



Let's Go Higher **DEVOTIONALS**

SERMON: "THANKFUL SACRIFICE"

MINISTER ANTHONY KING

Day 1: The Price of Freedom

Devotional: Have you ever considered what it truly means to be bought with a price? When we think about valuable purchases in our lives - a home, a car, or even something precious like jewelry - we understand that the price paid reflects the item's worth. But when it comes to our salvation, the price wasn't gold or silver. It was something infinitely more valuable: the blood of Jesus Christ. This isn't just a theological concept; it's a deeply personal reality. You weren't rescued with spare change from God's pocket. The Creator of the universe looked at you and determined that you were worth His Son's life. That's not just valuable - that's priceless. When we truly grasp this truth, it changes everything about how we see ourselves and how we respond to God. The military analogy helps us understand this better. When someone enlists, they voluntarily give up their right to live life on their own terms. They belong to something greater. Similarly, when we accept Jesus, we're not just adding Him to our existing life plans. We're acknowledging that we've been purchased, and our lives now belong to Him. This reality should fill us with overwhelming gratitude. Not guilt, not obligation, but genuine thankfulness. When you realize the incredible price that was paid for your freedom from sin and death, how can you respond with anything less than your whole life?

Bible Verse: 'For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.' - 1 Peter 1:18-19

Reflection Question: When you consider that God paid the ultimate price for your salvation through Christ's blood, how does this knowledge change the way you view your worth and your response to Him?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for considering me so valuable that You paid the ultimate price through Your Son's blood. Help me to truly understand my worth in Your eyes and respond with a heart full of gratitude. May this truth transform how I see myself and how I live for You. Amen.



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Day 2: All or Nothing

Devotional: In relationships, we've all experienced the frustration of half-hearted commitment. Whether it's a friend who's only there when it's convenient, or a team member who gives minimal effort, partial dedication leaves everyone feeling unsatisfied. The same principle applies to our relationship with God, but with eternal significance. When we present ourselves as living sacrifices to God, it's not a pick-and-choose arrangement. We can't surrender our Sunday mornings but keep our Monday through Saturday. We can't offer our words in worship but withhold our actions throughout the week. God doesn't want just the parts of us that are easy to give - He wants all of us. This complete surrender might seem overwhelming, but remember why we're doing it. It's not because God is demanding or controlling. It's because He gave everything for us first. When someone sacrifices their life for you, holding back parts of your life in return seems not just ungrateful, but almost insulting. Think about it this way: if someone saved your child from a burning building, would you thank them with just words? Or would your entire life reflect gratitude for their sacrifice? God didn't save just part of you - He saved all of you. Your response should match His gift. Complete surrender isn't about losing yourself; it's about finding who you were truly meant to be. When we give God everything, we discover the abundant life He always intended for us.

Bible Verse: 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.' - Romans 12:1

Reflection Question: What areas of your life are you still trying to control instead of surrendering completely to God, and what's holding you back from giving Him everything?

Prayer: Lord, I confess that I sometimes try to give You only parts of my life while keeping control of others. Help me to surrender completely - my time, my relationships, my dreams, and my fears. I want to offer You everything because You gave everything for me. Amen.



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Day 3: Transformed Thinking

Devotional: Our minds are constantly being shaped by something. Whether it's social media, news, conversations with friends, or entertainment, we're always absorbing messages about what's important, what's valuable, and how we should live. The question isn't whether our minds are being influenced - it's what's doing the influencing. As believers, we're called to a different way of thinking. Instead of conforming to the world's patterns and perspectives, we're invited into a transformation that starts in our minds. This isn't about positive thinking or self-help mantras. It's about learning to see life from God's perspective rather than our limited human viewpoint. When challenges arise, the world tells us to worry, to take control, or to look out for ourselves first. But God's Word reminds us of His faithfulness, His provision, and His perfect plan. When we feel forgotten, Scripture tells us we're chosen. When we feel worthless, God's Word declares we're precious. When we feel hopeless, the Bible points us to eternal hope. This mental transformation doesn't happen overnight. It's an ongoing process that requires intentional effort. We must actively choose to fill our minds with God's truth through His Word, prayer, and meditation. As we do this consistently, we begin to see our circumstances, our relationships, and our future through the lens of God's kingdom rather than the world's limited perspective. The result? A life that looks different, thinks different, and responds different because our minds have been renewed by truth.

