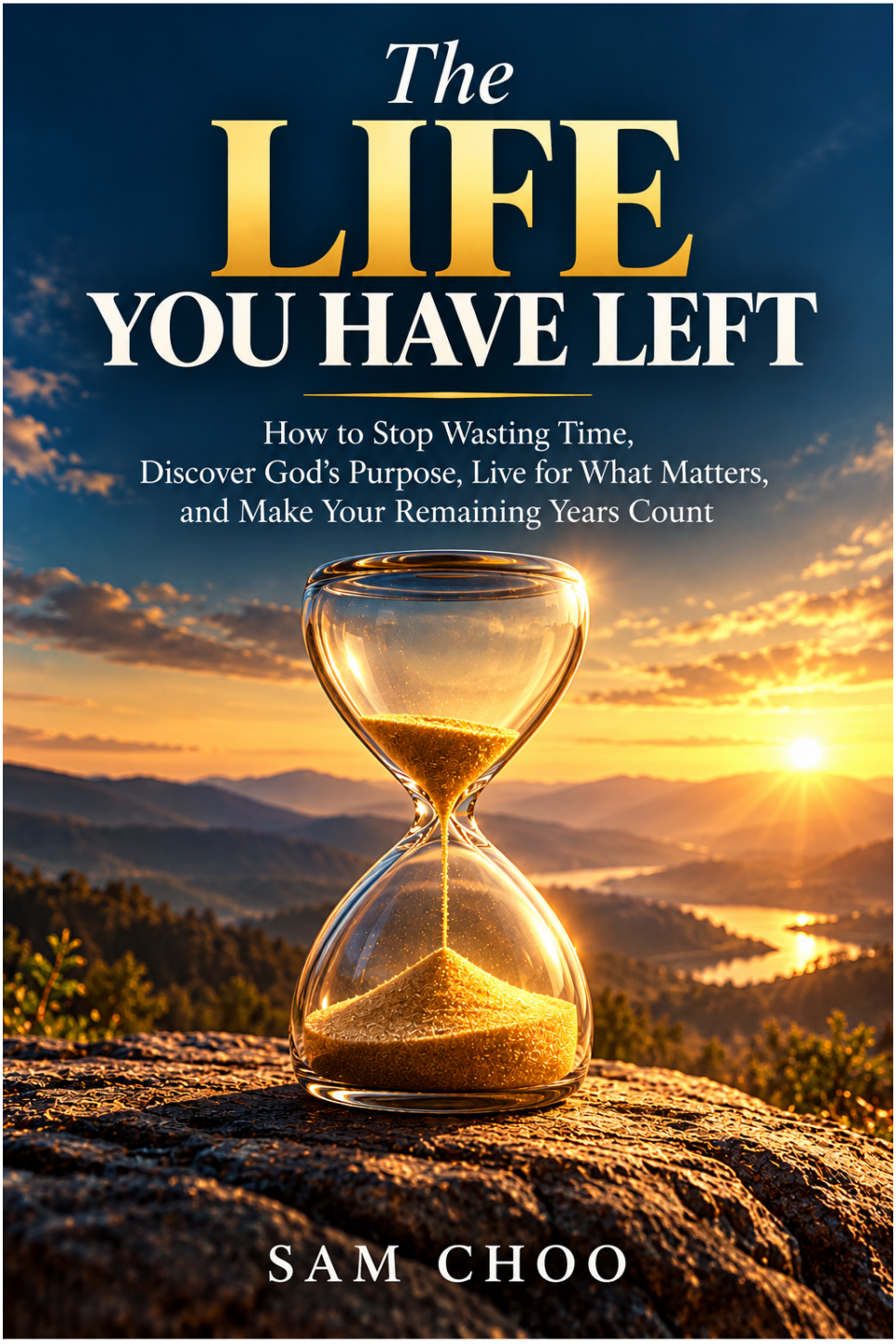
The
LIFE
YOU HAVE LEFT
How to Stop Wasting Time,
Discover God's Purpose, Live for What Matters,
and Make Your Remaining Years Count
SAM CHOO

The Life You Have Left
How to Stop Wasting Time, Discover God's Purpose, Live for What Matters, and Make Your Remaining Years Count

Author: Sam Choo

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Readers are encouraged to examine the Scriptures prayerfully and seek appropriate guidance when making important personal, spiritual, financial, or family decisions.

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Introduction: One Life, One Opportunity

Every day you live is a day you will never have again.

Yesterday is gone. The hours you spent, the words you spoke, the opportunities you accepted or ignored are now part of your history. You cannot return to them. Tomorrow remains uncertain. All you have is the life God has given you today.

The Bible reminds us how brief life really is.

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalm 90:12, KJV)

Most of us know that life is short. Yet we often live as though we have unlimited time. We become occupied with earning a living, raising children, paying bills, meeting expectations, and managing everyday responsibilities. Years pass while we are busy doing what seems necessary.

Then, sometimes unexpectedly, a question troubles us.

Where is my life going?

What am I really living for?

When I stand before God, what will matter about the way I lived?

These questions deserve our attention, regardless of our age or circumstances.

James describes the uncertainty of life with striking simplicity.

"For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." (James 4:14, KJV)

We may have decades ahead of us, or far less time than we imagine. None of us knows.

But there is good news.

God has given us the opportunity to live meaningfully today. Whatever our past mistakes, disappointments, or missed opportunities, we can begin making wiser choices with the time that remains.

Perhaps you are young and wondering what direction your life should take. Perhaps you are working hard to provide for your family and have little time to think about spiritual matters. Perhaps you have retired and are asking whether God still has a purpose for you.

This book is for you.

It will help you examine your priorities, recognise opportunities to serve God, and make practical decisions about how you spend your remaining years.

However, we must understand something important from the beginning.

We cannot earn God's salvation through good deeds or impressive achievements. Ephesians 2:8–10 teaches that salvation comes by grace through faith, and that we are created in Christ Jesus for good works.

Our service to God flows from the grace we have received.

You do not need to accomplish something famous or extraordinary. You can honour God through faithful obedience, quiet service, genuine love, and everyday decisions.

The life you have left is precious.

How will you use it?

Part One: Understanding the Life God Has Given You

Before we can live with purpose, we need to understand the value of the life God has entrusted to us.

