

Pastor Mason Phillips | October 25, 2026

WATCH THE SERMON HERE

Day 1: Treasure in Broken Vessels

Devotional: You are a clay jar carrying something extraordinary. The glory of God dwells inside you, but like the torches hidden in Gideon's pitchers, that light cannot shine until the vessel is broken. The pressure you feel today is not punishment. It is preparation. God does not waste your breaking. He uses it to release what the world desperately needs to see. The excellence of the power at work in your life belongs to God, not to your own strength or composure. When you feel cracked and fragile, remember that is precisely when the light breaks through. Your weakness is not a disqualification. It is an invitation.

Reading:

2 Corinthians 4:6-12 NKJV

For it is the god who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you.

Personal Reflection: What area of your life feels most broken right now? How might God be using that brokenness to release something greater through you?

Practical Application: Write down one area where you have been straining in your own strength. Surrender it to God in prayer today and ask him to release his power through your weakness.

Day 2: Die Daily, Live Fully

Devotional: Dying to yourself sounds like loss, but it is actually the greatest gain available to a believer. When Paul declared in Galatians 2:20 that he had been crucified with Christ and that it was no longer he who lived but Christ who lived in him, he was not describing defeat. He was describing liberation. Every time you lay down your agenda, your pride, your fear, or your need to control, you make room for the life of Christ to move through you visibly. The flesh obscures Jesus. Death to self reveals him. This is not a one-time event. It is a daily, moment-by-moment surrender that produces lasting, eternal fruit in and through your life.

Reading:

Galatians 2:20 NKJV

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Romans 8:10-13 NKJV

And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors —not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you I've according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Personal Reflection: What part of your flesh is most resistant to dying today? Is it your need for control, your desire for comfort, or your fear of what others think?

Practical Application: Begin each morning this week with a simple prayer of surrender. Before your feet hit the floor, say aloud, "Not my will, Lord, but yours." Notice how that posture shapes the rest of your day.

Day 3: Speak What You Believe

Devotional: The words you attach to your experience shape how you live through it. Paul understood this deeply. He believed, and therefore he spoke. He did not deny his suffering, but he refused to let suffering have the final word. He framed his trials through the lens of resurrection, declaring that the same God who raised Jesus would raise him as well. Your confession of faith is not pretending that everything is fine. It is anchoring yourself to what is true about God even when circumstances feel overwhelming. The writer of Hebrews urges you to hold fast your confession without wavering, because the one who promised you is faithful.

Reading:

2 Corinthians 4:13-15 NKJV

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Hebrews 10:23 NKJV

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Personal Reflection: What words have you been using most often to describe your current season? Do those words reflect fear or faith? What would it look like to reframe your situation with the truth of God's word?

Practical Application: Identify one Scripture that directly addresses your current struggle. Write it on a card and speak it aloud three times today, once in the morning, once at midday, and once before bed.

Day 4: Sufficient Grace in Every Season

Devotional: Paul begged God three times to remove a particular source of suffering from his life. God's answer was not removal. It was something far better. God told Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 that his grace was sufficient and that his strength reached its fullness in Paul's weakness. This is one of the most counterintuitive promises in all of Scripture. God is not embarrassed by your weakness. He is not waiting for you to get it together before he shows up. He is most powerfully present in the very places where you feel most helpless. Deuteronomy 31:6 reminds you that God will never leave you nor forsake you. He is with you in the breaking.

Reading:

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 NKJV

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ' sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong,

Deuteronomy 31:6 NKJV

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

Personal Reflection: Have you been waiting to feel stronger before fully trusting God? What would it look like to trust him completely in your current state of weakness?

Practical Application: Make a list of three moments in your past when you were at your weakest and God still came through. Let that list become an altar of remembrance that strengthens your faith for what you are facing today.

Day 5: Eternity in View

Devotional: Paul called his suffering a momentary light affliction, and he endured beatings, imprisonments, shipwrecks, and rejection. How could he describe all of that so lightly? Because he kept eternity in view. He understood that what was being produced in him through suffering far outweighed the suffering itself. Revelation 21:1-5 describes a coming reality where God dwells among his people, where every tear is wiped away, and where all things are made new. That is not a distant fantasy. It is the guaranteed future of every person who belongs to Christ. Your present breaking is not your final chapter. It is the pressure that is producing an eternal weight of glory you cannot yet fully imagine.

Reading:

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not

seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Revelation 21:1-5 NKJV

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people.

God Himself will be with them and be their God. "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

Personal Reflection: How often does eternity factor into how you interpret your daily struggles? What would change in your attitude and endurance if you consistently kept your eyes on what is coming?

Practical Application: Spend ten minutes today reading Revelation 21 and 22 slowly and prayerfully. Let the promises of eternity wash over your current circumstances. Journal one specific way that the hope of eternity changes how you want to face this week.