

A-40 Day Revolution



Making a Difference in my own life
Making a Difference in the lives around me

Weeks 4 and 5

Name: _____

March 1 2009—April 9 2009

March 2009

We are in the middle of "A 40 Day Revolution". Regardless if you have been involved the entire time or you have just started, I encourage you to use the rest of this time to it's fullest potential.

You might be struggling intensely with not eating a food item. Keep in mind that the money you save can not only help other people, but it can save a life.

You might be struggling with missing out on your media item. Regardless if it is a video game, watching a television show, you aren't texting or whatever, consider all the additional time that you could have.

Cutting out things can be greatly beneficial. However, the focus isn't what you cut out. The focus is more about what you PUT IN. The devotionals are a help, but they are not a 'cure all'. If you need to stop and focus on a single passage, do it. If a passage confuses you, write down some questions and move on to the next passage. If you need more, keep reading. This is an opportunity for you to let God encourage you, direct you, challenge you and refresh you.

All that we are talking about can be all well and good, but none of this works if it is all about what you do. God has to equip you and to empower you to keep going.

⁷Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. James 4:7-10 (NIV)

If you desire to see God do something amazing in your life, make some time to connect with God and you will see amazing things happen. The more you put into your relationship with Christ and take the first step, you will see God not only change you, but do amazing things through you.

Eager to see what God will do,

The basis of the program

There are multiple growth and change programs that are out there and are excellent and work. Rick Warren's 40 Days of Purpose, and Richard Mull's 40 Day Revolution are just two of many programs that this particular program has come from. If you look at these programs, you will find that most of the general concepts are from them.

You will find that overall, this is simply just a compellation or a collection of thoughts from many people with many applications. If you are well read or well versed in Christian literature, you will probably recognize most of the concepts.

Though applications can be pulled from many contemporary writers, the main basis for this work comes from Scripture. People can be wrong or applications can be misused or misinterpreted.

What we are simply trying to do is to take some of the best ideas and concepts and make them practical and applicable for our lives here today in Lassen County. Can these be used in other areas? Sure? The general concepts are currently being used all over the world by those people using the aforementioned 40 Day programs, but also by those who are simply trying to live out what the Bible says. You'll find that through the course of these daily readings that there is a mix of scripture, application options and reference to thoughts and stories. The Bible refers to itself as useful, living and active (Hebrews 4:12, 2 Timothy 3:16)

Most of the Biblical references are left for you to look up in a Bible that you are most familiar and comfortable with. My encouragement to you is to take a little time and read that references in more than one version of the Bible. Different versions of the Bible are translated with particular audiences in mind. As we are all different in reading styles and habits, additional translations have the potential of encouraging you to consider the possibilities and perhaps clarify thoughts that you may struggle with. You may also find that reading additional versions of the same scripture bring new questions or even broaden some thoughts.

I encourage you to allow God to stretch you and change you as you read. Ask Him to clarify and don't be afraid to talk with others for their thoughts as well.

Defining Revolution

Rev-o-lu-tion: Noun

- A sudden, radical or complete change
- Activity or movement designed to effect fundamental change
- A fundamental change in the way of thinking or visualizing something

-Merrim-Webster Dictionary

When most people think about revolutions, violent overthrow of government usually comes to mind. These are usually intense, bloody, long and drawn out.

Real change, regardless of the type or surrounding circumstances, requires effort and a personal ownership of those making the change. There are all sorts of things we may not like about our surrounding circumstances. There may even be a lot that we struggle with in relation to ourselves. The sheer volume of information regarding revolutions is slightly overwhelming.

Ultimately though, revolutions come from discontent, people not desiring to continue living the lives that they are.

When we look around, there are numerous things that we are not thrilled with. Some things can be perceived as minor while other issues seem insurmountable and all encompassing.

A phrase that has been used many times in the last several months is that it is "Time for Change".

Regardless of your personal political affiliations, it's difficult to look around and not say that there needs to be some change. It can be extremely tough to change something large, especially if there are many people involved in it. Whether it be in the political arena, in church leadership, in schools, the work place or home, sometimes the details that need to come with change are complex and increasingly difficult. However, we can always affect change in our own lives. Change starts with a single individual choosing to make that single step.

Why 40 Days?