Life is a gift. Every day presents opportunities to grow in faith, love others, and honour God through our choices. Yet it is easy to become so occupied with everyday responsibilities that we seldom consider where our lives are heading.

Some Christians spend years pursuing success, security, and comfort without examining whether their priorities reflect their faith. Others look back with regret, believing they have missed too many opportunities to make a meaningful difference.

God's Word offers wisdom and hope to both.

In this first part, we will consider four important questions. How should we view the limited time we have? What are we really living for? What does

God consider a successful life? Can our remaining years still be meaningful when we have made mistakes in the past?

These questions invite us to examine our lives with honesty and humility.

Whatever your age or circumstances, God has entrusted you with a life that matters. Understanding its value is the beginning of learning how to use it wisely.

Chapter 1: Your Life Is a Gift, Not a Guarantee

Learning to Number Your Days

> "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalm 90:12, KJV)

The Time We Cannot Control

Nobody knows how many days remain in their life.

We make plans for next year, save money for retirement, and imagine what we will do when circumstances improve. Planning is wise, but we sometimes forget that tomorrow is never guaranteed.

Moses understood this reality. In Psalm 90, he reflected on the brevity of human life and prayed for wisdom to use his days well.

His prayer was about learning to live with an awareness of time.

When we recognise that our days are limited, we begin asking better questions. Are we spending our time wisely? Are we neglecting people who matter? Are we postponing something God is calling us to do?

The Man Who Planned for Everything Except Eternity

Jesus told a parable about a wealthy farmer whose land produced an abundant harvest.

The man decided to build larger barns to store his crops. He expected to enjoy many comfortable years, eating, drinking, and relaxing.

But God said to him:

"Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee." (Luke 12:20, KJV)

The farmer had prepared carefully for his material future. He had neglected his relationship with God.

Jesus used this story to warn against building a life centred on accumulating possessions while remaining spiritually poor.

The problem was not the farmer's successful harvest. His mistake was treating earthly security as the ultimate purpose of life.

Living Wisely With the Days We Have

Recognising life's uncertainty should encourage wisdom rather than fear.

Christians can plan for retirement, enjoy family holidays, pursue meaningful work, and appreciate God's blessings. These activities become richer when we remember that our lives belong to Him.

Numbering our days means recognising their value. It encourages us to forgive sooner, love more generously, pray more faithfully, and respond to opportunities to serve.

You may have many years ahead. You may have fewer than expected. Either way, today offers an opportunity to live faithfully.

You cannot determine how long your life will be. You can make thoughtful choices about how you live today.

A Question for Reflection

If you knew your remaining time was limited, what would you begin doing differently today?

Chapter 2: What Are You Really Living For?

Examining the Priorities That Shape Your Days

> "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21, KJV)

What Your Daily Life Reveals

If someone examined how you spent your time, money, and energy during the past month, what would they conclude about your priorities?

Most Christians sincerely believe that God should come first. Yet our daily decisions sometimes tell a different story.

We may spend years pursuing career advancement, financial security, comfortable living, or the approval of others. These pursuits are not necessarily wrong. Providing for our families and fulfilling our responsibilities can honour God.

However, problems arise when these pursuits gradually become the centre of our lives.

Consider a father who works long hours to give his children a better future but rarely spends time with them. Or a Christian who becomes so concerned about financial success that prayer, worship, and serving others receive little attention.

Good intentions can gradually lead to misplaced priorities.

Where Is Your Treasure?

Jesus taught His followers to examine what they treasure.

In Matthew 6:19–21, He warned against storing up earthly treasures that can decay, disappear, or be stolen. Instead, He encouraged them to store up treasures in heaven.

Earthly possessions have their place, but their value is temporary. What we do out of love for God and others carries eternal significance.

Paul gave similar guidance:

"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." (Colossians 3:2, KJV)

This does not mean Christians should neglect their earthly responsibilities. It means approaching those responsibilities with priorities shaped by God's kingdom.

Examine What Matters Most

Take an honest look at your ordinary week.

What occupies most of your thoughts? What causes you the greatest anxiety? What ambitions influence your decisions? Where do your money and free time go?

Your answers may reveal priorities you have never consciously chosen.

Perhaps you have become overly concerned about pleasing others. Perhaps your desire for comfort has discouraged you from serving God. Perhaps financial worries have overshadowed your trust in Him.

Recognising these patterns is an opportunity to make changes.

God invites us to live with hearts directed towards Him. We can begin by giving greater attention to prayer, relationships, generosity, and faithful service.

Your priorities shape your days. Your days gradually shape your life.

Choose carefully what deserves your heart.

A Question for Reflection

What is one priority in your life that needs to change so that God receives greater attention?

Chapter 3: God's Purpose Is Greater Than Your Personal Success

Discovering What It Means to Live for His Glory

> "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31, KJV)

What Does Success Mean to God?

The world often measures success through wealth, achievements, influence, and recognition.

A successful person may be someone who owns a large house, earns an impressive salary, or holds an important position. Even Christians can become influenced by these expectations.

But God measures our lives differently.

A person may achieve remarkable worldly success while neglecting God. Another may live quietly, earning a modest income and caring faithfully for family members, yet bring great honour to Him.

The difference lies in the heart and the purpose behind our actions.

Living for God's Glory

The Bible teaches that we were created to glorify God.

Glorifying God means recognising His greatness and reflecting His character through our attitudes, decisions, and actions.

The prophet Micah summarised what God requires:

"To do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." (Micah 6:8, KJV)

These qualities can be practised wherever we are.

A teacher glorifies God by treating students fairly. A business owner honours Him through honesty. A parent reflects His love through patient guidance. Someone caring for an elderly relative can demonstrate compassion through daily acts of service.

None of these activities requires public recognition.

Jesus taught:

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, KJV)

Our conduct can help others recognise God's goodness.

Faithfulness in Ordinary Life

You may never become famous, wealthy, or influential. Your life can still be deeply meaningful.

God has placed you within particular relationships and circumstances. Your responsibilities provide opportunities to practise faithfulness.

This does not mean every difficult situation must be accepted without change. Sometimes honouring God requires seeking help, correcting injustice, or making courageous decisions.

What matters is approaching life with a desire to please Him.

Ask yourself whether your ambitions are drawing you closer to God or gradually pushing Him aside.

