

Garden to Garden Part 9

Personal Devotional

Day 1: Prioritizing God's Call Over Convenience

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

John 10:27

A true disciple of Jesus is marked by their availability to God, showing up where He calls them to be. This availability is not just about physical presence but also about the willingness to prioritize God's call over personal convenience. As a disciple of Jesus, you can hear His voice and respond obediently.

Gathering with fellow believers is a vital expression of this commitment, providing strength, encouragement, and the opportunity to worship together. Being available to God means being ready to follow Him wherever He leads, demonstrating a heart that is open and responsive to His guidance.

Reflection: What is one area of your life where you can prioritize God's call over your own convenience this week? How can you make yourself more available to Him today?

Prayer Focus: Thank Jesus for leading and guiding you each and every day. Ask Him to forgive you when you follow your convenience instead of His call.



Day 2: Worship as the Foundation of Discipleship

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand." **Psalm 95:6-7**

Worship is the cornerstone of discipleship, beginning with a deep awe and reverence for Jesus. It involves acknowledging His divinity and embracing Him as Savior and King. Worship fuels the mission to make disciples, serving as both the motivation and the goal. Even in moments of doubt and weakness, worship remains a testament to faith. True discipleship is characterized by a life of continuous worship, where every action is an act of reverence to God, reflecting a heart fully devoted to Him.

Reflection: In what ways can you incorporate worship into your daily routine, turning ordinary moments into acts of reverence to God?

Prayer Focus: Thank God for who He is and what He has done! Ask Jesus to reveal times in your day that you could spend in worship.



Day 3: Living Under Jesus' Authority

"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Colossians 1:16-17

Surrendering to Jesus' authority means living a life fully aligned with His will. As His disciples, we are called to let Him lead, trusting His plans and participating eagerly in His purposes. This surrender is not a one-time event but a daily commitment to align our desires, decisions, and actions with His rule.

Recognizing Jesus as the sovereign King over all, we find peace and purpose in submitting to His authority, knowing that His ways are higher than ours.

Reflection: What is one area of your life where you find yourself holding back from surrendering to Jesus? What would surrendering this area to Him actually look like?

Prayer Focus: Ask Jesus to show you the things in your life that you idolize. Repent and surrender these to Him.



Day 4: Embracing the Great Commission

"And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also." **2 Timothy 2:2**

The Great Commission is a direct command from Jesus, calling us to make disciples of all nations. This involves nurturing lifelong followers of Christ, teaching them to obey His commands. Discipleship is a long-term investment, requiring dedication and perseverance. Our effectiveness is measured not by how many we gather but by how many we send out to continue the mission. Obedience to this command is a defining mark of a true disciple, reflecting a heart committed to expanding God's kingdom.

Reflection: Who is one person in your life that you can invest in spiritually, helping them grow as a disciple of Jesus? What steps can you take this week to begin this journey with them?

Prayer Focus: Praise Jesus for equipping you to make disciples. Ask Him to give you opportunities to invest in the faith of others.



Day 5: Relying on Jesus' Presence

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." **Joshua 1:9**

Jesus promises to be with us always, providing the power and presence needed for the mission. This assurance transforms our approach to discipleship, as we are never alone in our efforts. Whether in our families, workplaces, or communities, Jesus' presence empowers us to make disciples. Leaning into this promise gives us confidence and courage, knowing that He is with us until the end of the age. Dependence on His presence is essential for fulfilling our calling as His disciples.

Reflection: How can you remind yourself of Jesus' presence in your daily life, especially in moments of doubt or fear? What practical steps can you take to lean into His promise of being with you always?

Prayer Focus: Ask God to reveal Himself to you in ways that make His presence undeniable. Praise Him for His faithfulness to you each and every day.

