



## 5 DAY DEVOTIONAL

### Sermon: A Soul Winner

**SPEAKER: REV. CHRIS STEVERSON | 1/4/2026 | PAGE 1 OF 5**

#### Day 1: The Greatest Success

**Devotional:** What defines a successful life? Our culture screams that it's wealth, fame, recognition, or climbing the corporate ladder. But what if true success is measured by something entirely different? D.L. Moody, the great evangelist, understood a profound truth that challenges our worldly definitions of achievement. He recognized that helping just one person find eternal life through Jesus Christ makes a life more successful than all the world's accomplishments combined. Think about it - when you invest in someone's eternal destiny, you're not just changing their life for a few decades. You're setting in motion a stream that flows forever. That person you share Christ with might lead their family to faith, who then impact their community, who then reach their nation. The ripple effects of one soul coming to Christ extend into eternity in ways we can't even imagine. This perspective completely reframes how we view our daily interactions. That coworker who seems difficult, that neighbor who keeps to themselves, that cashier at the grocery store - each represents an opportunity for eternal impact. Your life doesn't have to make headlines to matter. You don't need to be famous to be significant. When you help someone discover Jesus, you've achieved something that outlasts every earthly accomplishment. The beautiful truth is that God has positioned you exactly where you are, with the people in your life, for such a time as this. Your sphere of influence, no matter how small it seems, contains souls that matter infinitely to God.

**Bible Verse:** 'He that winneth souls is wise.' - Proverbs 11:30

**Reflection Question:** Who is one person in your life that God might be calling you to invest in spiritually, and what small step could you take this week to show them Christ's love?

**Quote:** If any man, woman or child by a godly life and example can win one soul to God, his life would not have been a failure. He would have outshone all the mighty men of his day. Because he will have set a stream in motion that will flow on and on forever and ever.

**Prayer:** Lord, help me see success through Your eyes. Give me a heart that values eternal things over temporary achievements. Show me the people You've placed in my life who need to know You, and give me wisdom to love them well.

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#### Day 2: Compelled by Love

**Devotional:** Have you ever wondered why some people seem naturally drawn to share their faith while others struggle with it? The secret isn't in personality type or special training - it's in understanding the love of Christ. When we truly grasp how much God loves us, it changes everything about how we see others. The apostle Paul wrote about being "compelled" by Christ's love. This isn't a gentle nudge or a good suggestion - it's an overwhelming force that drives us forward. But here's what's beautiful about this compulsion: it doesn't come from guilt or obligation. It flows from gratitude and wonder at what God has done for us. We often think we need to work up love for God or manufacture compassion for others. But Scripture reveals a different truth - we love because He first loved us. God's love isn't something we earn or achieve; it's something we receive. And when we truly receive it, it naturally overflows to others. Think about the last time someone showed you unexpected kindness or forgiveness. Didn't it make you want to pass that goodness along? That's exactly what happens when we experience God's love. We become conduits of His grace, not because we have to, but because we can't help it. This love-compelled evangelism looks different from pressure-driven witnessing. It's patient, kind, and genuine. It sees people as God sees them - beloved souls in need of rescue, not projects to complete or notches on our spiritual belt.

**Bible Verse:** 'For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead.' - 2 Corinthians 5:14

**Reflection Question:** How has experiencing God's love in your own life changed the way you see and treat others, and where do you need to receive His love more deeply?

**Quote:** We love because he first loved us. That's how it would be if he didn't first love us, ladies and gentlemen. We couldn't love him.

**Prayer:** Father, help me truly understand and receive Your incredible love for me. Let that love overflow naturally to others, compelling me to share Your goodness not from duty, but from a heart full of gratitude.

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#### Day 3: Convinced of Reality

**Devotional:** Some truths are so weighty that once you really believe them, they change how you live every single day. The reality of eternity is one of those truths. When we become convinced that every person we meet will spend forever somewhere - either in the presence of God or separated from Him - it transforms how we see our daily interactions. It's easy to live as if this life is all there is. We get caught up in temporary concerns, immediate pressures, and earthly goals. But Scripture paints a different picture. It reveals that this life, no matter how long, is just a brief moment compared to the endless ages ahead. And where people spend those endless ages depends on their relationship with Jesus Christ. This isn't meant to scare us into frantic activity, but to give us proper perspective. When you understand that your neighbor, your coworker, your family member has an eternal soul, it changes how you prioritize your time and energy. Suddenly, sharing a meal and a conversation about faith becomes more important than watching another show. Investing in relationships takes precedence over accumulating more stuff. The reality of eternity also brings urgency without panic. We don't know how much time anyone has, including ourselves. But we serve a God who orchestrates divine appointments and opens hearts at just the right moment. Our job isn't to save anyone - that's God's work. Our job is to be faithful witnesses, ready to share hope when the opportunity arises. Being convinced of eternal realities doesn't make us weird or pushy. It makes us purposeful.

