

Mark's Devotional



Marks

7 Day Devotional

**Based on New Hope's
Mission, Marks and
eXperience**

This devotion is designed to help you learn and apply New Hope's Mission, Marks of a Follower and eXperience in your daily life.

You are encouraged to add this devotional to your daily Bible Reading (a sample reading plan is included in the back). Take time to answer the questions each day and reflect.

Marks

7 Day Devotional

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30 Days With Jesus Bible Reading Plan



Day 1

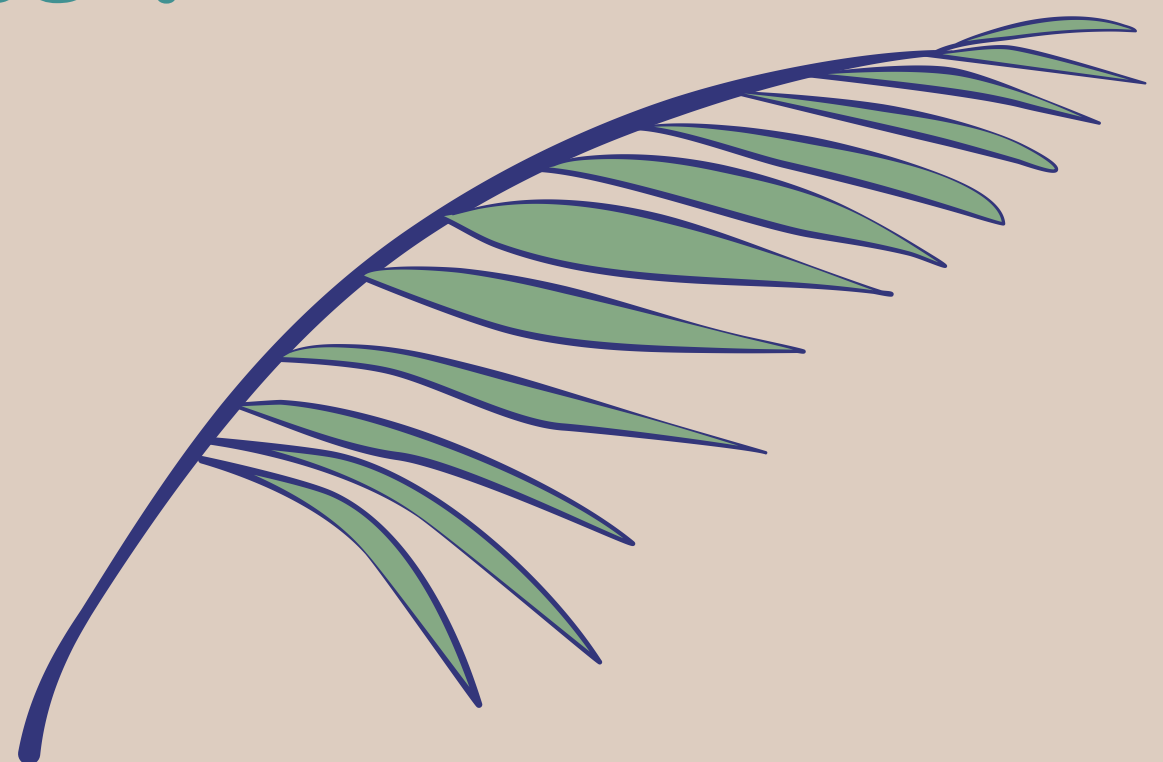
Thinking Like Jesus

**Our mission is “Transforming Lives, Families, and Communities through the Revived People of Jesus Christ.”
This is based on Romans 12:1-3.**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

According to this verse, what is YOUR “Reasonable Service”?



Thinking Like Jesus

What does this look like in your life?

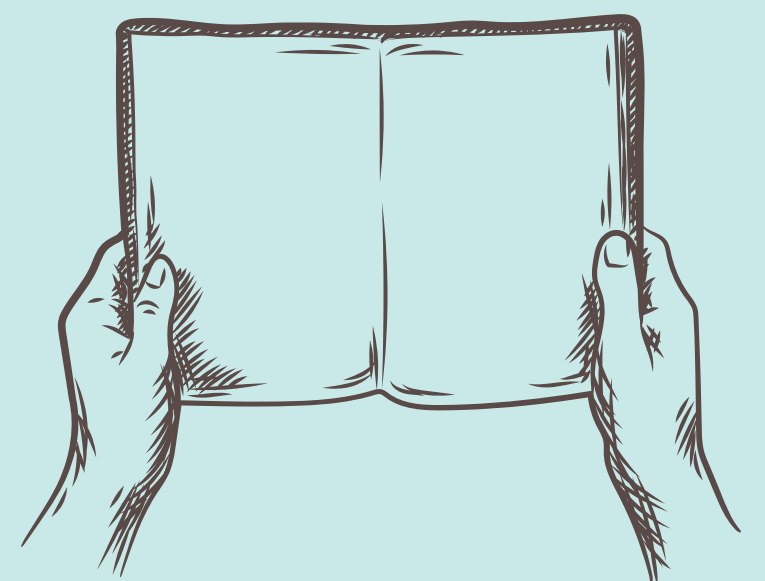
*We surrender our everything to Jesus.
Think about what this really looks
like in*

*your life. Trusting Jesus with your job,
your family, friends, the things you
want and need, your health,...*

**Do not conform to the pattern of this
world, but be transformed by the
renewing of your mind. Then you will
be able to test and approve what God's
will is—his good, pleasing and perfect
will.**

Romans 12:2

How do we practically stop being
conformed and begin to be
transformed?



