



# MARK

COME, FOLLOW ME

## 5 Day Devotional

This five-day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into [the sermon from this weekend](#). We will explore the themes of patience, faith, and the process of spiritual growth as illustrated in the story of Jesus healing the blind man in Mark chapter 8.

### Day 1

*Mark 8:22-26*

*22 They came to Bethsaida. They brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. 23 He took the blind man by the hand and brought him out of the village. Spitting on his eyes and laying his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?"*

*24 He looked up and said, "I see people—they look like trees walking."*

*25 Again Jesus placed his hands on the man's eyes. The man looked intently and his sight was restored and he saw everything clearly. 26 Then he sent him home, saying, "Don't even go into the village."*

In our spiritual journeys, we often desire quick answers and instant results. However, the story of the blind man healed by Jesus reminds us that faith and spiritual growth can happen in stages. As we read in Mark 8, Jesus took His time to heal the blind man, showing that our walk in faith may not always be a clear and immediate transformation. We may often find ourselves wanting to fast-forward to clarity or resolution, but it's important to recognize that growth requires patience and the willingness to trust the process.

Just like the blind man needed others to bring him to Jesus, we too require support in our journey. We can be the hands that lead others who are struggling to Jesus. This reminds us of our community and the importance of intercessory prayer, where we stand in the gap for those who are finding it hard to seek God for themselves.

- Have you ever felt frustrated with your spiritual progress? How can you reframe that frustration into patience?
- In what areas of your life do you feel you need to intercede for someone else?
- How does understanding that faith takes time change your approach to spiritual growth?
- Pray for patience in your journey of faith and for the ability to trust God's timing.
- Ask God to reveal ways you can support others in their spiritual journeys.

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## Day 2

*James 1:2-4*

*2 Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.*

As we continue our journey in understanding faith and patience, James reminds us to consider it pure joy when we face trials. These challenges are opportunities for growth and refinement. Just as the healing of the blind man was a process, our faith develops through the trials we endure. Patience is not merely waiting; it's how we behave while we wait. This day, reflect on the trials you are facing. Are you viewing them as obstacles or as stepping stones toward deeper faith?

When we are in the midst of difficulties, we have the chance to lean into God's presence more deeply. Each challenge can shape us and mold us into the believers God desires us to be. Embracing this perspective can shift our focus from frustration to thanksgiving, recognizing God's hand at work in our lives.

- What trials in your life have you grown from? How did those moments strengthen your faith?
- Can you identify any patterns where God has shown up in your struggles?
- How can you encourage someone else who is currently facing trials?
  
- Pray for wisdom to discern how God is using your current challenges for your growth.
- Ask for opportunities to share your experience with others who might benefit from your journey.

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## Day 3

*Galatians 5:22-23*

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.*

The fruit of the Spirit is a beautiful reflection of the work God is doing in us. Love, joy, peace, and importantly, patience are cultivated through our experiences and trials. When we acknowledge our needs and allow Jesus to step in, we see how patience develops in our hearts. This day, focus on the patience aspect and how it manifests in your relationship with God and others.

Reflect on how the Holy Spirit is producing patience within you. In moments when we feel impatient, we can remember that patience is a fruit growing inside us, often through the very trials we wish would end. Each time

we practice patience, we are participating in God's work to shape us into His image and reflect Christ more clearly.

- What does patience look like in your daily life?
- How can you remain patient amid chaos or waiting periods?
- Who in your life exemplifies patience that you could learn from or lean on?
- Pray for the Spirit to cultivate patience in your heart as you navigate challenging situations.
- Ask God to help you recognize His active work in developing this fruit within you.

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## Day 4

*Romans 5:3-5*

*3 And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, 4 endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. 5 This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

We often hear that it is through suffering that we can find perseverance, character, and ultimately hope. This truth resonates deeply with the healing of the blind man, who initially did not receive full sight but was led through a staged healing process. Our walk with God resembles that journey; it reminds us that sometimes we have to go through the valleys before we can reach the mountains. Reflect on how your past difficulties have shaped your present hope.

Understanding that suffering can lead us to growth creates a healthy mindset towards challenges. Patronizing patience during these times ensures that we maintain our focus on God's promises rather than our circumstances. Embrace the hope that comes with knowing that God is working everything together for your good.

- What past experiences have instilled hope and perseverance in you?
- How can you reframe your current struggles with a future hope in mind?
- What role does community play in nurturing hope during tough times?
- Pray for renewed hope in your current circumstances.
- Ask God to help you see how your challenges can lead to personal growth and strengthen your faith.

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## Day 5

*Philippians 1:6*

*6 I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you[a] will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

The confidence that God is working in us and will complete the good work He has started is a powerful part of our faith journey. This reminder assures us that our growth is not in vain and that even when we feel stuck or unclear, God is still moving in our lives. Just as the blind man didn't receive immediate sight, we too can rest in the knowledge that God's timing is perfect.

This final day challenges us to commit to the process of seeing God more clearly, embracing faith as a journey rather than a destination. Reflect on how God has progressively opened your eyes to deeper truths about His nature and character. Consider how you can partner with Him in your growth moving forward.

- In what areas do you feel God is refining your story?
- How can embracing the journey of faith enhance your relationship with Him?
- What steps can you take to celebrate the completion of God's work in your life?
  
- Pray for a deeper trust in God's work within you and those around you.
- Ask God to help you recognize and celebrate His continuous work in your life.

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