

You Are Called

Week 3 Devotional

Day 1

Reading: Hebrews 12:1

Devotional

The Christian life is described as a race, but not a short sprint. It is a long race that requires endurance. The writer of Hebrews points back to the faithful men and women who have gone before us and reminds us that their lives still testify: God is worth trusting, following, and obeying.

Some things in life may not seem "heavy" at first, but over time they slow our obedience. Sin clearly entangles us, but even good things can become obstacles if they keep us from following God faithfully. Comfort, approval, busyness, fear, distraction, and selfish ambition can all become weights.

God is not calling you to run someone else's race. He has set a race before you. Your calling may look different from someone else's, but it matters deeply. The goal is not to be noticed by people, but to be faithful before God. You cannot run well while holding tightly to what God is asking you to release.

Application

Reflection: What kind of "weights" most often slow you down from obeying God—sin, fear, comfort, distraction, or something else?

Action: Choose one obstacle today that you need to surrender to God. Name it honestly, and take one small step away from it.

Prayer: Lord, help me recognize anything that is slowing my obedience to You. Give me endurance to run the race You have set before me. Amen.

Day 2

Reading: Luke 9:57-60

Devotional

Following Jesus sounds inspiring until it becomes costly. In Luke 9, people express interest in following Christ, but Jesus exposes what is really in their hearts. One man is enthusiastic, but Jesus reminds him that following Him will not always be comfortable. Another man wants to delay obedience until his family and financial responsibilities are settled.

Jesus is not being cruel. He is revealing a truth: delayed obedience can become disobedience. Sometimes people say, "I'll follow Jesus when life settles down," or "I'll serve when I have more time," or "I'll obey after I get everything in order." But Jesus calls people to follow Him today. God may not be asking you to leave your job, your home, or your responsibilities. But He is asking for first place. Your calling is not something you wait to begin once life becomes perfect. God uses you as you follow Him now.

The call of Jesus is urgent because the kingdom of God is urgent.

Application

Reflection: How many times do you delay obedience because you are waiting for life to feel easier, clearer, or more convenient?

Action: Identify one area where God has already shown you what to do. Take one step of obedience today instead of postponing it.

Prayer: Jesus, forgive me for the times I delay following You. Help me obey You today with a willing and surrendered heart. Amen.

Day 3

Reading: Luke 9:61-62

Devotional

A person plowing must look forward to make straight rows. Looking back causes the work to become crooked and ineffective. In the same way, divided loyalty affects our walk with Christ. The man in this passage wanted to follow Jesus, but he also wanted to go back and seek approval from home. The issue was not simply saying goodbye. The issue was hesitation. He wanted confirmation from others before fully surrendering to Jesus.

Many believers struggle here. You may know what God is calling you to do, but fear what others will think. You may sense God leading you to serve, speak, give, forgive, or step out in faith, but you hesitate because you want everyone else to approve. Wise counsel is good, but human approval must never become greater than obedience to Christ. Jesus does not call us to be careless, but He does call us to be committed.

Following Jesus means your eyes must stay forward.

Application

Reflection: What kind of approval do you often seek before obeying what God has already made clear?

Action: Ask God to help you obey Him even if others do not fully understand. Take one faithful step without waiting for everyone's approval.

Prayer: Lord, help me keep my eyes fixed on You. Free me from fear of people's opinions and teach me to follow You faithfully. Amen.

Day 4

Reading: Luke 10:1-2

Devotional

Jesus did not only call people to come near Him; He sent them out for Him. In Luke 10, He sends seventy-two disciples into places He Himself was about to go. Their job was to prepare the way. Every believer has a part in preparing the way for the work of Christ. You may not be called to preach from a pulpit, but you are called to represent Jesus wherever He has placed you. Your workplace, home, school, neighborhood, and relationships are not random. They are fields where God can use you.

Jesus says the harvest is plentiful. The problem is not that there is no work to do. The problem is that too few are willing to labor. Many want the blessings of the kingdom, but fewer are willing to serve the mission of the kingdom. Your calling may be visible or hidden. Either way, God sees your faithfulness.

Application

Reflection: What kind of harvest field has God placed you in right now—your family, job, friendships, church, or community?

Action: Look for one opportunity today to represent Jesus through encouragement, service, honesty, compassion, or sharing truth.

Prayer: Lord of the harvest, use me where You have placed me. Help me see people the way You see them and serve faithfully in Your mission. Amen.

Day 5

Reading: Genesis 11:31-32; Genesis 12:1-4

Devotional

Genesis 11 gives a small but powerful detail. Terah took his family and set out for Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. He started in the direction of the destination but stopped short. Then in Genesis 12, God calls Abram to continue the journey. Abram obeys, and through him God begins a covenant that would bless many nations.

Starting well is not the same as finishing faithfully. It is possible to move in the right direction for a season and then settle somewhere short of obedience. Sometimes people settle because of comfort. Sometimes because of fear. Sometimes because Haran feels "good enough."

But God's call is not simply to begin. His call is to trust Him all the way. You do not need to be perfect to be used by God. Abram was not perfect. But he responded in faith. God uses people who keep saying yes, even after mistakes, uncertainty, and weakness.

Do not settle short of what God is calling you to do.

Application

Reflection: How many areas of your life have you started moving in obedience but then settled for "good enough"?

Action: Ask God to show you one place where you need to keep going. Take one renewed step of faith this week.

Prayer: Father, keep me from stopping short of obedience. Give me faith to follow You fully and use my life for Your glory. Amen.