

Looking Unto Jesus

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

Fix Your Eyes on the Finish Line

KEY VERSE:

Hebrews 12:1-2 -- "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."

REFLECTION:

I want you to understand something that changed my life -- this faith walk is a race, and Jesus is standing at the finish line. Not a casual stroll. Not a comfortable fast-walk. A full-out run, with everything you have. When I look at my own journey, especially through seasons of illness and uncertainty, I discovered that the moment I fixed my eyes on Jesus -- truly fixed them -- everything shifted. The Greek phrase "looking unto Jesus" literally means looking away to him. You cannot look in two directions at once. You cannot absorb the chaos of this world and simultaneously keep Jesus in your sight. Every morning you wake up, you get to choose your focal point. Choose him. He is your author -- your originator -- the very source of your faith. Run toward him today with everything you've got.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I choose to fix my eyes on you today, not on my circumstances or fears. Help me run this race with purpose and keep you at the center of everything I do. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Set a phone reminder for midday that simply says "Look to Jesus" -- when it goes off, pause for 60 seconds and redirect your heart to him.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

He Is Your Source

KEY VERSE:

Romans 10:17 -- "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

REFLECTION:

Let me be honest with you -- I am who I am because of this book right here. The Bible is not an accessory to your faith, it is the source of your faith. Jesus is the author, the originator, the spring from which all faith flows. But faith doesn't grow in a vacuum. Romans 10:17 makes it plain: faith comes from the Word. That means you have to read it, absorb it, let it get inside you. When I was told I had 90 days to live, I didn't check into a hospital -- I checked into the Word of God. I surrounded myself with faith. I filled my driving time, my quiet time, every available moment with what God says, not what the world says. Friend, the more Word you get in you, the more faith rises in you. It's that simple and that powerful.

PRAYER:

Lord, give me a hunger for your Word that I've never had before. Let your truth become the loudest voice in my life today. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Read Hebrews 12:1-4 slowly, out loud, once today -- let the words land in your heart, not just your head.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

Don't Look at the Waves

KEY VERSE:

John 15:7 -- "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

REFLECTION:

I love the story of Peter walking on water -- not because he got it right, but because he shows us exactly what we all do. He stepped out of that boat with real courage. His faith was rising. And for a beautiful moment, he was walking on the impossible. Then he looked at the waves. The Greek word used there for "boisterous" means violently overwhelming -- and the moment Peter let those waves fill his vision, he began to drown. Here's what I need you to hear: it was never the storm that was his problem. It was his focus. The same is true for you and me today. Your circumstances are not your biggest challenge -- your faith is. When we abide in Jesus, when his words genuinely live inside us, we walk above what our eyes see and our fingers touch. Stay in him.

PRAYER:

Jesus, when the waves around me feel overwhelming, remind me to reach for your hand immediately. I choose to abide in you and trust your words over my fears. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one "wave" -- one worry or fear dominating your thoughts today -- and deliberately speak one scripture over it out loud.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

He Is Found on Every Page

KEY VERSE:

Hebrews 12:3 -- "Consider him who endured such hostility from sinners against himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls."

REFLECTION:

I want you to grasp the greatness of who you are running toward. In Genesis, Jesus is the seed of a woman.

In Exodus, he's the Passover Lamb. In Psalms, he's our Shepherd. In Isaiah, he's the Prince of Peace. In the Gospels, he's the Son of the Living God. From the very first page to the very last, this entire Bible is the story of Jesus. He is not a side character. He is not a theological concept. He is the living, risen, reigning King who bled for you and rose again. When Hebrews says "consider him," it means stare at him. Study him. Let his person overwhelm you until the things of this world -- your worries, your distractions, your disappointments -- shrink in comparison. You cannot run this race weary when you are truly beholding how magnificent Jesus is. He is worth everything.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I want to see you bigger today than I did yesterday. Overwhelm my heart with who you really are, and let that vision fuel my faith. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Choose one name of Jesus from scripture -- Prince of Peace, Good Shepherd, Living Water -- and meditate on what that name personally means to you today.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Run With Everything You Have

KEY VERSE:

Hebrews 12:4 -- "You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin."

REFLECTION:

As we close out this week together, I want to leave you with this burning truth: God has a specific race marked out for your life. Heaven knows your story. Your Creator has written it out. But you must choose to run it -- fully, fearlessly, with your whole heart. I think about the times I've been tempted to slow down, to make peace with complacency, to let comfort steal my fire. And every single time, the Holy Spirit calls me back to this: run. Not a trot. Not a fast-walk. Run. You haven't given everything yet. Neither have I. There is more faith to build, more ground to take, more of Jesus to know. Don't let the distractions of this world, the pull of possessions, or the noise of culture talk you into settling. You were made for more than surviving. You were made to run -- with endurance, with fire, and with your eyes locked on Jesus.

PRAYER:

Father, reignite the fire in me today. I don't want to coast -- I want to run this race with everything I have, for your glory alone. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Share one thing God spoke to you this week with someone you trust -- a friend, family member, or fellow church member. Faith grows when we speak it out.