Bible Verse: 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.' - Romans 12:2

Reflection Question: What worldly patterns of thinking do you need to replace with God's perspective, and what practical steps will you take to renew your mind with His truth?

Prayer: Father, I recognize that my thinking has been shaped by the world in many ways. Transform my mind through Your Word and help me see life from Your perspective. Replace my limited understanding with Your infinite wisdom and truth. Amen.



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Day 4: Lifestyle Worship

Devotional: We often think of worship as something that happens during specific times - Sunday morning services, prayer meetings, or personal devotions. We raise our hands, sing songs, and feel connected to God in those moments. But what if worship was never meant to be confined to certain times and places? What if it was designed to be the very fabric of how we live? True worship extends far beyond the walls of a church building or the duration of a song. It's found in how we treat our coworkers, how we respond to traffic jams, how we handle disappointments, and how we celebrate victories. Every moment becomes an opportunity to honor God through our choices, attitudes, and actions. When we understand that our entire lives can be acts of worship, everything changes. The way we do our jobs becomes worship. How we love our families becomes worship. Even how we rest and take care of ourselves becomes worship when done with gratitude and recognition of God's goodness. This doesn't mean we walk around singing hymns all day or constantly talking about God. It means we live with the awareness that every breath is a gift, every opportunity is from Him, and every choice is a chance to honor the One who gave everything for us. Lifestyle worship flows naturally from a grateful heart. When we truly appreciate what Christ has done for us, obedience doesn't feel like a burden - it feels like the most natural response in the world.

Bible Verse: 'I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.' - Galatians 2:20

Reflection Question: How can you transform your daily activities - work, relationships, and routine tasks - into acts of worship that honor God?

Prayer: Jesus, I want my entire life to be an act of worship to You. Help me see every moment as an opportunity to honor You through my choices and attitudes. May my life be a continuous song of gratitude for all You've done for me. Amen.



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Day 5: Gratitude in Action

Devotional: Words are powerful, but actions speak even louder. We can say "thank you" a thousand times, but the most convincing expression of gratitude is a life that reflects genuine appreciation. When someone does something extraordinary for us, our gratitude naturally overflows into how we live, not just what we say. This is especially true in our relationship with God. While it's important to thank Him with our words through prayer and praise, the ultimate expression of gratitude is a life lived in sacrificial service to Him. When we truly understand the magnitude of what Christ did on the cross, our entire existence becomes a thank-you note written in the choices we make daily. Sacrificial living doesn't mean we become miserable or joyless. Instead, it means we find our greatest joy in pleasing the One who gave everything for us. We discover that living for God's purposes rather than our own selfish desires actually leads to the most fulfilling life possible. Every act of obedience becomes worship born from gratitude. When we choose kindness over revenge, generosity over greed, or faithfulness over convenience, we're not just following rules - we're expressing heartfelt thanks for the incredible gift of salvation. Your life is your song of gratitude. Make it a beautiful melody that honors the One who composed the greatest love story ever told - the story of His sacrifice for you. Don't just thank God with words; thank Him with the way you live every single day.

Bible Verse: 'But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.' - Ephesians 2:4-6

Reflection Question: In what specific ways can you let your life become a living expression of gratitude for God's incredible gift of salvation and love?

Prayer: God, thank You for Your incredible love and mercy that saved me when I was dead in my sins. Help my life to be a continuous expression of gratitude for all You've done. May every choice I make reflect my thankfulness for Your amazing grace. Amen.