



Pastor Mason Phillips| July 12, 2026

[WATCH THE SERMON HERE](#)

Day 1: The Power of Transformation

Devotional: Peter was once an uneducated fisherman—rough, impulsive, and prone to failure. Yet when the religious leaders saw him, they marveled because "they realized that they had been with Jesus." This is the mark of true Christianity: not perfection, but transformation. You may feel inadequate, unqualified, or too broken for God to use. But the same grace that transformed Peter is available to you today. God doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called. When you surrender to Christ, you become a new creation. The old passes away, and everything becomes new. People should be able to look at your life and recognize that you've been with Jesus—not because you're flawless, but because you're being transformed.

Reading:

Acts 4:13 NKJV

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Reflection: What areas of your old self still need transformation? How can others see that you've been with Jesus?

Day 2: Surrender to the Spirit's Sanctification

Devotional: You cannot walk like Jesus in your own strength. The catalyst for Peter's transformation was the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Before Pentecost, Peter denied Christ and fled in fear. After receiving the Spirit's power, he boldly preached the gospel to thousands. Sanctification is both a moment and a process—the Spirit touches you instantly, then leads you daily into greater Christlikeness. This isn't about earning salvation through good works; it's about surrendering to the Spirit's work in you. Where the Holy Spirit gives you power to change, obedience gives Him permission to work. Stop resisting His gentle conviction. Ask God to fill you afresh with His Spirit today, and then follow where He leads, even when it's uncomfortable.

Reading:

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 NKJV

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which he called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

Galatians 5:16-25 NKJV

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified to the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Reflection: In what areas are you resisting the Holy Spirit's leading? What would full surrender look like today?

Day 3: The Necessity of Christian Community

Devotional: Peter didn't travel alone after his powerful Pentecost sermon. He stayed with the church—daily. The early believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer together. The church is not optional for spiritual growth; it's essential. Where the Holy Spirit gives you power to change, the church gives you the place to change. In community, you learn to love, forgive, serve, and endure. You're challenged when you drift and encouraged when you struggle. The church provides accountability that expects your character to match your confession. Like annual feasts anchored Israel to their identity, regular church attendance anchors you to yours. Don't drift alone. You need the body of Christ, and the body needs you.

Reading:

Acts 2:42-47 NKJV

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NKJV

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Reflection: How committed are you to Christian community? What excuses keep you from deeper involvement in your local church?

Day 4: From Selfishness to Sacrificial Service

Devotional: Jesus didn't come to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom. If we're going to walk like Jesus, we must follow His example of sacrificial service. Serving keeps us from spiritual stagnation and self-centeredness. It's the outlet that prevents us from becoming like the Dead Sea—receiving constantly but never giving, spiritually rich but relationally dead. When you use your gifts to minister to others for their good and God's glory, you provide clear proof of your transformation. Service isn't reserved for "mature" Christians or church staff; it's the calling of every believer. Whether serving in your church, your workplace, or your community, ask yourself: Am I living to be served or to serve?

Reading:

Matthew 20:26-28 NKJV

“Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

1 Peter 4:10-11 NKJV

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 5:13 NKJV

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Reflection: Where is God calling you to serve? What gifts has He given you to bless others?

Day 5: Your Destiny—Conformed to Christ

Devotional: God predestined you to be conformed to the image of His Son. This is not a suggestion—it's your destiny as a Christian. True Christianity isn't just a title you claim; it's a life you live. John makes it clear: if you say you know God but don't keep His commandments, you're a liar. If you abide in Christ, you ought to walk as He walked. This doesn't mean perfection, but it does mean progression. Your character should increasingly align with your confession. When conviction leads to confession, confession shapes character, and character flows into conduct. As you surrender to the Spirit, engage in Christian community, and serve sacrificially, people will notice something different about you. They'll recognize the peace, contentment, and love that only comes from being with Jesus.

Reading:

Romans 8:29 NKJV

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1 John 2:3-6 NKJV

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever

keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know the we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him out himself also to walk just as He walked.

Ephesians 5:1-2 NKJV

Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Reflection: What would it look like for you to walk like Jesus today? Who in your life needs to see Christ reflected in you?