

Always Forward

ALWAYS FORWARD -- A 5-Day Devotional Series

BASED ON THE SERMON BY PASTOR MIREK HUFTON

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

You Were Known Before You Were Born

KEY VERSE:

Jeremiah 1:5 -- "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

REFLECTION:

I want you to hear this straight from my heart -- God knew your name before your mother did. Before the doctor announced you, before anyone celebrated your arrival, heaven already had a file on you. You weren't an accident. You weren't a surprise. You were appointed. I've watched people drift through life wondering why they feel empty, and the answer is almost always the same -- they've never grabbed hold of the reality that God has a specific plan wired into their DNA. Your purpose isn't something you invent. It's something you discover. And you discover it by pressing into Jesus, not by chasing what the world calls success. Start this week by settling this one thing in your spirit: I was created on purpose, for a purpose, by a God who loves me completely.

PRAYER:

Lord, thank You that You knew me before I took my first breath. Help me this week to stop questioning my value and start seeking Your plan. I want to know why You put me here.

DAILY ACTION:

Write down one sentence finishing this statement: "I believe God put me on earth to ____." Keep it somewhere visible all week.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

Purpose Over Goals

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 6:33 -- "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

REFLECTION:

I see it every single January -- people writing goals on napkins, in journals, on apps. Lose weight. Read more. Get out of debt. And listen, those aren't bad things. But I've learned something the hard way: goals without purpose will leave you empty even when you achieve them. Purpose is the engine. Goals are just the wheels. When I left business to answer God's call into ministry, that wasn't a goal I'd written down -- it was a purpose that grabbed me by the collar and wouldn't let go. Seek first the kingdom. That's not a suggestion tucked into a sermon -- that's the operating system God designed for your life. When your purpose is rooted in knowing Jesus and making Him known, every goal you set underneath that purpose starts to carry real eternal weight. Stop being goal-driven. Become purpose-driven.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I confess I've been chasing goals more than I've been chasing You. Reset my priorities today. Let everything I plan this year flow out of seeking Your kingdom first.

DAILY ACTION:

Review one goal you've set recently and ask yourself: "Does this serve God's purpose for my life?" Adjust it if needed.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

The Still Small Voice

KEY VERSE:

Romans 8:14 -- "For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

REFLECTION:

I keep telling people -- God doesn't shout through the clatter. Remember Elijah hiding in that cave? The wind came. The lightning cracked. The rocks split open. But God wasn't in any of it. It wasn't until everything got completely quiet that God spoke in that still small voice. That's exactly what I believe He wants to do with you this week. We've filled our lives with so much noise -- scrolling, streaming, endless opinions -- and then we wonder why we can't hear Him. I'm not apologizing for saying this: you need to get alone with God. Fast a meal. Come to prayer. Turn the phone off for an hour. I promise you, when you quiet yourself before Him, He will speak to you about your future, your family, your next step. The Holy Ghost is not hiding. We're just too loud to hear Him.

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, I quiet myself before You right now. Forgive me for filling every silence with noise. Speak to me today -- I'm listening and I genuinely want to hear Your voice.

DAILY ACTION:

Set a 15-minute phone-free, distraction-free prayer time today. Sit in silence for at least five of those minutes and simply listen.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

A Nobody Who Became a Somebody

KEY VERSE:

1 Corinthians 1:27 -- "But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong."

REFLECTION:

I love this verse because it wrecks every worldly measuring stick we carry around. The world will tell you that you need the right degree, the right connections, the right zip code to matter. But I've read the biographies of missionaries who walked away from comfort and reputation -- doctors who traded prestigious practices for frozen coastlines and remote villages -- and they became some of the greatest somebodies in heaven's record books. God doesn't need your impressive resume. He needs your surrendered heart. The devil isn't afraid of your talent. He's afraid of your anointing. And your anointing grows in direct proportion to your obedience and your closeness to Jesus. Stop trying to build a name in a world that's passing away. Get so close to Jesus that when you walk into a room, darkness has to back up. That's the kind of somebody I want to be.

PRAYER:

Father, I release my need to impress people today. I'd rather be a nobody the world overlooks than a somebody who doesn't know You. Use my weakness for Your glory.

DAILY ACTION:

Do one anonymous act of service or kindness today -- something where only God gets the credit.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Always Forward -- Press In and Don't Stop

KEY VERSE:

John 17:4 -- "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do."

REFLECTION:

This verse from Jesus stops me every single time I read it. Standing on the edge of the cross, He looked at the Father and said -- I finished it. Everything You gave me to do, I did it. That's my goal. That's what I want to say when I stand before God one day. Not that I played it safe. Not that I kept everyone comfortable. But that I finished the work He gave me. And I'm telling you -- that same finish line exists for your life too. You have an assignment with your name on it. The anointing comes when you step into the water like those priests at the Jordan -- not before, but the moment your foot hits the current. Stop waiting for perfect conditions. Stop waiting until you feel ready. Press in. Go forward. Get more of Jesus in 2025 than you've ever had before, and watch what God does with a life that's fully surrendered.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I want to finish well. I want to stand before You one day and say I did what You gave me to do. Give me courage today to take the next step forward in faith.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one area where you've been hesitating to obey God. Take one concrete step of obedience in that area before the weekend is over.