Personal achievements can be blessings when used wisely. Yet their greatest value comes from how they enable us to love, serve, and honour God.

A successful Christian life is ultimately measured by faithfulness to Him.

A Question for Reflection

How can you glorify God through one ordinary responsibility you already have?

Chapter 4: The Years Behind You Are Not the End of Your Story

Finding Hope When You Regret the Past

"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before." (Philippians 3:13, KJV)

When You Look Back With Regret

Perhaps you have spent many years pursuing money, career advancement, or personal comfort. Looking back, you realise that your relationship with God received little attention.

You may regret neglected friendships, missed opportunities to serve, or decisions that hurt people you love.

Some Christians carry these regrets for decades. They wonder whether they have wasted too much time to make their remaining years meaningful.

The Bible offers a different perspective.

God's grace reaches people whose past includes serious mistakes and painful failures.

Peter's Second Chance

Peter was one of Jesus' closest disciples. Yet when Jesus was arrested, Peter denied knowing Him three times.

Imagine his shame after realising what he had done.

Following His resurrection, Jesus met Peter beside the Sea of Galilee. Three times, Jesus asked whether Peter loved Him. Each time, Peter affirmed his love.

Jesus then entrusted him with a responsibility:

"Feed my sheep." (John 21:17, KJV)

Peter's failure was real, but Jesus restored him and called him to continued service.

His story reminds us that repentance and restoration can open the way to renewed faithfulness.

Paul's New Direction

The apostle Paul also had a troubled past. Before encountering Christ, he persecuted Christians.

Yet God's grace transformed his life.

Paul later wrote about pressing forward towards God's calling. He refused to let his past determine the direction of his future.

His example encourages Christians who believe their best opportunities have already disappeared.

Begin With the Life You Have

You cannot recover lost years or undo every consequence of past decisions. Some mistakes require apologies, restitution, or patient efforts to rebuild trust.

But regret need not control your future.

You can return to prayer, renew neglected relationships, serve someone in need, or begin sharing your faith.

Your circumstances may limit what you can accomplish. They do not prevent you from living faithfully.

God's grace offers forgiveness through Christ and strength for the journey ahead.

Whatever your age, the remaining chapters of your life can still be written with purpose.

A Question for Reflection

What past regret do you need to bring before God so that you can move forward in faithful obedience?

Part Two: Discovering What Matters to God

Understanding that life is short should lead us to an important question: What does God want us to do with the time He has given us?

Many Christians sincerely desire to please God but struggle to understand what that means in everyday life. They may assume that living for God requires becoming a pastor, missionary, or full-time Christian worker. Others believe they must discover some extraordinary calling before their lives can have spiritual significance.

The Bible presents a much broader picture.

God calls His people to seek His kingdom, practise righteousness, love others, and use their gifts faithfully. These responsibilities belong to every Christian, regardless of age, occupation, education, or financial circumstances.

A mother caring for her children, an employee working with integrity, a retiree encouraging younger believers, and a church member quietly helping someone in need can all honour God through their actions.

Our opportunities may differ, but the calling to faithfulness remains.

In this part, we will explore what it means to seek God's kingdom, recognise opportunities for good works, use our God-given abilities, and serve faithfully without expecting recognition.

As you read, consider the people, responsibilities, and opportunities already present in your life.

You may discover that God has given you more opportunities to serve Him than you previously realised.

Chapter 5: Seek First the Kingdom of God

Putting Eternal Priorities Into Everyday Life

> "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33, KJV)

What Does Seeking God's Kingdom Mean?

Jesus gave this instruction while teaching His followers about anxiety over food, clothing, and daily necessities.

He understood that people have genuine material needs. His teaching encouraged them to trust their heavenly Father while making God's kingdom their highest priority.

Seeking God's kingdom means allowing His values and purposes to guide our decisions.

Paul explained:

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." (Romans 14:17, KJV)

God's kingdom should influence how we treat people, handle responsibilities, and respond to life's difficulties.

When Everyday Responsibilities Demand Our Attention

Many Christians struggle to balance spiritual commitments with practical obligations.

A father may work long hours to support his family. A mother may spend most of her day caring for young children. Someone looking after ageing parents may have little time or energy for church activities.

Such responsibilities can be expressions of Christian love and faithfulness.

Seeking God's kingdom does not require neglecting our families or abandoning our occupations.

A Christian employee can honour God through integrity. Parents can teach their children kindness and faith. Adult children can demonstrate God's love by caring patiently for elderly parents.

Our daily responsibilities become opportunities to practise what we believe.

Putting God First in Practical Ways

Consider how God's priorities can influence your ordinary decisions.

Before accepting additional work, consider its effect on your family and spiritual life. When handling money, practise honesty and generosity. When disagreements arise, seek reconciliation where possible.

Make room for prayer, Scripture, worship, and fellowship according to your circumstances.

These practices help keep your heart directed towards God.

There will be seasons when responsibilities feel overwhelming. During such times, seeking God's kingdom may involve asking for help, accepting necessary rest, and trusting Him with matters beyond your control.

God understands human limitations.

The important question is whether we are allowing His Word to shape the way we live.

Seeking God's kingdom begins with faithful choices in the life we already have.

A Question for Reflection

What practical change can you make this week to give God's priorities greater influence over your daily decisions?

Chapter 6: You Were Created to Do Good

Recognising the Opportunities God Has Placed Before You

> "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10, KJV)

Created for a Purpose

Every Christian has a calling to do good.

Paul reminds us that we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Our lives have meaning because we belong to Him.

The preceding verses explain that salvation is God's gift of grace, received through faith. Good works are the fruit of that salvation, rather than the means of earning it.

This distinction matters. We serve God out of gratitude for His love.

You may wonder what good works God wants you to do. Perhaps you imagine that you must begin a ministry, travel overseas, or undertake something extraordinary.

Yet many opportunities are already within your reach.

The Needs Around You

Consider an elderly neighbour who lives alone. A brief visit may bring encouragement.

A colleague may be struggling with family problems. Listening patiently could help that person feel less isolated.

A young Christian may need someone willing to offer guidance and prayer.

These situations rarely attract attention, but they provide opportunities to demonstrate Christ's love.

Paul encouraged believers:

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:10, KJV)

Notice the word "opportunity."

We cannot meet every need in the world. However, we can respond faithfully to needs within our ability and circumstances.