Thinking Like Jesus

**According to Romans
12, can we trust our
own judgment?**



Practice makes permanent. Daily renew your mind to break down the old patterns and build up your renewed mind in Jesus. Then you will be able to discern God's will and His voice. If you have a steady diet of worldly "junk food" mentally (junk tv for example), then just like with your body, your mind will be unhealthy. We need to "eat" the Word of God to renew and transform our minds and world views to line up to Jesus.

How can you and your family apply this today? This week?

Thinking Like Jesus

For by the grace given me I say to everyone of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

Romans 12:3

Why do you think this verse follows 1 & 2?



What is more dangerous? A rebellious attitude or a prideful self?

Remember the prodigal's brother? He stayed home. He did what the Father wanted, but his heart was hardened.

This prideful spirit is just as sinful and dangerous as a rebellious one.

Day 2

Meeting with Jesus

One of our 5 Marks of a Follower of Jesus is, “How have you met with God today?”.

Prayer is simply spending time talking and listening to God.

Think about the people in your life that you are closest to. What happens to your relationships when you don't spend time with them? How can you ensure you spend time with Jesus this week? How can you apply this to your family as well?

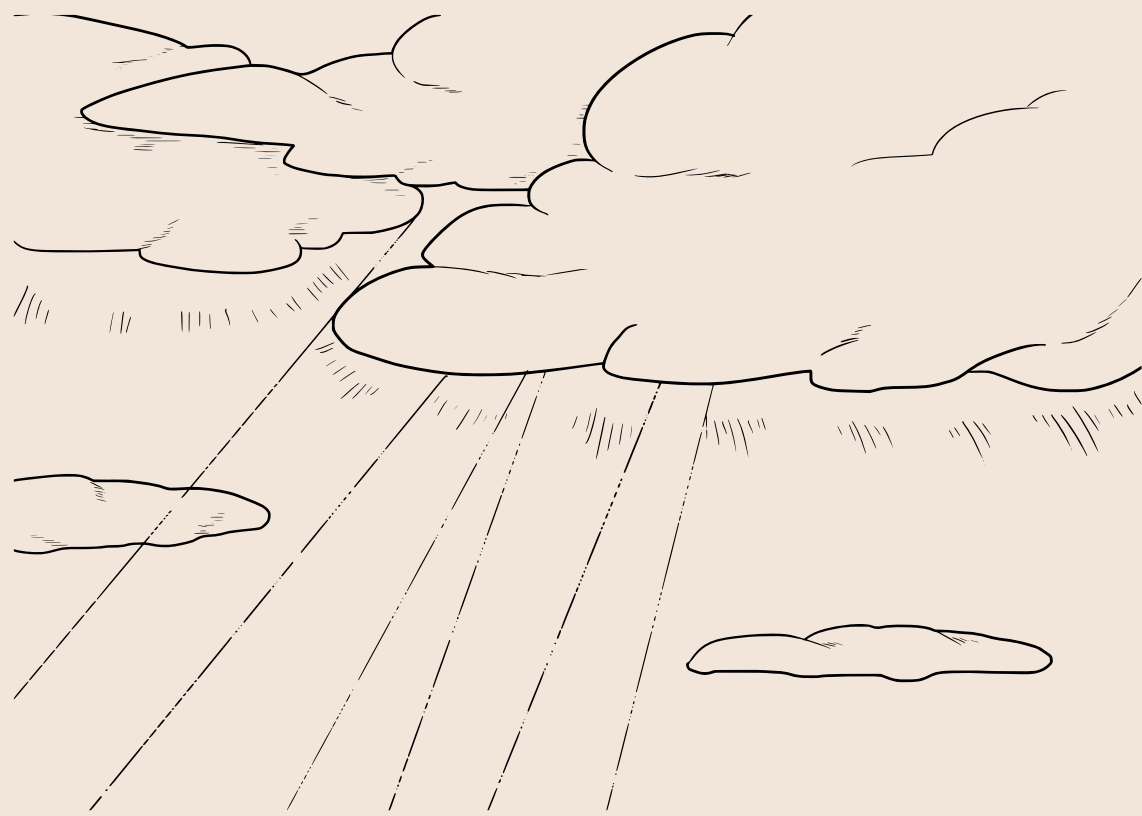


Meeting with Jesus

James 4:8

Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, double-minded people!

