



Let's Go Higher

DEVOTIONALS

Sermon: "CROSS Fit"

PASTOR TYRONE KING

Day 1: More Than Just a Savior

Devotional: Many of us came to faith seeking rescue from our sins and the promise of eternal life. We gladly accepted Jesus as our Savior, grateful for His forgiveness and grace. But somewhere along the way, we may have stopped short of the full relationship He desires with us. Jesus doesn't want to be just your emergency contact or your ticket to heaven. He wants to be the Lord of your life - the one who guides your decisions, shapes your priorities, and transforms your heart. When Jesus is truly Lord, you experience all of Him: His power, His presence, His peace, and yes, even His call to take up your cross. This isn't about losing your freedom; it's about finding true purpose. When Christ is Lord, every area of your life comes under His loving authority. Your relationships, your career, your finances, your dreams - everything becomes an opportunity to honor Him and experience His best for you. The beautiful truth is that Jesus has already proven His love by dying for you. Now He invites you into a deeper relationship where His lordship becomes the foundation for abundant life. It's not always easy, but it's always worth it.

Bible Verse: "From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." - Matthew 16:21

Reflection Question: In what areas of your life have you accepted Jesus as Savior but not yet surrendered to Him as Lord?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I thank You for being my Savior, but I want more. Help me surrender every area of my life to Your lordship, trusting that Your way is always best.



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Day 2: The Daily Decision

Devotional: Following Jesus isn't a one-time decision; it's a daily choice to die to yourself and live for Him. Every morning, you wake up with the same fundamental choice: will you live for yourself today, or will you take up your cross and follow Christ? Dying to self doesn't mean becoming a doormat or losing your personality. It means putting God's will above your own desires, choosing forgiveness over revenge, and serving others even when it's inconvenient. It's choosing to love when you'd rather be bitter, to give when you'd rather keep, and to trust when you'd rather control. This daily cross-bearing shapes you into the person God created you to be. Each time you choose His way over yours, you become more like Christ. Each act of selflessness builds spiritual muscle. Each moment of surrender deepens your relationship with Him. The enemy wants you to believe that following Jesus means missing out on life's best experiences. But the opposite is true. When you die to self, you discover the abundant life Jesus promised. You find joy in serving, peace in surrendering, and purpose in putting others first.

Bible Verse: "Then he said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.'" - Luke 9:23

Reflection Question: What specific area of your life is God asking you to surrender to Him today?

Quote: You cannot follow Jesus without dying to yourself. You cannot follow Jesus without bearing your cross.

Prayer: Father, give me the strength to die to myself today and choose Your will over mine. Help me see that true life comes through surrender to You.



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Day 3: Growing Through the Struggle

Devotional: Nobody enjoys going through difficult times, but God has a way of using our struggles to develop something beautiful in us. Just like physical exercise breaks down muscle fibers so they can grow back stronger, spiritual trials develop our faith in ways that comfort never could. When you're facing a challenging season, it's natural to want God to remove the difficulty immediately. But sometimes, the greater miracle isn't being delivered from the trial - it's being transformed through it. Your struggles aren't meaningless; they're developing patience, building character, and deepening your dependence on God. Think about the strongest believers you know. Chances are, they've walked through some difficult valleys. Their faith wasn't built in the easy seasons; it was forged in the fire of adversity. They learned to trust God not just when life was good, but especially when it was hard. Your current struggle isn't wasted. God is using it to prepare you for something greater. He's developing spiritual muscles you didn't know you needed. He's teaching you to find Him in the darkness and trust Him when you can't see the way forward. This trial is producing something precious in you - don't despise the process.

Bible Verse: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."
- James 1:2-4

Reflection Question: How has God used a past difficulty in your life to strengthen your faith or develop your character?

Prayer: Lord, help me trust that You're working even in my struggles. Give me patience to let You complete the good work You're doing in me through this trial.



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Day 4: Finding Jesus in the Storm

Devotional: When life gets overwhelming, our natural instinct is to cry out for deliverance. We want God to calm the storm, heal the sickness, or solve the problem. While God certainly can and sometimes does remove our difficulties, there's often a greater blessing available: finding His presence in the midst of our struggles. Instead of only praying "God, get me out of this," try praying "God, show me where You are in this." This shift in perspective can transform your entire experience. When you look for Jesus in your storm, you discover that He's been there all along, walking on the water toward you, ready to bring peace to your chaos. The cross reminds us that even our pain has purpose when it's placed in God's hands. Jesus didn't avoid suffering; He walked through it and transformed it into our salvation. Your struggles aren't signs that God has abandoned you - they're opportunities to experience His presence in deeper ways. When you stop focusing solely on the waves and start looking for Jesus, everything changes. You realize that He's not just the God who delivers you from storms; He's the God who walks with you through them, bringing peace, purpose, and His powerful presence to every difficult moment.

Bible Verse: "But when Jesus heard what had happened, he said to Philip, 'This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.'" - Matthew 16:23

Reflection Question: In your current challenges, where do you sense God's presence, and how might He be using this situation for His glory?

Prayer: Jesus, help me look for You in the midst of my storms rather than just asking You to remove them. Show me Your presence and purpose in every difficulty I face.



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Day 5: Victory Is Already Won

Devotional: When you're in the middle of a difficult season, it's easy to feel like you're losing. The circumstances look overwhelming, the future seems uncertain, and hope feels distant. But here's what you need to remember: the story has already been written, and you win. Jesus' death on the cross looked like the ultimate defeat. His followers were devastated, thinking their hope had died with Him. But Sunday morning changed everything. The empty tomb proved that what looked like defeat was actually the greatest victory in history. Death couldn't hold Him, and because of His resurrection, nothing can ultimately defeat you either. You need to live with resurrection confidence. No matter how dark your situation appears, God has the final word. He specializes in bringing life out of death, hope out of despair, and victory out of what looks like defeat. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in your life right now. When you feel overwhelmed, remember that you're not fighting for victory - you're fighting from victory. Christ has already won, and you're on the winning team. Hold onto this truth when the battle gets intense. Your current struggle is not the end of your story; it's just a chapter in a book that ends with triumph.

Bible Verse: "Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself." - 2 Timothy 2:11-13

Reflection Question: How does knowing that victory is already secured in Christ change the way you approach your current challenges?

Quote: Read your Bible through the end of Revelation. At the end, guess what, believers? We win. I don't care what happens in Iran. I don't care what happened around our country. I don't care what happens in the world as believers. When it's all said and done, when heaven and earth passed away, when it's all said and done, we win.

Prayer: Father, thank You that the victory is already won through Jesus. Help me live with resurrection confidence, knowing that You have the final word in every situation I face.