



Up. On. Off.

Pastor Mark Ogletree • Sunday, September 21, 2025



We hope this material will continue to minister as the sermon was preached during our weekly worship service. When we receive God's Word at church, we need not only to hear the message, but we ought to walk it out in our daily lives. We should "be doers of the word, not only hearers." (James 1:22)

Step 1: GET TOGETHER with your family or group.

Step 2: REVIEW the key points and scriptures from the message.

Step 3: SHARE with your group what God is saying to you through the message.

Step 4: PRAY together, for each other and over each other to continue to walk this word out.

The Big Idea

God calls us to move in faith now — get up, get ready, and remove the weight that holds you back — because obedience precedes the miracle (Acts 12:1–11). When the church prayed, heaven answered: Peter was awakened, dressed, and led out of prison. The sermon challenges us to stop waiting for perfect circumstances and to act on God's instructions now, trusting that as we rise and step forward, the chains will fall.

Don't Miss This Point!

Read Acts 12:1-11. Get Up — Obedience Comes Before Evidence: Peter was told, "Quick! Get up!" and only then did the chains fall (v. 7). Scripture repeatedly shows that God invites a step of faith first, so faith is visible obedience, not passive hope.

Another Great Point!

Read Joshua 1:1-9. Shoes on. — Prepare to move into your assignment: when the angel said, "Get dressed and put on your sandals," it signaled readiness to leave the place of bondage and step into what God has for you (v8). Dressing for departure in Scripture marks a people who are ready to move into promise and purpose.

One Last Point!

Read Isaiah 61:3. Heaviness off — Exchange mourning and fear for praise and praise-driven identity: Peter was told to put on his coat and follow, and Isaiah promises that God will "appoint... a garment of praise instead of a faint spirit." Putting off shame, anxiety, and condemnation and putting on praise and the new identity in Christ recalibrates your atmosphere and opens the way forward.

Let's Be Doers!

Practical next steps: (1) Take one visible step of obedience this week — get up from whatever keeps you stuck and do a specific next action God has prompted; (2) "Put your shoes on" — sign up to serve, make that call, or take the class that moves you toward your assignment; (3) Practice the garment of praise — for 10–30 seconds each morning thank God aloud for a specific thing and notice the shift; (4) Lay down one weight (forgive someone, start a recovery step, set a counseling appointment) and tell one trusted person so you have accountability. Boom! Letsgo!