A relationship with Jesus is like any relationship. You need to spend time with Him to know Him. What does this tell you about talking to God and spending time reading the Bible?



What do you think James means by “double-minded”? How can this effect your relationship with Jesus?

Meeting with Jesus

In 1 Thessalonians Paul says to,
“ Pray constantly” (1Thess 5:17).
How do we do practically do this?

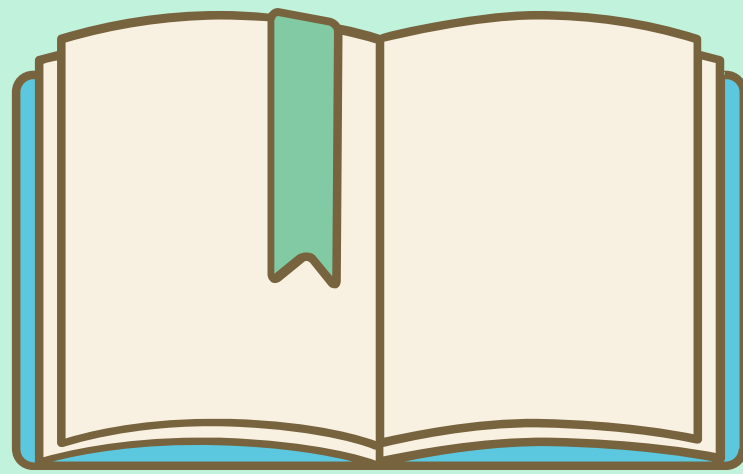


Prayer is simply talking to God. Paul doesn't mean that we must "constantly" be on our knees "praying". What he is saying is that we can and should be in constant communication with our Lord, Jesus. Jesus wants to have a close relationship with you. So close that He is the first one you run to when things are good or bad.

How can you practically model this in your family?

Meeting with Jesus

Part of prayer is listening as well as talking. How can you listen to God?



We can listen to God by asking Him to quiet our minds to hear Him. Another important way He speaks to us is by reading His Word. The Bible IS God's word to us. It has His thoughts and final authority on EVERYTHING. When we read the Bible, His word becomes planted in our hearts and it will begin to change the way think and see the world.

Considering these verses, how have you met with God today? How does this change the way you will continue to meet with Him?

Day 3

Sharing my Jesus

One of our 5 Marks of a Follower of Jesus is, “How are you telling people about Jesus?”.

When I was engaged to my now husband, I found ways to fit my wedding plans or something about my husband into most conversations. I wasn't trying to do it, but because the coming wedding meant the most to me, I couldn't help talking about it.

We talk about the things that we are passionate about.

What topics do you find yourself “fitting” into the conversation?