No, 40 is not a magic number, though if the number 40 is on the back of your jersey you may feel differently. However, the Bible does speak of multiple that correlate with the number 40

Noah and the Flood– It rained 40 Days and 40 nights.

Isaac married his wife when he was 40.

The limit to scourging was 40 lashes.

The Israelites had to wander the wilderness for 40 years.

Moses spent 40 days and nights before receiving the 10 commandments and the plans for the tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant.

Joshua was 40 when Moses sent him out to scout out the land of Canaan.

Goliath taunted the Israelites for 40 days before God sent David.

Elijah traveled 40 Days and 40 Nights to hear God.

God gave the Ninevites 40 Days to repent.

Jesus Fasted for 40 Days and 40 Nights.

Jesus was tempted for 40 Days.

During the 40 Days after the Crucifixion, Jesus appeared to many revealing his resurrection.

Most habits can be formed in 40 days.

Richard Mull, the originator of the Operation Life Force 40 Day Revolution, shares a story about the Mediterranean fruit fly whose life cycle takes 40 days.

The main concept we are focusing on with these 40 Days, is to give enough time to end a cycle of habits and present enough time to develop another.

The Main Concepts

Fasting

—A discipline of self restriction and refocusing, not solely of vacuum.

For this program we are solely focusing on **1** Food item and **1** Media item. (Food item—Chocolate, Junk Food, Starbucks, Soda, etc. Media Item—TV Program, Video Game, Television, Non Christian Music, Ipod, etc.)

Servant hood

—A discipline of putting others needs first, or helping those in need.

Blessing

– A Discipline of being a blessing or a help to other people you encounter.

Prayer

– A discipline of communicating with God on one's own as well as other's behalf.

Personal Bible Reading and Meditation

—A discipline of making time to hear from God and to make personal application.

All of these are aspects of our 40 Day Revolution. Individuals or families may choose to take things more intensely, but for the purpose of the group as a whole, these are the tenants we are focusing on.

Evangelism Methods

Friendship Evangelism—Sometimes people will accept information from a stranger, However, people will depend more on their friends and those that they are close to. Most people find it more important to listen to some one they trust, know and have a proven track record with. If a person has a personal relationship with Christ, their interaction with their friends can mean much more than speaking with a total stranger. Sometimes, beginning and developing a friendship says more than 'preaching' at someone.

Blessing Evangelism—It can be easy to tell someone something, but it can be much tougher to DO something. To take the time to bless someone during a time of difficulty or crisis means more than words. To help someone who is elderly, hungry, thirsty or tired can speak volumes to them.

Servant Evangelism—Following in the steps of Jesus, we see that Jesus was not afraid to serve, but that He embraced it and calls His followers to do the same.

Prayer Evangelism—The Bible talks numerous times about the importance of prayer and that some things only work out when prayer is involved. A simple act of regularly praying for an individual specifically opens up the opportunity to see God to something tremendous.

It is human nature to ask "Why?" These methods can open up many opportunities to share about Christ. As you interact with others and they ask "Why?" prepare yourself to use these opportunities to share the love of God.

Evangelism Core Concepts

How do I know that I have a Relationship with Christ?

1. **Admit** I'm lacking.

As God is perfect and I am not, I'm lacking. That imperfection is known as sin. (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23) That sin will forever keep us from enjoying all that God desires for us.

2. **Believe** in who Jesus is and what He has done.

Because God Loves us, He sent His only son Jesus to be born on this earth to die a horrible death on the cross, was buried and was raised from the dead three days later. Jesus paid the price so that we would not have to (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10, Acts 16:31)

3. **Commit changing** your life to growing and developing in loving God and other people.

(Luke 13:3, 1 John 1:9, John 13:33-35, Romans 10:9-10, 1 John 4)

Sharing your faith becomes much easier when you **make the time to prepare**. It would be easy to just not plan ahead, but when God provides opportunities for you to interact with people, God will do more through you when you plan ahead and prepare yourself to interact with others. The more you fill yourself with God, the more He overflows out of your life.

Lighthouse Worksheet

Take a piece of paper and diagram to help you to remember who to pray for.

