In Motion: The Active Path of Following

**When Jesus called His first disciples in Mark 1:17**, He offered a simple but profound invitation: "Follow me." This call was not abstract or passive; it entailed leaving behind their fishing nets—their livelihoods—and trusting Jesus to lead them to a new purpose. Following Jesus is an active, ongoing choice grounded in faith.

In John 10:27, Jesus identifies close followers as sheep who recognize and respond to His voice, signifying intimacy and attentiveness. This relationship requires not only hearing but obedience and responsiveness to His guidance. It's more than belief; it is a daily, lived-out commitment demonstrated in action.

Luke 14:27 illustrates the price of this faith. Carrying one's cross means accepting trials, sacrifices, and sometimes incomprehensible hardship—all out of love and allegiance to Christ. The focus shifts from comfort to a willingness to endure difficulty for a higher, eternal purpose.

To follow Jesus is to be fishers of people, to live as His hands and feet in the world. It challenges us to engage boldly in God's mission, trusting that His call transforms our lives and the lives around us.



## Reflect and Apply

1. How do you personally hear and recognize Jesus' voice in your daily life?

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2. What sacrifices might following Jesus require from you today?

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3. In what ways can you participate in "fishing for people" in your community?

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# Journaling Prompts

1. Describe your response when Jesus calls you to follow Him.

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2. Reflect on times you've experienced hardship for your faith and lessons learned.

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3. Write about what carrying your cross looks like in current circumstances.

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Day 2:  Following Jesus: Faith in Action

## Prayer for Today

**Jesus, thank You for calling me to follow You.** Help me listen closely to Your voice and respond with wholehearted obedience. Teach me to carry my cross with grace and courage, trusting in Your strength. Empower me to serve faithfully and share Your love boldly with those around me. *May my faith be alive in action, reflecting Your light in this world.* Amen.





# Day 3: Committed to the Kingdom Life





## Your Verse

*Matthew 6:33 – But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Romans 12:1 – Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.*
- *Hebrews 12:1 – Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.*



## Devotional: Pursuing God's Kingdom Without Hesitation

**Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:33 points believers toward a life fully devoted to God's kingdom.** Seeking first His kingdom means prioritizing God's reign, righteousness, and purpose above all else. When this is central, other needs and anxieties fall into their proper place.

Paul, in Romans, calls us to offer our very bodies as living sacrifices—holy and pleasing to God. This spiritual act of worship involves total surrender, aligning every aspect of our lives to His will. It's a daily commitment that reflects back on the plowman metaphor: ready, steady, uncompromising dedication.

Hebrews encourages us to run with perseverance, reminding us that the Christian journey is a race requiring endurance, focus, and steadfast faith. Distractions and setbacks are inevitable, but we are called to keep our gaze fixed on the finish line—the prize of eternal life with Christ.

This final day challenges us to evaluate our personal commitment level and renew our determination to live the Gospel fully. Let us embrace the Kingdom life with passion and integrity, continually motivated by God's mercy and grace.



## Reflect and Apply

1. What does it look like for you to 'seek first the kingdom of God' practically?

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2. How can you offer yourself as a living sacrifice in everyday decisions?

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3. What helps you persevere when the journey of faith becomes difficult?

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## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about your current struggles and how seeking God first might change your perspective.

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2. Describe ways you can offer more of yourself to God in your daily routine.

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3. Reflect on a time perseverance in faith led to growth or blessing.

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Day 3: 🔥 Committed to the Kingdom Life

## Prayer for Today

**Gracious Father, I desire to seek Your kingdom above all else. Help me to surrender fully as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing in Your sight. Strengthen me to run this race with perseverance, eyes fixed on Jesus. Amid trials and temptations, remind me that Your grace sustains me. May my commitment reflect the love and mercy You lavish upon me. In Jesus' name, Amen.**





## Where God's Word Meets Your Daily Life

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