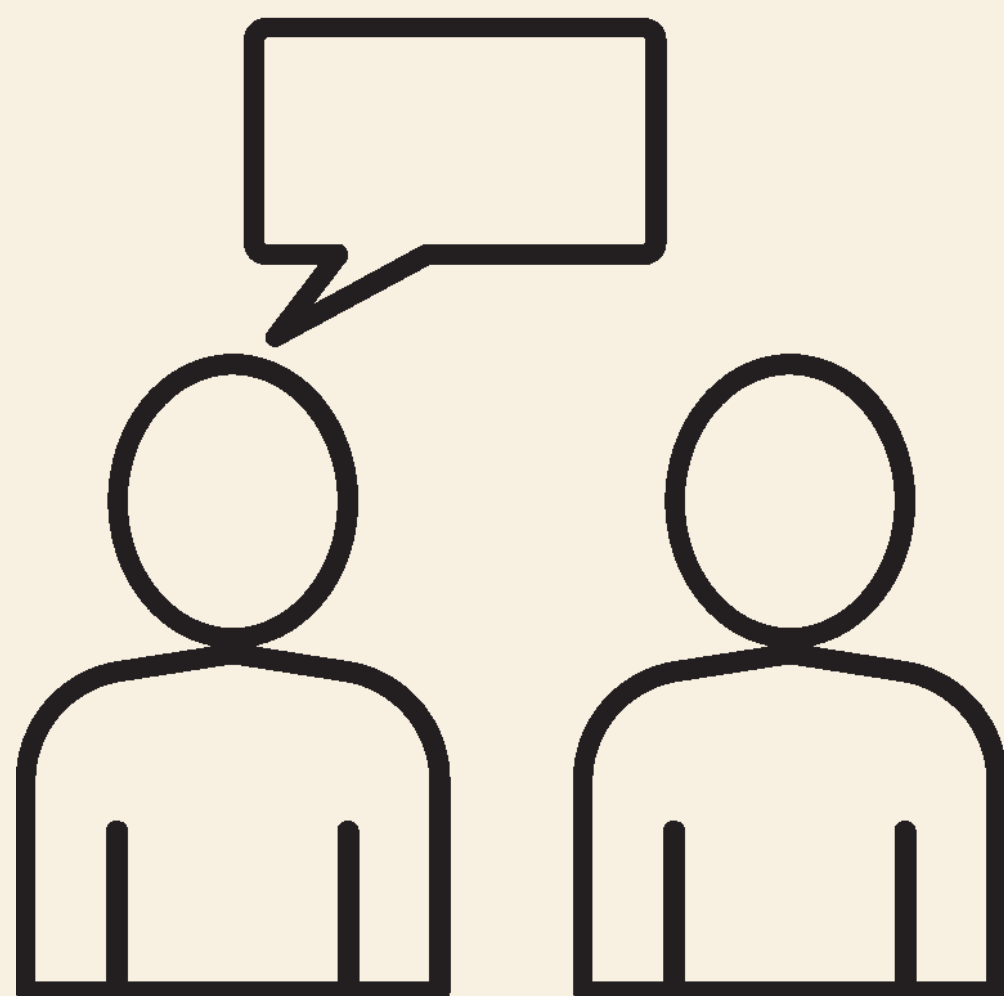
Sharing my Jesus

Today people know less and less about Jesus. We may be the closest thing to Jesus that those around us will ever know.

But how can they call on Him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about Him? And how can they hear without a preacher?

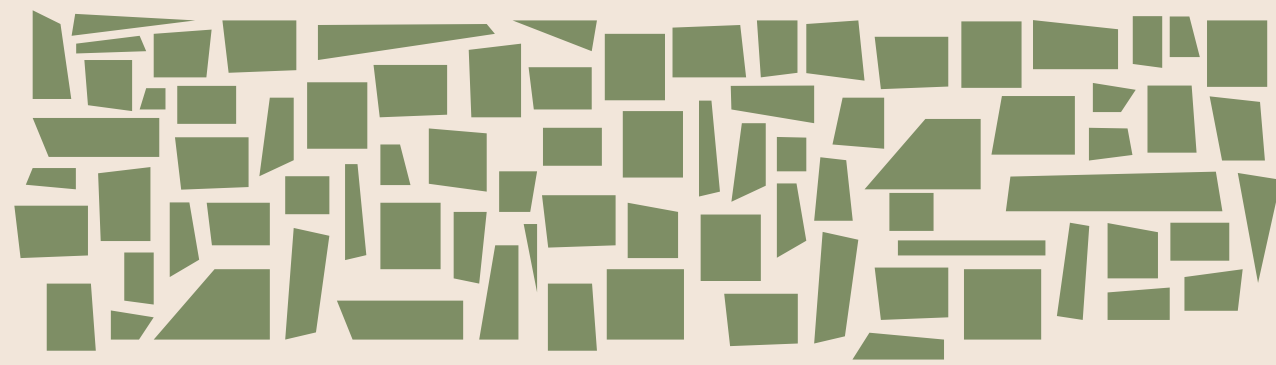
Romans 10:14

How can you practically share with others what Jesus means to you?



Sharing my Jesus

What are some reasons why we don't share Jesus?



We may not share our faith out of fear.

Fear of what people will think of us, that we don't live up to what we think a "follower of Jesus" should be like.