By Class/ Period/work setting

1st Period

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| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

2nd Period

| | | |
|--|-----|--|
| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

3rd Period

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| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

4th Period

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| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

5th Period

| | | |
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| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

6th Period

| | | |
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| | | |
| | You | |
| | | |

Your Block / Work Space

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| | You | |
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Prayer List:

Focus on the needs of at least 5 people. Write down what and when God answers.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Week 4

Verse for the week:
John 13:14-15

Servant Evangelism

¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. (NIV)

¹⁴"If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁵"For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. (NASB)

¹⁴ And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. ¹⁵ I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. (NLT)

¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. (ESV)

¹⁴And if your Lord and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. ¹⁵I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you. (CEV)



Day 22

Sunday, March 22nd, 2009

Serving the Community

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

James 1:19-27

Matthew 20:25-28

Romans 14:17-19

Service. A lot of times we would prefer to be served, than to serve someone else. Some times we go to the other extreme and try to fix everything for other people. Today we are focusing on meeting real needs of other people around us. You can refer to your "lighthouse sheet "from Day 3. Jesus shares with us the importance of serving not only other people in general, but to serve people that others neglect or forget. Who are some people around you that you would rather neglect or forget? Think about those around you at school, in your neighborhood, or other people or groups of people you avoid.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Mark 10:35-45

Romans 12:6-8

Luke 1:68-75

Luke 22:24-28

Galatians 5:13-14

Ephesians 6:5-8

- Pray for people who are neglected, orphans, single parent families, widows, widowers, homeless ...

- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.

-Volunteer at Crossroads

- Volunteer at M.A.M.A.'s

-Visit, send a card or call a widow or widower

- Volunteer to help out a single parent family

- Visit a Nursing Home or an elderly neighbor

- Take out your neighbor's trash.

- Invite someone to lunch who normally eats alone.



Day 23

Monday, March 23rd 2009

Thirst Quencher

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 25:35-40

Proverbs 25:20-22

John 6:34-36

John 7:36-38

Romans 12:19-21

Thirst. If you have every played a sport or if you have ever done a lot of yard work outside, you know that the effects of being thirsty can be pretty intense. If you have ever had something cold to drink on a hot day, or something warm to drink on a cold day, you know about the comfort and refreshment that follows. Jesus tells us that he is the Ultimate thirst quencher. (Gatorade has nothing on Him.) If you watch your family, your friends and even your own life, you'll see that everything in life leaves you wanting more. Jesus desires to fill the void that we feel.

Here are some options to consider:



-Read some of these additional passages.

Psalms 107:8-10

Isaiah 21:13-15

Isaiah 55:1-3

John 4:12-14

- Pack an extra drink for lunch and give it away.
- Take some time to pray for those who have a void in their lives.
- Surprise a sports team with bottled waters.
- If it's a hot day, give a cold bottled water to a crossing guard or someone who has to spend a lot of time outside.
- Give a bottled or a canned drink to an adult at your school
- Give away a gift card to a coffee shop

Day 24

Tuesday, March 24th, 2009

Strangers and Aliens

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 20:35-40

Hebrews 13:2-4

Psalms 146:8-10

Jeremiah 22:2-3

Strangers and Aliens. We are trained to see Strangers as bad and we aren't too fond of aliens, regardless if they are from another country or even 'other worlds'. For many generations, the Israelites were 'strangers' and 'aliens' to the many countries that they inhabited. God shares the importance of treating these people well. Granted, you are not likely to deal with many 'aliens', but you do encounter strangers on a daily basis. What are some ways that you can bless them?

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Psalms 39:11-13 Psalm 69:7-9 Malachi 3:5-6

Ephesians 2:18-20 Colossians 1:21-23

- Pray for those strangers that you encounter (at School, at work, and in your neighborhood).

- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.

-Offer to help out a stranger

- Eat lunch with someone you don't know and get to know them.

-Invite a stranger to church.

- Meet someone you don't know

- Invite an outsider into your circle of friends.

- Let a stranger go in line before you.

Day 25

Wednesday, March 25th 2009

Clothing and Covering

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 25:35-40

Ezekiel 18:7-8

1 Timothy 6:7-9

Matthew 5:39-41

“What are you going to wear?” It’s amazing how much time and money that we spend on dothing. In some areas of the world, a pair of jeans is several months worth of salary. The majority of us not only have several sets of clothes, but a large amount of dothes we haven’t worn for years. The Bible talks about the importance of caring for those in need and clothing fits into that.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Ezekiel 18:15-17

Acts 20:32-34

Exodus 22:26-27

Deuteronomy 22:1-4

Deuteronomy 24:12-18

Luke 6:28-30

Luke 22:35-37

2 Timothy 4:12-14

Mark 10:49-51

Mark 11:6-9

- Donate dothes to Crossroads
- Donate dothes to M.A.M.A.s
- Give dothes away to a family that needs them.
- If it’s a cold day, bring an extra sweatshirt or jacket to loan.
- Knit someone a scarf
- Instead of buying another outfit, Use that money to help someone in need.