Begin Where You Are

Some Christians delay serving because they believe they lack money, education, experience, or spiritual maturity.

But doing good often requires something much simpler: a willing heart.

You can encourage someone through a thoughtful message. You can share useful knowledge, offer practical assistance, or pray with a person facing difficulties.

Your contribution may seem small, but its significance should never be measured only by its visibility.

At the same time, wisdom is necessary. Helping others should respect appropriate boundaries and your existing responsibilities.

God has placed you among particular people for this season of life.

Pay attention to their needs. Ask Him for wisdom to recognise where you can make a difference.

A meaningful Christian life is built through faithful responses to the opportunities God provides.

A Question for Reflection

Who around you could benefit from a simple act of kindness or practical assistance this week?

Chapter 7: Your Gifts Were Given for a Reason

Using What God Has Entrusted to You

> "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10, KJV)

Recognising What God Has Given You

Every Christian has something valuable to contribute.

God gives spiritual gifts for building up His people. He also allows us to develop natural abilities, practical skills, and wisdom through life experiences.

Some people are gifted teachers. Others are patient listeners, capable organisers, skilled craftsmen, or compassionate caregivers.

Your abilities may appear ordinary to you because you have used them for many years. Yet those same abilities could be a blessing to someone else.

A retired accountant might help a struggling family manage its finances. Someone who enjoys writing could share testimonies of God's faithfulness. A person who has experienced hardship may offer understanding to others facing similar difficulties.

God can use what you already possess.

The Lesson of the Talents

In Matthew 25:14–30, Jesus told a parable about a master who entrusted different amounts of money to three servants.

Two servants used what they received productively. The third buried his master's money out of fear.

When the master returned, he praised the first two servants for their faithfulness.

The parable teaches the importance of responsible stewardship.

Its central lesson concerns faithfulness with what has been entrusted to us, rather than becoming wealthy or outperforming others.

God does not expect everyone to have identical abilities or opportunities.

What matters is how faithfully we respond to what we have received.

Stop Comparing Yourself With Others

Comparison can discourage Christians from serving.

You may admire someone who preaches confidently, leads a large ministry, or possesses remarkable knowledge of Scripture.

But your calling may involve quieter forms of service.

Perhaps you can mentor one younger believer, prepare meals for someone recovering from illness, or help your church with administrative work.

These contributions matter.

Instead of focusing on abilities you lack, consider what you can offer.

Ask God to help you recognise your gifts and develop them responsibly.

You do not need to wait until you become exceptionally talented. Begin with what you have, remain willing to learn, and serve with humility.

A Question for Reflection

What ability, experience, or practical skill could you use more intentionally to serve God and bless others?

Chapter 8: Faithfulness Matters More Than Recognition

Serving God Even When Nobody Notices

> "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." (Colossians 3:23, KJV)

The Desire to Be Recognised

Most people appreciate being thanked for their efforts.

Recognition can encourage us, especially when we have worked hard or made personal sacrifices. However, problems arise when approval becomes the reason we serve.

Even Christian ministry can become influenced by the desire for attention.

We may admire people who preach before large congregations, lead successful ministries, or attract thousands of followers online. Their work may be valuable, but public visibility is not the measure of spiritual faithfulness.

Many Christians serve God faithfully without receiving public recognition.

The Service Nobody Sees

Consider a mother who spends years caring for a child with special needs. Her daily sacrifices may never receive applause.

An adult son may quietly care for his ageing father, helping him eat, bathe, and attend medical appointments.

A church member may arrive early every Sunday to prepare the meeting room, arrange chairs, or welcome visitors.

Another believer may spend time praying privately for struggling families.

These acts of service can reflect genuine love for God and others.

Their value does not depend on how many people notice them.

What Jesus Taught About Hidden Service

In Matthew 6:1–4, Jesus warned against performing charitable deeds merely to receive human praise.

He encouraged His followers to give without seeking attention, reminding them that their heavenly Father sees what is done in secret.

This teaching challenges our desire for recognition.

When we serve quietly, we learn to examine our motives. Are we helping because we genuinely care? Are we seeking God's approval or hoping others will admire us?

These questions require honesty.

Serving With the Right Heart

Faithfulness does not mean allowing others to exploit our kindness. Healthy boundaries, rest, and shared responsibilities remain important.

Neither does it mean that public ministry is wrong. God can use both visible leadership and unseen service.

The important issue is our willingness to honour Him wherever He places us.

Your daily responsibilities may seem repetitive or insignificant. Yet acts of patience, generosity, and compassion can become meaningful expressions of faith.

Continue doing good, even when appreciation is absent.

God sees the love behind your faithful service.

A Question for Reflection

What good work would you willingly continue doing even if nobody ever thanked or recognised you?

Part Three: Living With Eternal Purpose

Knowing what matters to God is important. Living according to that knowledge requires deliberate choices.

Many Christians understand the importance of prayer, loving others, sharing their faith, and using their resources wisely. Yet everyday pressures can gradually push these priorities aside. We become occupied with urgent responsibilities and postpone the things we believe are spiritually important.

Sometimes we tell ourselves that we will serve God more actively when life becomes less demanding. We may wait until our children grow up, our finances improve, or we finally retire.

But the opportunity to live for God exists today.

Living with eternal purpose means allowing our faith to influence the way we spend our time, treat people, make decisions, and respond to opportunities. It involves recognising that ordinary actions can have lasting spiritual significance when they are motivated by love and obedience to God.

This does not require us to abandon our responsibilities or fill every available hour with religious activities. God calls us to practise wisdom, honour our commitments, and recognise our human limitations.

In this part, we will explore four practical areas of purposeful Christian living: taking action without unnecessary delay, loving the people around us, pointing others towards Christ, and managing our time and resources faithfully.

As you read, consider one question: What can I begin doing differently with the life God has given me?

Meaningful change often begins with a simple decision followed by faithful action.

Chapter 9: Stop Waiting for the Perfect Time

Obeying God With What You Have Today

> "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap." (Ecclesiastes 11:4, KJV)

The Danger of Waiting

Many Christians have good intentions that never become actions.

We plan to study the Bible more seriously when work becomes less demanding. We hope to volunteer when our children grow older. We promise ourselves that we will devote more time to serving God after retirement.

These intentions may be sincere, but waiting can become a habit.