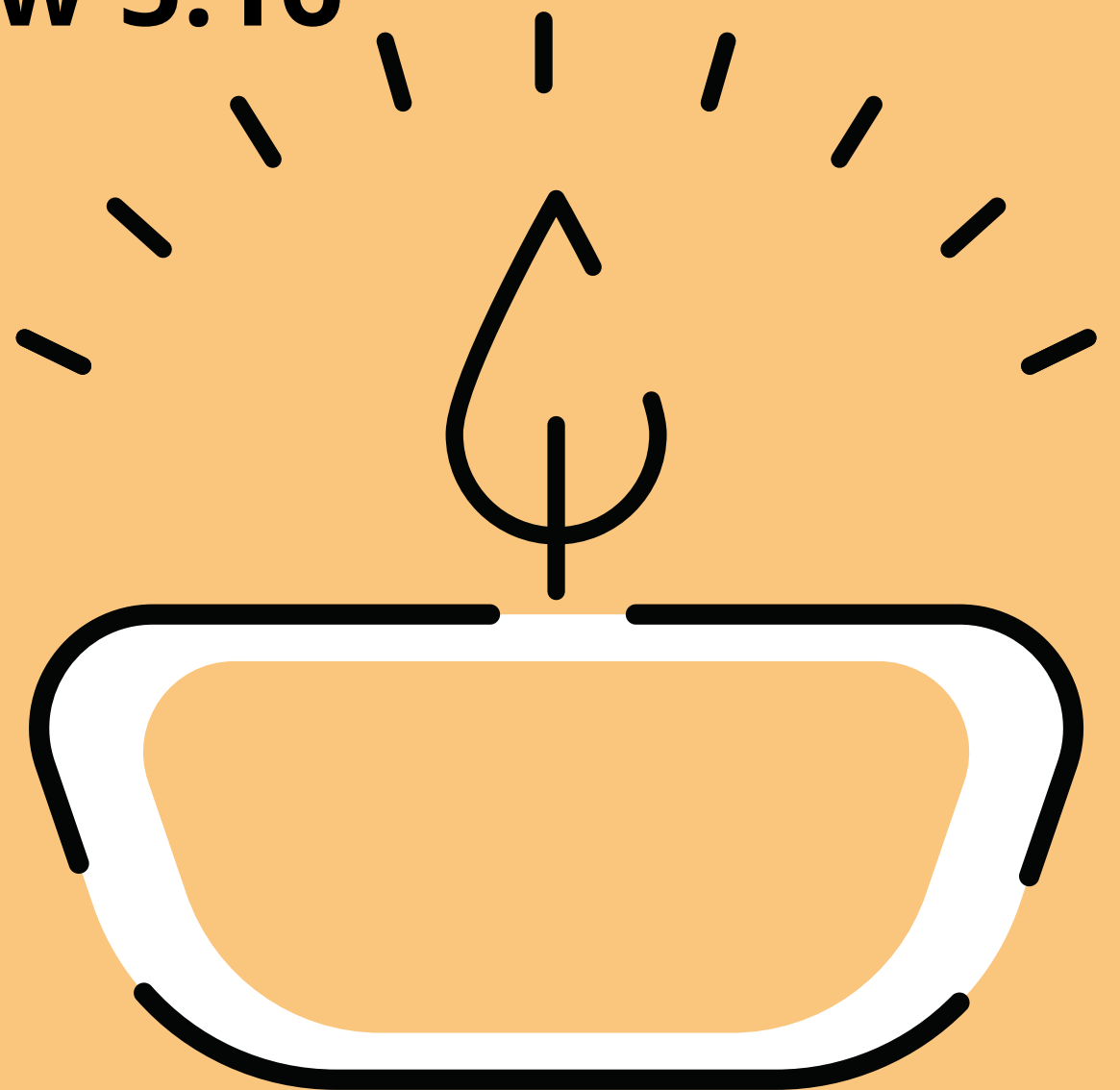
Maybe we feel inadequate to answer tough questions. You don't have to be a theologian to share the "good news" of what Jesus did for you. You don't have to be perfect either. The "good news" is that Jesus died for the imperfect. And we don't have to understand all mysteries to receive that salvation. Just share what you DO KNOW. Share what Jesus did for you and how He changed and is changing your life.

Sharing my Jesus

In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

**How can
practically let
your light shine
today?**



What makes people see your “good works” and give glory to God and not to you personally? Give an example of someone who Jesus uses to bless others in this way.



Day 4

Growing in Jesus

One of our 5 Marks of a Follower of Jesus is, “How is God challenging you to grow?”.

When you received Jesus as your Savior, you were “born again”. Like a new baby, you began a new life and had to learn a new way. Scripture continues with this analogy liking “milk” to the fundamentals of salvation and “meat” to deeper theology (1 Corinthians 3:1-3).

As we mature in our relationship with Jesus, He challenges us to mature or grow in our walk with Him. We do this by learning His word and learning to trust Him with our lives.

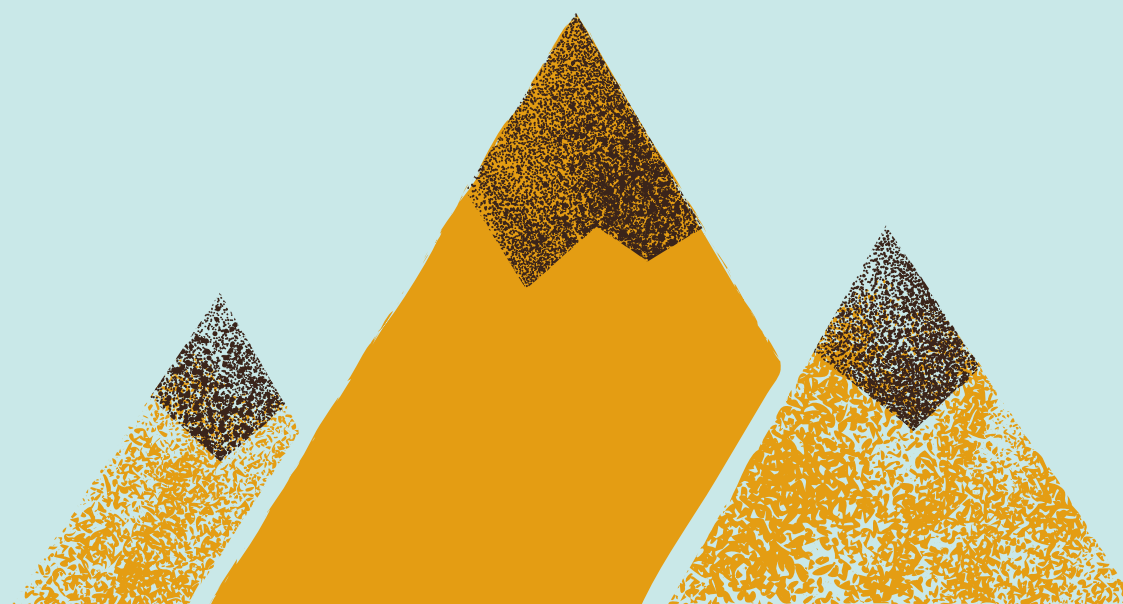
Growing in Jesus

In your walk with Jesus, what areas is He challenging you in? If you do not know, ask Him to show you.