**Bible Verse:** 'Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.' - 2 Corinthians 5:11

**Reflection Question:** If you truly believed that everyone you encounter today has an eternal soul, how would that change your conversations, priorities, and daily choices?

**Quote:** Most people die and go to hell. Most people travel this life on the broad path, and they fall off of that path into a Christless, eternal future.

**Prayer:** God, help me live with eternal perspective. Give me a deep conviction about the reality of heaven and hell, and let that truth motivate me to love others with urgency and hope.

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#### Day 4: Compassionate Involvement

**Devotional:** True compassion isn't just feeling sorry for someone from a distance - it's getting involved in their mess. Jesus demonstrated this perfectly. He didn't minister from a comfortable distance or only to people who had their lives together. He touched lepers, ate with tax collectors, and spent time with people others avoided. His love was inconvenient, costly, and deeply personal. When we think about sharing our faith, we often imagine perfect scenarios - clean conversations with receptive people who ask great questions. But real life is messier than that. People are dealing with broken relationships, financial stress, health problems, and emotional pain. They need more than a quick gospel presentation; they need someone who will walk alongside them through their struggles. This kind of compassionate involvement requires sacrifice. It means being available when it's not convenient, listening to the same problems repeatedly, and sometimes getting your hands dirty helping with practical needs. It means following Jesus' example of love that doesn't mind a little inconvenience. But here's the beautiful thing about this approach: when people see genuine care in action, their hearts become more open to the message behind the care. They begin to understand that the gospel isn't just information to believe, but a relationship that transforms how we love others. Compassionate involvement also changes us. As we serve others and enter into their pain, we become more like Jesus. We develop His heart for people and His willingness to sacrifice for their good. We discover that blessing others often blesses us even more.

**Bible Verse:** 'For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause. For the love of Christ constraineth us.' - 2 Corinthians 5:13-15

**Reflection Question:** Who in your life is going through a difficult season, and how could you show Christ's love through practical, inconvenient service this week?

**Quote:** Compassion doesn't just mean feeling bad for people. Compassion means suffering with people.

**Prayer:** Jesus, give me Your heart of compassion that moves beyond feeling to action. Help me be willing to get involved in people's messy lives, showing Your love through practical care and genuine involvement.

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#### Day 5: Confident in the Gospel

**Devotional:** In a world full of competing messages and conflicting philosophies, it's easy to wonder if the simple gospel message is really enough. Can the story of Jesus' death and resurrection truly transform lives in our complex, modern world? The answer is a resounding yes - and our confidence in this truth makes all the difference in how we share our faith. Paul declared that he was not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for salvation. Notice he didn't say it was one option among many or a nice philosophy to consider. He called it God's power - the same power that spoke the universe into existence, that raised Jesus from the dead, that transforms hearts and changes destinies. This confidence isn't arrogance; it's trust in God's proven track record. For over two thousand years, the gospel has been changing lives across every culture, language, and social class. It has transformed murderers into missionaries, addicts into advocates, and the hopeless into hope-bringers. The message that seemed foolish to the world has proven to be God's wisdom in action. When we're confident in the gospel's power, we don't have to be perfect presenters or brilliant debaters. We simply need to be faithful messengers, trusting that God's Word will accomplish what He intends. We can share with boldness, knowing that the Holy Spirit uses our imperfect words to reach perfect hearts at the perfect time. This confidence also frees us from the pressure to argue people into the kingdom. We can plant seeds, water them with prayer and love, and trust God for the harvest.

**Bible Verse:** 'For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.' - Romans 1:16

**Reflection Question:** What doubts or fears about sharing your faith might be rooted in lack of confidence in the gospel's power, and how can you grow in trusting God's Word to work?

**Quote:** You can trust the gospel. You can trust the power of God through the gospel to save human beings.

**Prayer:** Lord, increase my confidence in Your gospel. Help me trust that Your Word is powerful enough to change any heart, and give me boldness to share it knowing You will do the work of transformation.

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