Day 26

Thursday, March 26th, 2009

Visiting the Sick

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 20:36-40

Matthew 10:1

Psalms 41:2-4

James 5:13-16

Getting sick is never fun. Neither is staying in the hospital. When you are sick and isolated, it can be very easy to not only feel alone, but sad. Ministering to people who are sick does not have to be complicated. It can be something as simple as sending a card or taking the time to visit. Jesus spent a lot of time with those who were sick. God desires for us to pray for and minister to those as well.

Here are some options to consider:



-Read some of these additional passages.

Matthew 9:11-13

Matthew 10:7-9

Mark 2:17

- Pray for people you know who have health problems
- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.
- Send a card to someone who is sick
- Visit someone in the hospital
- Visit someone in a nursing home
- Take a friend to visit someone sick
- Call someone who is sick
- Get a sick teacher a Kleenex box and some tea bags.

Day 27

Friday, March 27th 2009

Prisoners and Prisons

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 25:35-40

Luke 4:17-19

Hebrews 10:33-35

Hebrews 13:2-4



Prisoners and Prisons. Here in Lassen County we are incredibly affected by the Prisons, the Jail and Juvenile Hall. It could be as simple as that we have family that works there. We may know someone who is in there. We all know someone who is negatively affected by a friend or relative being in there. Though some of us are heavily impacted by those in physical prisons, the rest of us struggle with other types of prisons. We may be trapped by a particular sin. We may be trapped by even a way of thinking. God desires us to be free from these prisons of addictions and of past hurts. He also desires for us to share His hope with those still trapped and confined.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Genesis 39

Psalm 142:7

Isaiah 42:6-8

Isaiah 51:13-15

Isaiah 61:1-3

Acts 16:24-34

- Pray for those imprisoned, in jail, or trapped in sin. Pray that God would reveal options to you.

- Pray for those who work in these environments. Pray for their safety and that they would receive God's hope and strength and life in the midst of these difficult places.

-Write to someone you know in jail/prison an encouraging note.

- Write a note of encouragement and appreciation to someone who works at a prison/jail.

- Write a note of encouragement and appreciation to someone who has a loved one in jail.

Day 28

Saturday, March 28th 2009

Moms

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Proverbs 10:1 Proverbs 23:24-26 Proverbs 23:22-23
Proverbs 6:19-21

A comedian once said that it was ironic that when a man spends hours and hours prepping for basketball and football with their dad, they become famous and the first thing they say on camera is "Thanks Mom!" The idea of showing respect to mothers, regardless of how you do with them, is an important concept not only found in the old testament, but Jesus shows great personal examples as well. In Luke 2, Mary is anxious because she couldn't find Jesus. When she does and she questions her, he isn't rude to her. Later on in John 2, She wants Jesus to perform a Miracle before His time, but out of respect to His mother, He obeys. In John 19, when Jesus is dying on the cross, His focus is on His mother being cared for instead of solely on His pain.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.
1 Timothy 5:1-3 Proverbs 20:19-21
Proverbs 15:19-21 Proverbs 1:1-9

- Pray for your mother.
- Thank God for your mother
- Give your mother a thank you card / letter
- Do some chores for your mother
- Make your mother dinner
- Give your mother a gift
- Spend some time with your mother.