...Equip you with all that is good to do His will, working in us what is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ. Glory belongs to Him forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:21

What do you think Paul means by “equip you with all that is good to do His will?”.



Growing in Jesus

God has created you for a purpose and has given you a calling. He will give you what you need to accomplish His will.

What is God challenging you in today? He is always teaching us and guiding us as we walk with Him.

How is He challenging your family?

The logo is a white graphic on a teal square background. It features the text "TRANSFORMING LIVES, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE REVIVED PEOPLE OF JESUS CHRIST" in a stylized, calligraphic font. The text is arranged in a circular, stacked format, with "TRANSFORMING" at the top, "LIVES, FAMILIES &" in the middle, "COMMUNITIES THROUGH" below that, "THE REVIVED PEOPLE" next, and "OF JESUS CHRIST" at the bottom. The font is elegant and flowing, with decorative flourishes at the top and bottom of the text block.

Day 5

Investing in Jesus

One of our 5 Marks of a Follower of Jesus is, “How are you investing yourself?” Investing yourself in the Kingdom of God involves all of you. Your time, talent and resources.

Have you served in a church or Christian ministry? If so what was your experience? If not, why not and what is your impression of service?



Investing in Jesus

Sometimes we serve in areas because there is a need rather than because we are gifted or called to serve. Meeting a need is good, but not always best. When we serve according to our giftedness we are blessed as well as being a blessing. We offer a class to help you find your calling and giftedness called Who Me?. It is offered during our LIFE classes.

Have you served in an area where you did not feel "called"? If so what did you learn from this experience?



Investing in Jesus

According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the standard of one's faith; if service, in service; if teaching, in teaching; if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