Sometimes we postpone meaningful activities because we are afraid of failure, rejection, or criticism. We may feel unqualified or believe that others can serve God better.

Meanwhile, opportunities pass.

Tomorrow Is Never Guaranteed

James warned against making confident plans without acknowledging God's will.

In James 4:13–17, he addressed people who assumed they could determine where they would go, how long they would stay, and what profits they would earn.

His message reminds us that our future remains uncertain.

Planning is responsible, but we should hold our plans with humility and remain attentive to God's direction.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 offers another important lesson. A farmer who waits for perfect weather may never plant his crops.

Similarly, Christians who wait for ideal circumstances may never begin the work they feel called to undertake.

Begin With Something Small

You may have limited time, money, energy, or opportunities. God understands your circumstances.

Begin with what is realistically possible.

If you want to encourage others, contact one person this week. If you hope to share your testimony, begin writing a few paragraphs. If you desire to serve your community, identify one practical need you can help meet.

Small actions can develop into meaningful habits.

There is wisdom in preparing carefully for major commitments. Some decisions require prayer, consultation, and proper planning. Acting faithfully does not mean acting recklessly.

However, preparation should eventually lead to action.

You may never experience a season when every responsibility disappears and every difficulty is resolved.

God invites you to be faithful within your present circumstances.

The opportunity before you today may be modest, but it is still worth considering.

A Question for Reflection

What meaningful act of obedience have you been postponing, and what small step can you take towards it this week?

Chapter 10: Love the People God Has Placed in Your Life

Making Relationships Part of Your Christian Calling

> "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." (John 13:34, KJV)

Love Begins With People Around Us

Many Christians desire to do something meaningful for God. We may imagine serving in distant communities, supporting large ministries, or reaching thousands of people.

Yet opportunities to demonstrate God's love often begin with people we encounter every day.

Your spouse may need encouragement. Your children may need patient guidance. An elderly neighbour may appreciate a visit. A colleague facing difficulties may need someone willing to listen.

These ordinary relationships provide opportunities to practise Christian love.

The Good Samaritan

In Luke 10:25–37, Jesus told the story of a man attacked by robbers and left injured beside the road.

A priest and a Levite passed without helping him.

Then a Samaritan approached. He treated the man's wounds, transported him to an inn, and paid for his care.

The Samaritan demonstrated compassion through practical action.

Jesus used this story to challenge narrow ideas about who deserves our love.

Our neighbour includes people whose backgrounds, beliefs, or circumstances differ from ours.

Christian love requires us to recognise human needs and respond with compassion.

Loving Difficult People

Loving others becomes challenging when relationships involve disagreement, disappointment, or misunderstanding.

A demanding relative may test our patience. A difficult colleague may frustrate us. Someone who has hurt us may remain part of our lives.

Christian love calls us to respond with wisdom, dignity, and self-control.

However, loving someone does not require tolerating abuse or allowing harmful behaviour to continue. Healthy boundaries can protect everyone involved.

Sometimes love involves offering help. At other times, it requires speaking truthfully or seeking appropriate assistance.

Making Love a Daily Practice

Jesus taught that love among His followers would identify them as His disciples.

Our relationships therefore become an important part of our Christian witness.

Consider the people you encounter regularly. Who needs encouragement? Who feels forgotten? Who might benefit from a practical act of kindness?

You cannot solve every problem, but you can become more attentive to others.

A meaningful Christian life is expressed through the love we show to real people.

A Question for Reflection

Who in your life needs greater patience, understanding, or practical care from you?

Chapter 11: Let Your Life Point Others to Christ

Sharing the Gospel Through Words and Actions

> "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." (Matthew 28:19, KJV)

Every Christian Has a Testimony

Before ascending to heaven, Jesus commissioned His followers to make disciples of all nations.

This responsibility continues through the witness of Christians today.

You may never preach before a congregation or travel overseas as a missionary. Yet you can share what Christ means to you through everyday conversations and personal relationships.

Your testimony does not need to be dramatic.

Perhaps God helped you through a difficult season. Perhaps your faith changed how you approached marriage, work, or family responsibilities.

Your experience may encourage someone facing similar struggles.

Sharing Through Words and Actions

Our behaviour influences how others understand the Christian faith.

When we demonstrate honesty, compassion, forgiveness, and humility, we reflect something of Christ's character.

However, good behaviour alone may not explain the gospel.

People also need opportunities to hear about Jesus, His death and resurrection, and the salvation offered through faith in Him.

Peter instructed believers:

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you." (1 Peter 3:15, KJV)

He also emphasised gentleness and respect.

Sharing our faith should involve sincere conversation rather than pressure, arguments, or manipulation.

Your Story Can Reach Others

Christian writing provides another opportunity to bear witness.

You might write a personal testimony, share a short reflection online, or record an experience of God's faithfulness for your children and grandchildren.

A simple story can communicate spiritual truth in a personal way.

You do not need professional writing skills to begin. Speak truthfully, respect other people's privacy, and keep Christ central to your message.

Some readers may respond immediately. Others may reflect on your words much later.

The results belong to God.

Be Faithful With Your Opportunities

Ask God to help you recognise appropriate moments to share your faith.

Listen carefully before speaking. Respect those who disagree. Allow genuine relationships to develop without treating people as projects.

Your responsibility is to witness faithfully and lovingly.

Through your words, conduct, and personal testimony, you can help others discover the hope found in Jesus Christ.

A Question for Reflection

What experience of God's faithfulness could you share with someone who needs encouragement or hope?

Chapter 12: Use Your Time and Resources Wisely

Becoming a Faithful Steward of What God Provides

> "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:15–16, KJV)

Everything We Have Is Entrusted to Us

Your time, money, possessions, abilities, and energy are resources God has entrusted to your care.

Faithful stewardship means managing these resources responsibly while recognising that they can serve purposes beyond personal enjoyment.

Some Christians have considerable financial resources. Others struggle to meet everyday expenses. Our circumstances differ, but everyone can practise stewardship according to what they have received.

God does not require us to possess great wealth before we can honour Him.

Managing Money With Wisdom

Money provides for essential needs, supports our families, and enables generosity.

Paul instructed wealthy believers to avoid arrogance and misplaced trust in riches. Instead, they were to place their hope in God and become rich in good works (1 Timothy 6:17–19).

