

5 Day Devotional

Day 1: The Promise That Changes Everything

Devotional

Have you ever felt like your faith was too ordinary, too small to make a real difference? Jesus has something incredible to say about that. In John 14:12, He makes a promise that seems almost too good to be true: whoever believes in Him will do the works He does, and even greater works. This isn't reserved for pastors, missionaries, or spiritual giants. It's for you.

When Jesus says "whoever believes," He means exactly that. Your background doesn't disqualify you. Your past mistakes don't eliminate you. Your current struggles don't exclude you. If you believe in Jesus, you're included in this extraordinary promise.

But what does it mean to do the works of Jesus? It's not just about performing miracles, though God certainly still works supernaturally today. The works of Jesus encompass His entire ministry of love, compassion, service, and proclamation of the gospel. Every time you show kindness to a stranger, forgive someone who hurt you, or share God's love with others, you're doing the works of Jesus.

The "greater works" Jesus mentions aren't necessarily more spectacular than what He did during His earthly ministry. They're greater in scope and reach. After Jesus' resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit, believers gained the ability to proclaim the complete gospel message of salvation. Today, millions of Christians worldwide are participating in these greater works, spreading the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

You have been invited into something magnificent. Your life, your faith, your everyday actions matter more than you might realize. God wants to use you in ways that will impact eternity.

Bible Verse

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father." - John 14:12

Reflection Question

How does knowing that Jesus promises you will do His works change the way you view your daily interactions and opportunities to serve others?

Quote

This is not a promise that is intended only for the apostles. It's not a promise intended only for the super spiritual or the charismatic or the pastors or the teachers. No, no. He says, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for including me in Your incredible promise. Help me to see myself as You see me—capable of doing Your works through Your power. Open my eyes to the opportunities around me to love, serve, and share Your gospel. Give me confidence that You want to use my ordinary life for extraordinary purposes. Amen.

Day 2: The Heart Behind the Works

Devotional

Yesterday we discovered that Jesus promises every believer will do His works. But what exactly are these works, and why do they matter so much? The works of Jesus go far beyond spectacular miracles—they encompass a lifestyle of love that transforms communities and points people to God.

Think about Jesus' ministry. Yes, He healed the sick and performed miracles, but He also sat with outcasts, forgave the unforgivable, fed the hungry, and showed compassion to those society had written off. He loved His enemies and prayed for those who persecuted Him. These works of love, service, and proclamation of the gospel are what we're called to continue.

Here's what's beautiful about this calling: it's not about your spiritual maturity or special gifts. It's about the authenticity of your faith. When people look at your life—the way you treat your family, how you respond to difficult people, your attitude during hardships, your generosity toward those in need—do they see Jesus?

This isn't meant to create pressure or guilt. It's meant to inspire you to realize that your everyday life is the canvas on which God wants to paint His love. Every act of kindness, every word of encouragement, every moment of forgiveness is a work of Jesus flowing through you.

The works of Jesus aren't a burden to bear; they're a privilege to embrace. They're how we participate in God's ongoing mission to reach the world with His love. When you serve others, you're not just helping them—you're giving them a glimpse of who God is.

Bible Verse

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:16

Reflection Question

When people observe your daily life and interactions, what evidence do they see that you belong to Jesus, and how can you more intentionally reflect His character?

Quote

When people look at you and look at your life and the things that you say and the way that you live and the way that you love, do they look at you and go, he's about Jesus, she's about Jesus. If the answer to that is no, you have to seriously question whether or not you're actually a believer.

Prayer

Father, I want my life to be a clear reflection of Your love. Help me to see every interaction as an opportunity to do the works of Jesus. Give me a heart of compassion for the hurting, patience with the difficult, and boldness to share Your love. May others see You clearly through my words and actions. Amen.

Day 3: Greater Than We Imagined

Devotional

What makes the works we do "greater" than what Jesus did during His earthly ministry? It's not that we're more powerful or more spiritual than Jesus—that would be impossible. The greatness lies in the scope, timing, and spiritual nature of what we get to participate in today.

When Jesus walked the earth, His physical ministry was limited to a specific geographic area and time period. But after His death, resurrection, and the coming of the Holy Spirit, something extraordinary happened. Believers gained the ability to proclaim the complete gospel message—the full story of salvation through Jesus' finished work on the cross.

Today, millions of believers around the world are simultaneously sharing this message of hope and eternal life. Right now, as you read this, approximately 35 million sermons are being preached worldwide, countless acts of service are being performed in Jesus' name, and the gospel is advancing to every tribe, nation, and tongue. You're part of this incredible, global movement.