Romans 12:6-8

**Do you know your spiritual gifts?
If so, what are they and what is your
experience when serving using your
gifts?**

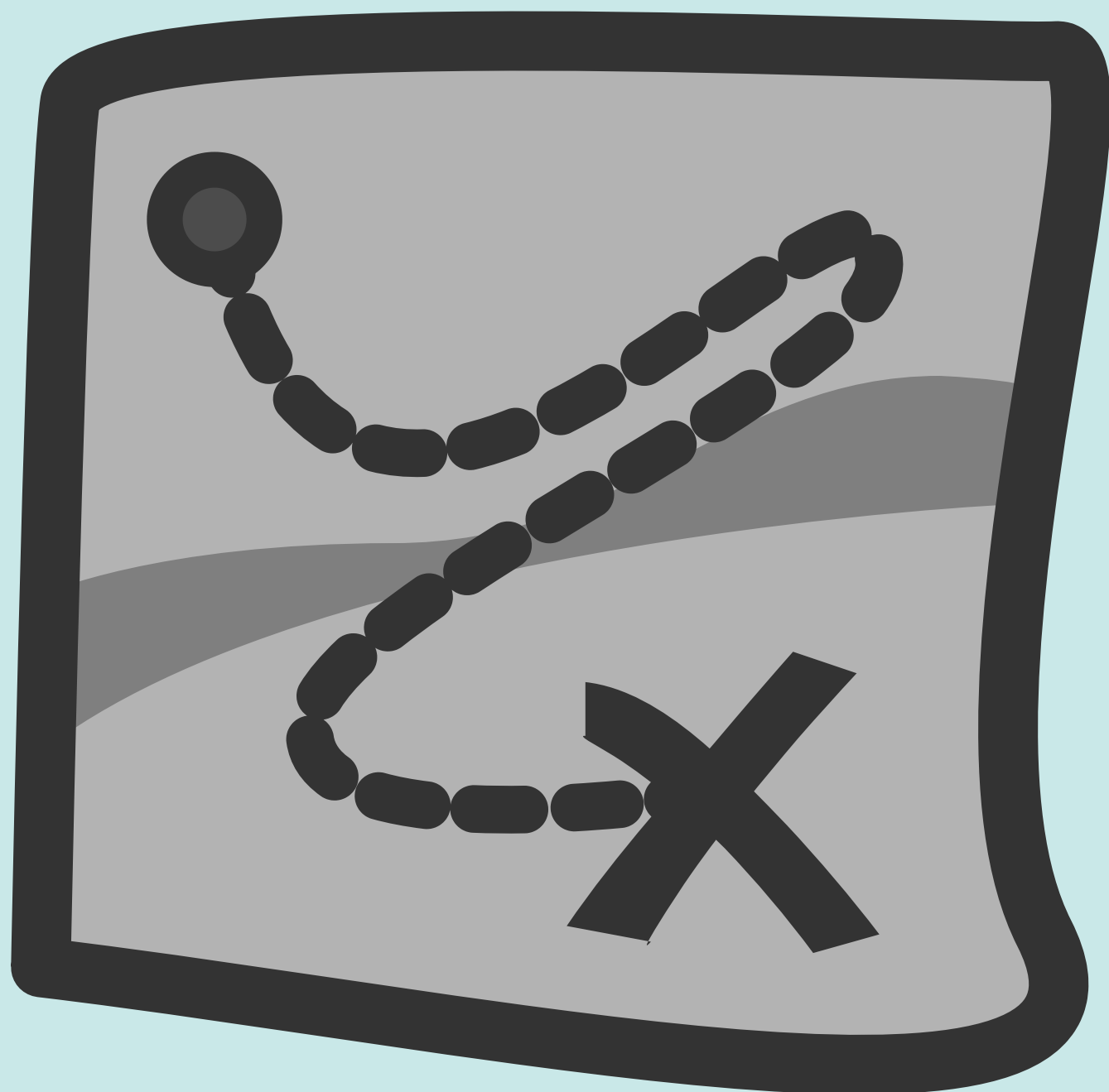


Investing in Jesus

For we are His creation, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time so that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

According to this verse who prepares the good works we are to do? How does this change the way you think about serving Jesus and others?



Investing in Jesus

In what other ways do we “invest” in the Kingdom of God?

How are you investing your time?

How are you investing your talent?

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of off-white or cream-colored paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are dark and evenly spaced, running across the width of the page. The paper has a slightly textured appearance and irregular, torn edges on the right side. There is no handwriting or printed text on the page.

Investing in Jesus

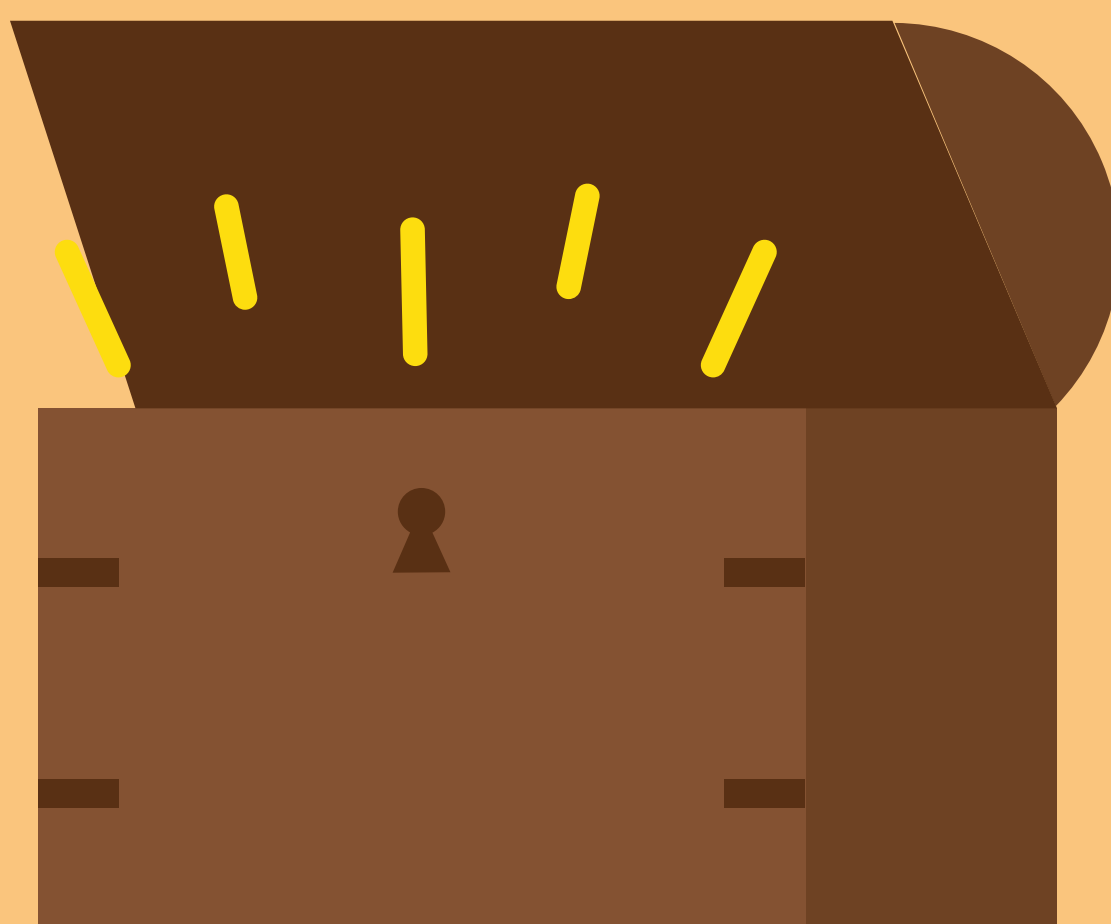
Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

How are you investing your resources or tithe and offerings?