Financial stewardship includes budgeting carefully, avoiding unnecessary debt, providing for dependants, and helping others when possible.

Generosity should be guided by wisdom and genuine love. Giving beyond our means while neglecting essential family responsibilities is not necessarily faithful stewardship.

Contentment helps us appreciate God's provision without constantly comparing our possessions with those of others.

Protecting Your Time and Energy

Time is another precious resource.

We can spend hours on entertainment, social media, or activities that provide little lasting value. Recreation has its place, but excessive distractions can prevent us from attending to important responsibilities.

Our physical and emotional energy also requires careful management.

Rest is part of responsible stewardship. Jesus Himself withdrew from crowds to pray and rest.

Serving God does not require constant activity or neglecting our health.

Making Thoughtful Choices

Faithful stewardship involves asking how our resources can best support our responsibilities and God's purposes.

Sometimes the wisest decision is to give generously. At other times, it may involve saving money, declining an additional commitment, or spending quality time with family.

The goal is to manage what we have with gratitude, wisdom, and love.

Every resource presents an opportunity to honour God.

A Question for Reflection

Which resource entrusted to you needs greater attention, and what practical change would help you manage it more faithfully?

Part Four: Making the Rest of Your Life Count

Every season of life brings different responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities. What we can accomplish at twenty may differ greatly from what we can do at sixty or eighty. Yet our calling to love God and serve others remains.

Some Christians worry that they are too young to make a meaningful contribution. Others believe their most useful years are behind them. They may feel limited by age, declining health, financial difficulties, or past disappointments.

The Bible reminds us that God works through people of different ages, backgrounds, and abilities. He values faithfulness wherever it is found.

As we consider the years ahead, we should also think about the influence our lives may leave behind. Our words, decisions, relationships, and acts of kindness can affect people in ways we may never fully understand.

A life that honours God does not require public recognition or extraordinary achievements. It requires a willing heart and a growing commitment to follow Christ.

In this final part, we will explore how Christians can serve God throughout life's changing seasons, build a legacy of faith, and make practical decisions about their remaining years.

The book will conclude by helping you develop a personal Christian life plan. This plan will encourage you to examine your priorities, recognise your opportunities, and identify realistic steps towards more purposeful living.

You cannot change the number of years already behind you. The days ahead remain in God's hands.

What you can do is respond faithfully to the opportunities He gives you today.

Your remaining life is worth living with purpose.

Chapter 13: You Are Never Too Young or Too Old to Serve God

Finding Purpose in Every Season of Life

> "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12, KJV)

God Uses People of Every Age

Some Christians believe they are too young to serve God meaningfully. Others assume that growing older means becoming less useful to Him.

The Bible challenges both assumptions.

Paul encouraged the young Timothy to become an example through his conduct, love, and faith. Timothy did not need to wait until he was older to serve faithfully.

Age does not determine our spiritual usefulness. Our willingness to follow God matters far more.

Faithfulness in Later Years

Caleb was eighty-five when he asked Joshua for the hill country God had promised him (Joshua 14:10–12).

His confidence came from trusting God's faithfulness.

Another example is Anna, an elderly widow who worshipped God through fasting and prayer. When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, Anna recognised His significance and spoke about Him to others (Luke 2:36–38).

Her later years were filled with spiritual purpose.

These examples remind us that growing older does not end our calling to serve God.

Different Seasons, Different Opportunities

A student may encourage classmates and develop habits of Christian discipleship.

Working adults can demonstrate integrity, provide for their families, and serve within their available time.

Parents can nurture their children's faith through patient teaching and personal example.

Retirees may have opportunities to mentor younger believers, share their experiences, or participate in community ministries.

Those facing illness or physical limitations can still offer encouragement, prayer, and wisdom according to their abilities.

Our circumstances change, and our forms of service may change with them.

Serve According to Your Circumstances

God understands your limitations.

You do not need to compare your present abilities with what you could accomplish twenty years ago. Neither should younger Christians feel that their contributions are insignificant.

Consider what is possible in your current season.

Perhaps you can teach, listen, write, pray, give, or encourage someone.

Faithfulness begins with recognising the opportunities available today.

Whatever your age, your life can continue to honour God.

A Question for Reflection

What opportunities to serve God are available to you in your present season of life?

Chapter 14: What Will You Leave Behind?

Building a Legacy of Faith, Love, and Good Works

> "We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done." (Psalm 78:4, KJV)

What Will People Remember?

When people think about leaving a legacy, they often imagine wealth, property, achievements, or a successful business.

These things may benefit future generations, but material possessions eventually change hands, lose value, or disappear.

Spiritual influence can continue through the lives of people we have encouraged, taught, and loved.

A parent who demonstrates forgiveness may influence how a child handles future conflicts. A teacher who offers patient encouragement may help a struggling student develop confidence.

We may never know how far such influence reaches.

Passing Faith to the Next Generation

Paul reminded Timothy of the sincere faith that had first lived in his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5).

Their example shows how faith can influence succeeding generations.

Psalm 78 encourages God's people to tell their children about His mighty works so that future generations may place their hope in Him.

Sharing stories of God's faithfulness is therefore an important responsibility.

Your testimony may help younger Christians understand how God sustained you through difficulties, answered prayers, or guided important decisions.

These stories deserve to be preserved.

Your Story Is Worth Sharing

You do not need to write a full autobiography.

Begin by recording a few meaningful experiences. Describe a difficult season, what happened, how you responded, and what you learned about God.

You might share these stories through conversations, letters, recorded interviews, or short written testimonies.

Be truthful about your struggles. Respect the privacy of others involved.

Your experiences may encourage someone who faces similar challenges years from now.

A Legacy Built Through Everyday Faithfulness

Spiritual legacy also develops through ordinary acts of love.

Helping a neighbour, mentoring a younger believer, supporting someone in distress, or serving faithfully in church can influence lives beyond our immediate understanding.

We cannot control how others will remember us or whether they will follow our example.

Our responsibility is to live faithfully and entrust the results to God.

The most meaningful legacy may be found in people whose lives were strengthened because we cared.

A Question for Reflection

What story of God's faithfulness would you like to preserve for future generations?

Chapter 15: Begin Living Differently Today

Making a Personal Commitment to a Purposeful Christian Life

> "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." (James 1:22, KJV)

Turn Your Convictions Into Action

Reading about purposeful Christian living can inspire us. Yet inspiration alone rarely produces lasting change.

