

GRADUATION DAY

Message Four · Liberate

YOUR SENIOR YEAR

Five-Day Devotional

Primary Text: Luke 10:17–24

Series Foundation: John 8:31–36

Higher Purpose Church

Pastor Lawrence Williams

Real People. Real Life. Real Love.

BEFORE YOU START

This week we are not chasing more information. We are asking God for sight.

Sunday we said that senior year is the year the whole thing stops happening only to you and starts happening through you. That shift does not come from working harder. It comes from seeing Him. So for the next five days, take one page a day. Read the verse slowly. Answer the question honestly. And write in the notes lines — not to be impressive, but so you have a record of what He shows you.

If nothing seems to land on a given day, do not panic and do not quit. That is not abandonment. That is loading.

DAY 1

Coming Back Counting

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:17–20

*“The seventy-two returned with joy and said, ‘Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.’ ...
‘However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.’”*

DEVOTIONAL

They came back with a report, and everything in the report was true. It worked. Demons moved. But Jesus answered a question they had not asked, because He was never as impressed with their results as they were.

He was not taking their joy away. He was moving it off of something that can be taken and setting it on something that cannot. Ministry can dry up. A season can change. Your name in heaven is not up for review.

The word He uses for the authority He handed them means delegated authority — the kind that gets given, never generated. You did not produce one watt of what has moved through your hands.

Your authority is loaned, not generated.

REFLECTION

What are you currently rejoicing over that could be taken from you next year — and what would be left if it were?

PRAYER

Father, thank You for what You have done through me, and forgive me for how often I have measured myself by it. Move my joy off of my results and onto You. Remind me today that everything I carry was placed in my hands, not made by them.

NOTES

DAY 2

The One Time He Rejoiced

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:21–22

“At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, ‘I praise you, Father ... because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.’”

DEVOTIONAL

Luke uses the word for exulting — loud, unguarded, uncontainable joy — and this is the only place the Gospel writers tell us Jesus did it. Not over the demons. Over what the Father had shown a group of ordinary people.

Notice who received it. Not the wise and learned. Little children. The word for revealed means to take the lid off something that was already there. Nothing was created that day. Something was uncovered.

You can study Him and not know Him. You can carry a full file of information about a Person you have never actually seen. Knowing Him is not an achievement you unlock; it is a disclosure He makes.

You cannot study your way into knowing Him.

REFLECTION

When was the last time God showed you something about Himself — not something to do, but something about who He is?

PRAYER

Father, I have been good at gathering information and slow to ask for sight. Take the lid off. Show me who You are, even if it costs me what I thought I already understood.

NOTES

DAY 3

Revelation, Then the Keys

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 16:16–19

“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven ... and on this rock I will build my church ... I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”

DEVOTIONAL

Watch the order, because the order is everything. First the revelation — flesh and blood did not tell Peter that. Then the building. Then the keys.

A lot of us have been praying for the third thing while skipping the first. Authority in the house. Authority over the addiction. Authority in the situation that keeps whipping us. But God does not hand keys to a building that has not gone up, and He does not build on ground that has not been revealed.

Peter later stood still while a whole room emptied around him, because he was standing on ground that was already under him. What you have seen is what holds you the day the room empties.

Authority follows revelation. It never precedes it.

REFLECTION

What have you been asking God to give you authority over — and have you ever asked Him to show you who He is in that same situation?

PRAYER

Lord, I have been asking for keys. Today I am asking for sight instead. Reveal Yourself to me, build what You want to build in me, and let the authority come in Your order, not mine.

NOTES

DAY 4

Nothing Out There Changed

SCRIPTURE

John 8:31–32

“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

DEVOTIONAL

Read the sentence again and notice who is doing the work. The truth is the subject. You are the object. Freedom is not something you achieve — it is something that gets done to you.

That means you can stop straining. You have been trying to muscle your way out of things that belong to the truth to handle. Your job was to hold on and keep looking. His job was to show you, and when He shows you, the seeing does the work.

And when it lands, it does not sit still. Things you used to do, you cannot do anymore — not because you got caught, but because you saw something and cannot unsee it. The job is the same job. The temptation is still on the menu. Something else changed.

Nothing out there changed. You changed.

REFLECTION

Where have you been straining to free yourself in a place where God has been asking you simply to keep looking at Him?

PRAYER

Father, I have been working at something You never asked me to carry. Turn the light on where I have been arguing with the dark. Let what You show me keep moving in me long after this week is over.

NOTES

DAY 5

Go Set Somebody Else Free

SCRIPTURE

John 8:36; 2 Corinthians 4:4

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” ... “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ.”

DEVOTIONAL

Freedom in this passage never arrives and sits down. It keeps moving through people. Free people free people; bound people argue about whether they are bound.

So the person you have been praying for is not stubborn. They are blind, and a covering does not come off because you argued well. Nobody rejects a Savior they can actually see — which means you were never sent to win the argument. You were sent to turn on a light.

Put down the guilt you have been carrying over their decision. You are responsible for the offer. He is responsible for the answer. Now go back and offer it again.

Name your one this week — somebody newer in this faith than you are — and hand them one thing God has shown you. Not a lecture. One thing.

Revelation is required for liberation. If the Son sets you free — go set somebody else free.

REFLECTION

Who is your one, and what is the one thing God showed you this week that you are going to hand them?

PRAYER

Father, thank You for showing me Yourself when I had no way to earn it. Make me useless at leaving people the way I found them. Send me back for the one whose name I already know.

NOTES

THIS WEEK

Change your prayer.

Stop asking God only what to do. Ask Him to show you who He is.

Name your one, and hand it down.

One person newer in the faith than you are. One thing He has revealed to you. This week.

Join Liberate.

Our ministry for those at the senior stage — the ones who teach, who pray, and who walk somebody else through what they already came through.

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