

Set Your Sail

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

Don't Be Tossed Around

KEY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:14 -- "That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting."

REFLECTION:

I want to talk to you today about something I've seen steal so much from so many people -- instability. When we're spiritually immature, we're like a little boat in a storm, getting thrown around by every wave, every opinion, every new idea that blows through. But God didn't design us to live that way. He called us to grow up. I love the image of Mount Zion -- it doesn't move when the wind blows. That's what I want for you. That's what God wants for you. Steadfastness isn't dramatic or flashy, but I promise you it's powerful. The devil brings adversity specifically to shake you off course. Don't let him. You don't have to be confused. You don't have to be carried away. You have the Word of God, and that anchor holds.

PRAYER:

Lord, I don't want to be tossed around anymore. Steady me today in Your truth and help me grow up into the person You've called me to be. Thank You that I don't have to figure this out alone.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one area of your life where you feel spiritually unstable or confused, and write down one scripture that speaks truth into that situation.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

Check Your Ship for Leaks

KEY VERSE:

1 Thessalonians 4:11 -- "That you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you."

REFLECTION:

I often sit with people who are struggling and I'll ask them, "Walk me through your average day." And honestly, that's where we find the leaks. Not everything that's draining your life is a spiritual attack -- sometimes it's just that the basics have fallen apart. A missing quiet time with God. A chaotic morning routine. Financial decisions piling up unaddressed. I've learned not to over-spiritualize things. Being stable is spiritual. God called us to work, to manage our homes well, to take care of our affairs. I always say, find the hole in your ship and plug it up -- because if you're still taking on water, nothing else is going to hold. Don't be discouraged. God isn't asking you to fix everything at once. He might just be pointing to one or two simple

things. Start there.

PRAYER:

Father, show me honestly where the leaks are in my life right now. Give me the courage to face the basics and the discipline to make simple changes that honor You. I trust You to help me.

DAILY ACTION:

Choose one practical habit -- making your bed, cleaning your kitchen before bed, setting a consistent wake-up time -- and commit to doing it every day this week.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

Float Your Own Boat

KEY VERSE:

1 Thessalonians 4:12 -- "That you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing."

REFLECTION:

I love what Paul says here -- that God wants us to live in such a way that we lack nothing and earn the respect of those around us. That's a big deal. A well-provisioned life doesn't happen by accident. It takes intention. Around here, we have a saying I really believe in -- float your own boat. That means taking responsibility for your own household, your own finances, your own provision. God first, then saving, then caring for your family, and then having plenty left over to give to others. That is God's design for a mature believer. I know there are seasons when we all need help, and that's okay. But as a lifestyle, God wants us strong, stable, and positioned to be a blessing -- not always in need of one. Ask Him to show you how to get there.

PRAYER:

Lord, I want to be a mature, well-provisioned believer who lacks nothing and has plenty to give. Show me where I need to grow and help me take the next right step today. I believe You want me strong.

DAILY ACTION:

Review your finances today -- even for just ten minutes. Identify one area where you can either decrease spending or increase income, and pray specifically over it.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

The Word That Equips You

KEY VERSE:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 -- "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for

every good work."

REFLECTION:

Here's something I've learned after more than forty years of walking with God -- reading your Bible is powerful, but studying your Bible changes you. There's a difference. When I started studying the concept of steadfastness, I just started digging in, meditating on it, saying it out loud, letting it become part of me. That's what Joshua 1:9 is talking about -- meditate on the Word, do the Word, and you will have good success. The Word of God in your heart and in your mouth is what keeps your boat from sinking. Without Jesus, who is the Word of God, nothing we do carries lasting meaning. I've watched people build impressive lives only to reach the end and find it was just paper -- just cinders. But when you build with the Word, you build something that lasts forever. Get in there and dig.

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, give me a hunger to study Your Word, not just read it. Let it get deep into my heart and come out of my mouth naturally. Make me complete and thoroughly equipped for everything You've called me to.

DAILY ACTION:

Pick one scripture that has been meaningful to you lately and spend ten minutes studying it -- look up a word, read it in a different translation, or write down what it means for your life today.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Your Labor Is Not in Vain

KEY VERSE:

1 Corinthians 15:58 -- "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

REFLECTION:

I want to close out this week by reminding you of something that keeps me going -- your labor is not in vain. Not one thing you do for God is wasted. Not the early mornings, the faithful service, the discipline, the hard choices nobody sees. I never had a midlife crisis because I have purpose. And that purpose doesn't change whether I'm forty or sixty or eighty. When you're serving God, you get to reach the end of your life and say, thank God I stayed the course. Steadfast. Immovable. Always abounding. Those three words belong together because they describe a life that keeps showing up -- not perfectly, but faithfully. We're in for a ride this year. The storms will come. But your ship can be strong, your sails can be set, and the wind of the Holy Spirit will carry you forward. Don't quit.

PRAYER:

Lord, thank You that nothing I do for You is ever wasted. Keep me steadfast and immovable this week and in the weeks ahead. I set my sails toward You -- take me where You want me to go.

DAILY ACTION:

Write down one thing you have done faithfully for God that you have been tempted to give up on -- and recommit to it today with a simple, specific next step.