James reminds believers that hearing God's Word should lead to obedience.

You have considered the brevity of life, the importance of eternal priorities, and the opportunities God provides for faithful service.

Now comes an important question: What will you do differently?

A purposeful Christian life develops through decisions that gradually shape our daily habits.

Examine Your Present Priorities

Begin by considering how you currently spend your time.

Are your responsibilities receiving appropriate attention? Have career ambitions, financial concerns, or personal comfort gradually displaced your relationship with God?

Identify one area that needs adjustment.

Perhaps you need to restore a neglected prayer habit, spend more meaningful time with family, or become more attentive to people who need encouragement.

Choose something realistic.

Recognise Your Opportunities

Consider the people and circumstances God has placed around you.

What abilities can you offer? Who might benefit from your experience? Is there a ministry or community need you could support?

You do not need to begin something extraordinary.

A weekly conversation with a lonely neighbour, a monthly act of generosity, or a short written testimony can become meaningful expressions of faith.

Your opportunities will depend on your health, responsibilities, and available resources.

Make a Simple Personal Commitment

Paul urged Christians to present themselves to God and allow their minds to be renewed (Romans 12:1–2).

Such transformation should influence our everyday choices.

Write down three practical commitments for the next thirty days.

Choose one commitment concerning your relationship with God, another involving someone you can love or encourage, and a third involving service or stewardship.

Make each commitment specific and manageable.

At the end of thirty days, review your progress. Consider what helped, what proved difficult, and what adjustments are necessary.

Avoid turning this exercise into another source of guilt. Growth takes time, and God's grace remains sufficient when you stumble.

Begin Today

You cannot predict how many years remain, but you can decide how to respond to today's opportunities.

Ask God for wisdom, courage, and a willing heart.

Begin with one faithful action. Allow that decision to become the beginning of a more purposeful way of living.

The life you have left is still a gift from God.

Use it faithfully.

A Question for Reflection

What three specific commitments will you make for the next thirty days to live more purposefully for God?

Conclusion: When You Stand Before God

> "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7, KJV)

One day, your earthly life will come to an end.

The possessions you accumulated, the positions you held, and the recognition you received will no longer carry the importance they once seemed to have.

What will matter is your relationship with God and the faithfulness with which you responded to His grace.

Imagine standing before Him and considering one simple question:

What did you do with the life God entrusted to you?

Perhaps you will remember people you encouraged, opportunities you accepted, and quiet acts of kindness that nobody else noticed.

You may also remember mistakes, neglected responsibilities, and opportunities you allowed to pass.

Every Christian has reasons for gratitude and repentance.

Finishing the Race Faithfully

Near the end of his life, the apostle Paul reflected on his journey with remarkable confidence.

He had endured suffering, opposition, imprisonment, and hardship. Yet he could say that he had finished his course and kept the faith.

Paul's confidence rested in the Lord who had sustained him. In 2 Timothy 4:8, he looked forward to the crown of righteousness that the righteous Judge would give.

His words remind us that the Christian life is a journey of perseverance and faithfulness.

We are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Our good works are expressions of that grace, never the price of our salvation.

The Life That Remains

You may have many years ahead, or your remaining time may be shorter than you expect.

Whatever your circumstances, opportunities for faithfulness remain.

You can love the people around you, encourage someone who is struggling, share your testimony, or offer your abilities in service to others.

You can also rest in God's care, knowing that your worth does not depend on constant activity or impressive achievements.

Entrust your past to His mercy and your future to His wisdom.

Live each day with gratitude for His blessings, obedience to His Word, and confidence in His grace.

When your earthly journey ends, may you be able to say with Paul:

"I have kept the faith.".

Appendix A: 30 Questions to Examine Your Life

Personal Reflection on Your Priorities, Faith, Relationships, and Purpose

Taking time to examine your life can help you recognise what matters most and where changes may be necessary. These questions encourage honest reflection on your relationship with God, your daily priorities, and the way you use the life He has entrusted to you.

You may wish to write your answers in a journal, discuss them with a trusted Christian friend, or use them during personal prayer.

Your Relationship With God

1. How would I describe my relationship with God today?

2. Am I growing spiritually or becoming complacent?

3. How regularly do I spend time in prayer?

4. What place does Scripture have in my daily decisions?

5. Am I seeking God's will or following my own preferences?

6. What spiritual habit needs greater attention?

Your Priorities and Time

1. What currently occupies most of my time?

2. Which activities contribute little to my spiritual growth?

3. Am I allowing money or success to dominate my ambitions?

4. What important responsibility have I been neglecting?

5. Do I make sufficient time for rest and reflection?

6. What would I change if my remaining years were limited?

Your Relationships

1. Am I showing genuine love to my family?

2. Who needs more encouragement from me?

3. Have I neglected someone important?

4. Is there anyone I need to forgive?

5. Have I hurt someone through my words or actions?

6. How can I become more compassionate towards others?

Your Gifts and Opportunities

1. What abilities has God entrusted to me?
2. Am I using my experience to benefit others?
3. What opportunities to serve have I overlooked?
4. What prevents me from becoming more involved?
5. Who could benefit from my guidance or support?
6. What small act of service could I begin this week?

Your Purpose and Legacy

1. What am I ultimately living for?
2. What do I hope others will remember about me?
3. What testimony of God's faithfulness should I preserve?
4. What regrets do I need to surrender to God?
5. What three changes would make my life more purposeful?
6. If I stood before God today, how would I describe my stewardship of His gifts?

Reflect prayerfully on your answers. Choose one practical change and begin today.

Appendix B: 30 Simple Ways to Live for God

Practical Actions for Christians in Everyday Life

Living for God does not always require extraordinary achievements. Small acts of faithfulness, practised consistently, can bring encouragement to others and honour Him.

Here are thirty practical ways to express your Christian faith through everyday actions.