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21



Day 6

Relationships that Point to Jesus

One of our 5 Marks of a Follower of Jesus is, “How are you building relationships with others?”. Biblical Community involves intentionally building relationships with other believers.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

Why did the early Christians devote themselves to each other? How does this relate you today?

How does this apply to your family and friends?

Relationships that Point to Jesus

**How do you meet to study God's word
and fellowship with each other today?**



**Family Groups are designed to provide
Bible Study, prayer and care all
around a Kingdom focus.**

**How might we miss out on fellowship
and devoting to one another if we
only attend worship service?**



Relationships that Point to Jesus

**For where two or three gather
in my name, there am I with them."**

Matthew 18:20

**What do you think Jesus means in this
verse? Why is it important to Him
that we come together?**



**What are some benefits to having
brothers and sisters to go to? Name
some times when brothers/sisters in
Christ helped you.**

How is this benifitial for your family?

Day 7

Living Like Jesus

We believe in the full New Hope eXperience. This is an experience of corporate Worship, Family Group fellowship and growth, Service and taking Jesus into your Community.

The full Christian experience isn't contained to one or even two events a week. Scripture instructs us to come together, live lives that are fully submitted to God, serve others and reveal Jesus in our actions everywhere we go. We have designed an eXperience at New Hope to help you do that.

Living Like Jesus

not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. Hebrews 10:25

According to this verse why is coming together important? In what ways do we assemble at New Hope?



At New Hope we gather for Worship all together and we gather in small groups for Family Groups. The main purpose for Worship, is for everyone to be together to hear vision and Bible Study. The main purpose for Family Group is fellowship and doing life together.

Living Like Jesus

But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. Romans 7:6

What do you think Paul means by “released from the law so that we serve...”?



When you love someone, you naturally do things to make them happy. As a born again believer in Jesus we want to please Him and He loves others through us causing us to desire to serve others as well.

Living Like Jesus

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16

According to the scripture above, how will we impact others if we take Jesus everywhere we go?

Living Like Jesus

As you review the 4 quadrants of the New Hope Experience: Worship, Family Groups, Serve Teams and Impact Communities; which area(s) do you feel God pushing in on you to experience more fully?



At New Hope, we are here to help you take your next step in relationship with Jesus. For more information to go to <https://newhopebc.org/pod/>

30 Days

30 Days with Jesus Bible Reading Plan

Day 1: Jesus Fortold	Isaiah 53
Day 2: The Birth of Jesus	Matt 1:18-25
Day 3: John the Baptist	Matt 3:1-4:11
Day 4: Water to Wine and Samaritan Woman	John 2:1-11 John 4:1-26
Day 5: Jesus rejected in his hometown	Luke 4:14
Day 6: Jesus calls His Disciples	Luke 5:1-11 Matt 9:9-13
Day 7: Sermon on the Mount	Luke 6:17

30 Days

30 Days with Jesus Bible Reading Plan

Day 8: A Centurion, a
Window's Son and
a Sinful Woman

Matt 8:1-13
Luke 7:11-17
Luke 7:36-50

Day 9: Encounters with
the Pharisees

Matt 12:1-14
Matt 12 22-45

Day 10: Parable of sewer
weeds and seeds

Matt 13: 1-43

Day 11: Jesus calms storm
and walks on water

Luke 8:22-25
Mark 6:45-56

Day 12: Jesus heals man,
woman and girl

Mark 5:1-43

Day 13: Feeding 5000

John 6:1-14

30 Days

30 Days with Jesus Bible Reading Plan

Day 14: Peter Identifies Christ and Transfiguration Luke 9:18-27
Luke 17:1-8

Day 15: Healing by Faith Mark 9:14-32

Day 16: Teachings and Parables Matt 17:24-18:20

Day 17: Teachings and Parables Matt 18:21-19:15

Day 18: Young Rich Ruler Mark 10:17-31

Day 19: Disciples sent out Luke 10:1-24

Day 20: Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

30 Days

30 Days with Jesus Bible Reading Plan

Day 21: Jesus teaches how to pray Luke 11: 1-13

Day 22: Jesus revives Lazarus John 11:1-44

Day 23: Jesus comes to Jerusalem Matt 21:1-27

Day 24: The Last Supper John 13:1-17
Matt 26:17-35

Day 25: Comfort for Disciples John 14-15

Day 26: Jesus rejected Matt 26:36-75

Day 27: Jesus' trail John 18:19-19:16

30 Days

30 Days with Jesus Bible Reading Plan

Day 28: Jesus crucified John 19:17-42

Day 29: Jesus Resurrection John 20-21
and appearances

Day 30: Great Commission Matt 28:16-20
and Ascension Luke 24:50-53