The spiritual nature of what we do—offering people eternal redemption and forgiveness—surpasses even physical miracles in its significance. When you share the gospel with someone, you're offering them something greater than physical healing: you're offering them eternal life. When you demonstrate Christ's love, you're giving people a taste of heaven itself.

This should fill you with incredible hope and purpose. You're not just living an ordinary life—you're participating in the greatest mission in human history. Every day presents new opportunities to be part of these "greater works" that Jesus promised.

Bible Verse

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit." - 1 Corinthians 12:4

Reflection Question

How does understanding that you're part of a global movement of believers doing "greater works" change your perspective on the significance of your daily service and witness?

Quote

The spiritual nature of the works that you and I continue to do are far great. Are you with me? This is what you and I are invited to. This is what you and I get to participate in as believers.

Prayer

Lord, thank You for allowing me to be part of something so much bigger than myself. Help me to see the eternal significance of the works You've called me to do. Give me a vision for how my life fits into Your global mission, and fill me with excitement about the role You've given me to play. Amen.

Day 4: Praying for Kingdom Purposes

Devotional

Jesus doesn't just promise that we'll do His works—He also promises to answer our prayers as we pursue them. But there's an important context to understand about this promise. When Jesus says He'll do "whatever you ask in my name," He's specifically talking about requests that advance His kingdom and align with doing His works.

This doesn't mean God doesn't care about your personal needs and struggles. He absolutely does, and He invites you to bring everything to Him in prayer. But in this passage, Jesus is focusing on kingdom-centered prayer—asking for what you need to effectively participate in His mission.

What might this look like in your daily life? It means praying for strength when you're called to serve someone difficult. It means asking for wisdom when you have an opportunity to share your faith. It means requesting guidance when you're trying to discern how God wants to use you. It means seeking resources and opportunities to love and serve others more effectively.

When your heart is aligned with God's purposes, when you're genuinely seeking to advance His kingdom and do His works, you can pray with incredible confidence. Jesus promises that if what's on your heart glorifies God and advances His mission, He'll provide what you need.

This kind of prayer transforms not just your circumstances, but your entire perspective. Instead of seeing prayer as a way to get what you want, you begin to see it as a way to partner with God in what He wants to accomplish through you.

Bible Verse

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." - John 14:13

Reflection Question

How can you shift your prayer life to focus more on asking God for what you need to effectively do His works and advance His kingdom?

Quote

Whatever you need from me in order to help you advance the gospel mission to, to do the works that I have done, the works that you're going to do, to expand my. You ask me you need strength. Ask me you need wisdom. Ask me you need guidance.

Prayer

Jesus, I want my prayers to align with Your heart and purposes. Help me to pray not just for my own needs, but for the strength, wisdom, and resources I need to do Your works effectively. Show me how to partner with You in prayer as I seek to advance Your kingdom in my daily life. Amen.

Day 5: Living the Questions

Devotional

As we conclude this week's journey, it's time for honest self-reflection. Jesus' promise that believers will do His works isn't just a nice theological concept—it's meant to be the reality of our daily lives. This brings us to two crucial questions that every follower of Christ must regularly ask: Are you doing the works of Jesus? And how do you need to pray?

These aren't questions meant to condemn or discourage you. They're invitations to examine your life and align it more closely with God's purposes. If you're not currently doing the works of Jesus—serving others, sharing His love, living with compassion and forgiveness—that's not a reason for shame. It's simply a starting point for growth.

Maybe you've been so focused on your own struggles that you've forgotten about the needs around you. Perhaps you've felt inadequate or unqualified to make a difference. Or maybe you've simply never realized that God wants to use your ordinary life for His extraordinary purposes.

The beautiful truth is that it's never too late to start. God isn't done with you. He's not done with your church, your community, or your family. There's no greater joy than participating in the works of Jesus, and that joy is available to you right now.

As you move forward, remember that doing the works of Jesus isn't about perfection—it's about participation. It's about saying yes to God's invitation to be part of His mission. It's about allowing His love to flow through you to a world that desperately needs to see and experience His grace.

The question isn't whether you're qualified. The question is whether you're willing.

Bible Verse

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." - 1 Corinthians 12:7

Reflection Question

As you honestly evaluate your current life, what specific steps can you take this week to more actively participate in doing the works of Jesus in your community and relationships?

Quote

Are you doing the works of Jesus? You doing the works of Jesus. And the second question is, how do you need to pray?

Prayer

Lord, as I reflect on this week's journey, I want to live out the reality of Your promise. Show me where I need to grow in doing Your works. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me the courage to step out in faith. Help me find the joy that comes from participating in Your mission. Use my life to bring glory to Your name. Amen.