

Becoming the Muscle of Christ Get in the Game - Serving with Purpose

Daily Devotional for January 27: From Hearer to Doer

Reading: James 1:22-25

Faith requires more than nodding agreement in a pew. James challenges us to examine whether we're merely spiritual window-shoppers or actual practitioners of God's word. Like looking in a mirror and immediately forgetting what we saw, hearing without doing leaves us unchanged. The world bombards us with messages daily—news, social media, advertisements—all competing for our allegiance. Weekly worship isn't just tradition; it's recalibration. It's where we push aside the noise and realign with God's truth. This week, identify one specific teaching from Scripture you've heard but haven't applied. What concrete step can you take today to become a doer, not just a hearer?

Daily Devotional for January 28: Working for an Audience of One

Reading: Colossians 3:23-24

Paul's radical instruction to slaves reveals a transformative truth: our ultimate identity isn't found in our job title, social status, or earthly accomplishments. When we work "as for the Lord," even mundane tasks become acts of worship. The early Methodist women understood this—they didn't serve for recognition or pins, but for God's glory alone. Their legacy includes hospitals, schools, and rehabilitation centers because they saw every act of service as sacred. Today, whether you're answering emails, caring for family, or volunteering, ask yourself: "Am I performing for human approval or God's pleasure?" Let this shift in perspective transform your attitude toward every responsibility you carry.

Daily Devotional for January 29: Seeing the Need, Being the Change

Reading: Matthew 25:31-40

The Methodist women didn't wait for permission to address suffering. They saw families destroyed by alcoholism, orphans without care, communities without medical services—and they moved. Jesus identifies so closely with the vulnerable that serving them becomes serving Him directly. "Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me." Human trafficking, poverty, addiction—these aren't distant historical problems but present realities demanding our response. God doesn't call us to fix everything, but He does call us to do something. What suffering has God placed before your eyes? What specific need in your community is tugging at your heart? Don't wait for the perfect opportunity or complete resources. Start where you are with what you have.

Daily Devotional for January 30: Surrendering Our Identity to Christ

Reading: Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:3-11

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." This isn't poetic exaggeration—it's baptismal reality. Paul embraced the title "doulos Christou" (slave of Christ), understanding that true freedom comes through complete surrender. Our culture obsesses over personal branding and self-actualization, but Christian discipleship moves in the opposite direction. In baptism, our old identity drowns; we rise to live for Christ's purposes, not our own. This sounds restrictive until we realize that God's will leads to abundant life, while our own will leads to empty pursuits. Pray the Lord's Prayer slowly today. When you say "Your will be done," mean it. What aspect of your life needs to shift from "my will" to "Thy will"?

Daily Devotional for January 31: Becoming Missional Muscle

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-10

We are saved by grace through faith—not by works. But we are saved FOR good works, "which God prepared in advance for us to do." You are God's workmanship, His masterpiece, created with divine purpose. The United Women in Faith understood this calling: they were the muscle that moved faith from theory to transformation. Being missional isn't reserved for ordained clergy or special committees—it's every Christian's calling. You are designed to be Christ's hands and feet in your unique context. What has God prepared specifically for you to do? What gifts, experiences, and passions has He woven into your life? This week, commit to one regular act of service. Make it your spiritual discipline to live out your faith through purposeful action.