Growing in Your Relationship With God

1. Begin each morning with a short prayer of gratitude.

2. Read a passage of Scripture and consider its meaning.

3. Pray regularly for someone facing difficulties.

4. Thank God for blessings you often take for granted.

5. Memorise a Bible verse that strengthens your faith.

6. Set aside quiet time to examine your spiritual priorities.

Loving Your Family

1. Give your spouse or family members your undivided attention.

2. Encourage your children through thoughtful words.

3. Visit or contact ageing parents regularly.

4. Apologise sincerely when you have hurt someone.

5. Offer practical help to an overwhelmed family member.

6. Share a personal experience of God's faithfulness with your family.

Encouraging Others

1. Contact someone who may be feeling lonely.

2. Listen patiently to a person who needs encouragement.

3. Send a thoughtful message to someone facing hardship.

4. Thank someone whose quiet service often goes unnoticed.

5. Offer guidance to a younger Christian seeking direction.

6. Pray with someone who welcomes your support.

Serving Your Community

1. Help an elderly neighbour with a practical task.
2. Volunteer for a suitable responsibility in your church.
3. Donate useful items to people who need them.
4. Support a trustworthy charity according to your means.
5. Offer your professional skills to a worthwhile cause.
6. Show kindness to people whose backgrounds differ from yours.

Living as a Faithful Witness

1. Practise honesty in financial and business dealings.
2. Treat colleagues and service workers with dignity.
3. Share your Christian testimony when an appropriate opportunity arises.
4. Write a short reflection about something God has taught you.
5. Use social media to share encouragement and helpful Christian messages.
6. End each day by thanking God and reflecting on how you treated others.

Begin With One Action

You do not need to attempt everything immediately.

Choose three actions that suit your circumstances and practise them during the coming week.

Remember that faithful service should flow from love rather than guilt. Respect your responsibilities, personal limitations, and need for rest.

As these actions become habits, look for further opportunities to serve.

A purposeful Christian life grows through everyday decisions made with faith and love.

Appendix C: My Personal Christian Life Plan

A Practical Worksheet for Setting Priorities and Commitments

God has entrusted you with a life that has meaning and purpose. This worksheet will help you translate what you have learned into practical commitments.

Complete it prayerfully and honestly. Keep your plans realistic, considering your health, responsibilities, resources, and present circumstances.

1. My Present Relationship With God

How would I describe my spiritual life today?

What areas of my relationship with God need greater attention?

My answers:

2. My Most Important Priorities

Identify three priorities that should guide your decisions during this season of life.

My first priority:

My second priority:

My third priority:

3. My God-Given Gifts and Ab

ilities

Consider your spiritual gifts, natural abilities, practical skills, and life experiences.

What has God entrusted to me that could benefit others?

How can I use these gifts more faithfully?

4. People I Want to Love and Encourage

Identify three people who could benefit from your attention, encouragement, or practical assistance.

Person 1:

Person 2:

Person 3:

What specific action will I take for each person?

5. My Opportunities to Serve

What needs have I noticed in my family, church, workplace, or community?

Which opportunity can I realistically respond to?

My first step will be:

6. My Three Commitments for the Next 30 Days

Choose achievable actions rather than ambitious promises.

Commitment 1: My relationship with God

I will:

Commitment 2: My relationships with others

I will:

Commitment 3: My service or stewardship

I will:

7. My Personal Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for the life You have given me. Forgive my past failures and guide my future decisions. Help me recognise what matters to You. Give me wisdom to use my time and abilities faithfully. Teach me to love others sincerely and serve according to Your will. In Jesus' name, Amen.

8. My 30-Day Review

Review date:

Which commitments have I fulfilled?

What difficulties did I encounter?

What should I continue, change, or begin?

Remember that this plan is a guide, not a measure of your worth before God. Review it regularly and make adjustments as your circumstances change.

Your purpose is to grow in faithful obedience, one day at a time.

Appendix D: A 30-Day Journey to Purposeful Living

Daily Scripture, Reflection, and Action Prompts

This 30-day journey will help you develop habits of purposeful Christian living. Each day includes a Bible passage, a reflection question, and a practical action. Read the Scripture prayerfully and complete the activity according to your circumstances.

Week 1: Examining Your Life

Day 1: Psalm 90:12. What matters most? Write three priorities.

Day 2: James 4:14. How valuable is today? Thank God for another day.

Day 3: Matthew 6:21. Where is your treasure? Examine your spending.

Day 4: Colossians 3:2. What occupies your thoughts? Reduce one distraction.

Day 5: Micah 6:8. What does God require? Practise humility.

Day 6: Ephesians 2:10. What good can you do? Identify one opportunity.

Day 7: Psalm 139:23–24. What needs changing? Spend time in prayer.

Week 2: Growing in Faith

Day 8: Matthew 6:33. What comes first? Reconsider one priority.

Day 9: Romans 12:2. What influences your thinking? Reflect on Scripture.

Day 10: Philippians 4:6. What worries you? Bring it before God.

Day 11: 1 Thessalonians 5:18. What deserves gratitude? Record five blessings.

Day 12: Proverbs 3:5–6. Where do you need guidance? Pray for wisdom.

Day 13: Mark 6:31. Do you need rest? Allow time for renewal.

Day 14: James 1:22. Are you practising God's Word? Apply one lesson.

Week 3: Loving and Serving Others

Day 15: John 13:34. Who needs love? Offer practical kindness.

Day 16: Galatians 6:10. Who needs help? Meet one manageable need.

Day 17: Ephesians 4:32. Who needs forgiveness? Consider reconciliation.

Day 18: Romans 12:15. Who is struggling? Listen compassionately.

Day 19: Hebrews 10:24. Who needs encouragement? Send a message.

Day 20: 1 Peter 4:10. What can you contribute? Use one ability.

Day 21: Matthew 5:16. How can you honour God? Serve quietly.

Week 4: Living With Eternal Purpose

Day 22: Ephesians 5:16. Where is time wasted? Change one habit.

Day 23: 1 Timothy 6:18. How can you give? Practise generosity.

Day 24: 1 Peter 3:15. What is your testimony? Write one paragraph.

Day 25: Psalm 78:4. What should others remember? Share a faith story.

Day 26: Philippians 3:13. What regret remains? Seek God's forgiveness.

Day 27: Ecclesiastes 11:4. What are you postponing? Take one step.

Day 28: Colossians 3:23. How can work honour God? Fulfil one responsibility faithfully.

Final Two Days: Making Your Commitment

Day 29: Romans 12:1. What can you offer God? Write three commitments.

Day 30: 2 Timothy 4:7. How will you persevere? Review your journey and pray.

Continue practising what you have learned. Faithful living grows through daily obedience.