Week 5

Verse for the week:
2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Prayer Evangelism

⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (NIV)

⁴for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

⁵We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, (NASB)

⁴ [a] We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵ We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. (NLT)

⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, (ESV)

⁴or fight our battles with the weapons of this world. Instead, we use God's power that can destroy fortresses. We destroy arguments ⁵and every bit of pride that keeps anyone from knowing God. We capture people's thoughts and make them obey Christ. (CEV)

Day 29

Sunday, March 29th 2009

Friends

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:
Hebrews 10:25 Job 42:10 John 15:12-16

It was only a couple of weeks ago that I ran into someone at the doctor's office. We had some mutual acquaintances and the topic of church had come up. They were very interested in coming to a church. I asked why they hadn't. They responded, "we know a lot of people at school who go to church, but none of them had asked us to go". There are numerous people that we come into contact every day who want to connect with God. They know that there is something missing and they want it. Many just want to know if we care enough or that it's important enough for us to talk about. Some people we encounter are a little 'stand offish'. Sometimes it's because they feel like they don't belong. Early this year I ran into a beautiful and talented young Christian girl. She hadn't been to a youth group function at any church for over 6 months. I asked her 'why?' she simply stated that she didn't feel like anyone cared. If she came or not.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Daniel 2 | Proverbs 12:25-26 |
| Proverbs 22:23-25 | Acts 27:2-4 |
| 1 John 4:6-8 | Mark 8:37-38 |
| Luke 9:25-27 | |

Pray that God would bring someone into your life who is interested in coming to church.

Pray that You would be able to discern who is open to getting to know Christ.

Ask a friend to come to church

Ask a friend to come to youth group.

Day 30

Monday, March 30th 2009

Dots

dot \dɒt/ *noun*

1: a small spot : [speck](#) 2: a small round mark as a (1): a small point made with a pointed instrument <a *dot* on the chart marked the ship's position> (2): a small round mark used in orthography or punctuation <put a *dot* over the *i*> b: a centered point used as a multiplication sign (as in $6 \cdot 5 = 30$) c (1): a point after a note or rest in music indicating augmentation of the time value by one half (2): a point over or under a note indicating that it is to be played staccato

Often when people think of prayers, they tend to be long and wordy. This isn't the case. We often leave loved one with a quick "bye, love you!" Or a "Call me later" or "Don't forget..." In essence, it's just a short speck or dot in time. Prayer can be the same thing. When I was younger, we'd play this game of "Dots". We'd mark up a page full of dots and the first person to connect the dots into a square (or a triangle) would put their initial in it and claim the point. The one with the most points at the end would win. God desires for us to 'connect the dots' as well. He desires for us and our loved ones to connect to Him and to multiply in family members.

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Philemon 1:6 Jude 1:2-3 Philippians 1:19-21

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Matthew 25:14-30 Romans 1:15-17 James 5:16

- Make a list of your unsaved family and friends and Pray for them.

- Pray Specifically for a person who is hard to reach.

- Pray specifically for a person who is difficult to love.

- Pray specifically for a person who could make an incredible difference in the school/community/workplace if they became a Christian.

- Randomly make and place dots in multiple places that you will see them to remind you to pray.

Day 31

Tuesday, March 31st 2009

The World

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

2 Timothy 1:11-13 Matthew 28:19
Hebrews 11:15-17 Acts 1:8

God desires us to make an impact, not only with those here in Susanville, but also throughout the world. Sometimes it's difficult to think outside of Lassen county. You might question how you can touch the lives of those outside of this area, but there are all sorts of ways to make a difference.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

1 Peter 4:15-17 Mark 8:34-36
Mark 13:9-11 Acts 8:4-8
Acts 8:26-40 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3

- Pray for those who are on the mission field.
- Sponsor a Child through World Vision or Compassion International.
- Get to know someone of a different culture and learn about it.
- Pray about going on a Missions Trip.
- Pray and consider participating in Serve Susanville.
- Write to a missionary.
- Support someone who is going on a mission trip
- Send supplies to a missionary family.

Day 32

Wednesday, April 1st 2009

Testimony

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

1 Peter 3:15 Romans 15:15-17 1 Corinthians 1:17-18
Philippians 1:25-28 1 Thessalonians 2:8-10

tes·ti·mo·ny \ˈtes-tə-,mō-nē\ *noun*

1 a (1): the tablets inscribed with the Mosaic law (2): the ark containing the tablets b: a divine decree attested in the Scriptures
2 a: firsthand authentication of a fact : [evidence](#) b: an outward sign c: a solemn declaration usually made orally by a witness under oath in response to interrogation by a lawyer or authorized public official
3 a: an open acknowledgment b: a public profession of religious experience

In a nutshell, a personal salvation testimony is you sharing about how you became a part of God's Family. When did it happen? What did you do? Why did you do it? Everyone's story has the potential of overlapping. You may not have the same exact issue as someone else, but you will have similar core issues. (Self Esteem, Loneliness, Anger, Depression, etc.)

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Galatians 1:10-12 | 2 Corinthians 4:3-5 |
| Acts 20:23-25 | Isaiah 43:10 |
| 1 Corinthians 9:22-24 | Acts 22:15 |
| 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 | |
| Galatians 1:4-9 | |

- Write out your Salvation Testimony.

- Share your testimony with someone.

- Pray for ways to figure out how to share your testimony.

- Ask God to help you to live out a good testimony.

- Ask someone to tell you their testimony.

- If you ask someone and they don't have a testimony, share with them the gospel.

Day 33

Thursday, April 2nd 2009

Reconciliation

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Galatians 3:28

Ephesians 2:14-16

2 Timothy 1:7-9

Matthew 5:23-24

re-con-cili-a-tion

1. The state of restoring friendship or harmony.

We all have had negative interactions with individuals. Unfortunately, sometimes we overlap that specific instance and apply that to people groups. Sometimes it is ethnic focused. Sometimes it's based on gender. Sometimes it's based on a style or a clique. God's desire for us is not to separate ourselves based on those subjects. God desires for us to come together in love and harmony. One thing about harmony is that we don't have to be exactly the same. We will have different likes or opinions and that is ok as long as we keep Christ as our number 1 priority.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 Luke 12:57-59

Romans 5:9-11 Colossians 1:21-23

2 Corinthians 5:14-21 Matthew 18:15-35

- Pray and ask God to reveal to you anyone you need to reconcile with.

- Pray and ask God to help you see things that you need to change in yourself so that you can be approachable.

- Eat lunch with someone that you normally avoid.

- Write a note of encouragement to someone who is normally left out.

- Make up with someone you have had a conflict with.

- Take some time to listen to people voice their concerns and hurts.

Day 34

Friday, April 3rd 2009

Victory

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Daniel 4:27 1 John 5:4 Psalm 18:34-36
Psalm 129:1-2 Proverbs 2:6-8 1 Corinthians 15:56-58
1 Corinthians 15:54-56

When Christ was crucified on the cross, buried and raised from the dead 3 days later, He broke countless bonds and obstacles of sin. He promises victory and the ability to overcome difficulties. His desire is for us to experience life to the fullest without the burdens and weight that we tend to either pick up or are dumped on us.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Deuteronomy 20:3-4 Psalm 60:11-13 1 John 5:3-5
Psalm 44:2-8 Proverbs 11:13-15 Proverbs 24:5-7
John 10:10

- Take some time to thank God for the victory that he has provided.

- Thank God for the victory we have over sin because of Christ's sacrifice.

- If you are struggling with a particular issue or sin, ask God to help you to claim victory for that.

-Make a list of things that you desire victory over in our community and ask God to intervene.

- Make a list of personal struggles/sins and burn the list.
(Unforgiveness, Sexual sin, Codependency, self esteem issues, fear, anger, abuse, broken promises, addictions, though issues, etc.)

Day 35

Saturday, April 4th 2009

Home Prayer Walk

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Romans 12:13

Nehemiah 1:5-7

Matthew 6:5-7

Daniel 6:9-11

Joshua 24:14-16

Family and your home is where you will spend the majority of your life. You might have a wonderful home life, or you might have one that you are ashamed of and wouldn't wish on anyone. In the Bible, there are several examples of people praying in their homes and the impact that prayer has to change entire families.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Isaiah 56:6-8

Acts 16:33-35

Acts 11

Matthew 21:12-14

Mark 11:16-18

Acts 16

Luke 19:45-47

Acts 10:29-31

- Take some time to thank God for your home.
- Take some time to pray in every room of your home. (Pray for protection, God's Presence, God's peace, and for God's blessing. You can also pray for each person in your home and their needs.)
- Take time to pray where people are stressed or angry and pray for those people and situations.
- Pray that your home would be filled with joy and love.
- Pray for opportunities for people to come and be ministered to.
- Pray with family and friends for family and friends. (Pray together at each other's homes.)
- If you need to make things right with a family member, do it! If you need to bring someone else with you, do that.

Week 6

Verse for the week:
James 4:17

Active Faith

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. (NIV)

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin. (NASB)

Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it. (NLT)

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. (ESV)

If you don't do what you know is right, you have sinned. (CEV)