

## THE FOLLOW UP

***Be sure to get these **FOUR** devos and the Quiet Time Challenge done***



*"You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way." ~ Jesus (Matthew 7:13)*

## DEVO #1— Hell is For Real

### READ: Matthew 25:31-46

Imagine what it will be like to stand with fellow sheep on the right and hear the God of the universe invite you to spend eternity with Him in paradise? It will be unspeakably amazing! But what if you see a friend, a relative, a classmate, or a neighbor standing over on the left? What will it be like to see their horrified faces when Jesus tells them where they are going? What will it be like to hear their agonizing cries, their begging for one final chance? Worse yet, what will it be like if those people see you over on the right and cry out, "Why didn't you tell me?!? You obviously knew the right way, why didn't you let me know?!?" What will that be like? I think it will be awful!

I guarantee when that day comes, you won't be thinking, "I should have played more video games." "I didn't get to watch enough TV." "I should have spent more time on the internet." No, instead, you will be grieving all the missed opportunities and lost chances.

1. In verse 34, what will Jesus say to those on His right? What will Jesus say in verse 41 to those on His left?
2. What are the two destinations for all of humanity according to verse 46??
3. Who do you know that is lost and headed to Hell?
4. During the small group time, you were to write the names of five lost people on a card. Have you done that, and are you praying for those names every day?

### PRAYER

- ~Thank Jesus for making a way for all to be saved
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not thinking too much about the eternal destinies of all those around you
- ~Ask God to use you to tell people about Him
- ~Pray for those listed on your card

## ADDITIONAL NOTE SPACE

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## POSSIBLE ACTION STEPS

- ◆ If you haven't listed five people on your prayer card yet, be sure to do so
- ◆ Make a commitment to pray for those five people EVERY day
- ◆ Find someone to hold you accountable to doing that and will ask you how you are doing with it every week or so
- ◆ Talk to your pastor, youth pastor, parents, or other Christian mentor about where you could be serving in a ministry
- ◆ Pray about what impact you could make in your school, in your peer group, neighborhood, etc.

## QUIET TIME CHALLENGE

### NOTE:

The *Quiet Time Challenge* is NOT a devotional in itself. It is designed for you to do separately apart from your daily devotional time.

### HOW IT WORKS:

Find a quiet place with no distractions. Make this between just you and God. Clear your mind then read the Bible verse(s). After doing so, work through the questions. At the end, spend five to ten minutes in "listening mode." Just ask God to speak to you and then be quiet and seek to hear His voice.

### PART 1 — READ: Matthew 7:13-14

### PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Explain these verses in your own words:

List the things you could do to help people find the narrow way:

### PART 3 — LISTEN

Ask God to examine your heart and to show you areas where life has been more about building your kingdom than building His. Then seek to hear His voice speak to your soul. (Feel free to jot down anything you hear.)

## DEVO #2 — On a Rescue Mission

### READ: Mark 2:1-17

On a dangerous seacoast, many shipwrecks occurred. A lifesaving station sprung up to save those who were drowning. Many people were being saved, so new boats were bought, new crews were recruited, and formal training was offered. As membership in the life saving station grew, some became unhappy that the building was primitive and that the equipment was out-dated. They wanted a better place, so the building was updated and redecorated.

The life-saving station quickly became a popular gathering place for its members. Yet, few members were now interested in going to sea on life-saving missions. When those who were saved came sopping wet into the new beautiful building, some members were appalled. Soon, drowning people were no longer welcomed in that station. So another life-saving station was founded further down the coast, but history repeated itself. If you visit that seacoast today, you will find a number of beautiful life-saving stations. Shipwrecks are still frequent in those waters, but most of the people drown.<sup>1</sup>

1. How is this famous little story a good analogy for many churches today?
2. How did the paralyzed man get to Jesus?
3. How did Matthew's tax-collector friends meet Jesus?
4. What are you doing to bring your friends, relatives, classmates, and neighbors to Jesus?

### PRAYER

- ~Thank God for those who brought you to Him
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not working to bring others to Him
- ~Ask God to use you to bring those around you to Him
- ~Spend some time praying for those listed on your card

## DEVO #3 — Filling Heaven

### READ: Acts 2:14-41

Did you know that around the world roughly 155,000 people die every day? That means in the ten minutes it could take you to do this devotional, 1071 people around the world will also die. That's a lot! And unfortunately, 70% of them or more will be headed to a Christ-less eternity. Such statistics should offer some motivation for us.

Certainly, in our Bible verses for today, Peter and the other disciples were motivated to see Heaven get fuller and Hell stay emptier. Sadly, many of those called by Christ's name (i.e. Christians) do not have that same fire today, yet a needy and lost world awaits us. With this in mind, be thinking about how you can be more like Peter and less like those in the "life saving stations" we read about yesterday.

1. Who was it who told you the message of Christ? What if this person had not done so?
2. Because Peter was willing to step out and stand for Jesus (v. 14), what was the result according to verses 37-41?
3. Would you say you are like Peter? Why or why not?
4. God calls us all to go out into a lost part of the world (our neighborhood, school, workplace, etc.) and share Him. What can help you do this?

### PRAYER

- ~Thank God for those who boldly proclaim His truth
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not obeying His command to reach out to the lost
- ~Ask God to help you be intentional about sharing Christ
- ~Pray for those five people again

## DEVO #4 — Until the Last

### READ: Romans 10:1-15

Imagine a couple is out camping with their five children in a secluded section of Yellowstone National Park. Mom and Dad wake up early one morning to find ALL five children are gone. They immediately begin searching the surrounding woods leaving no stone unturned or cave unchecked. Mom is nearly paralyzed with panic when Dad comes back with one child. "Okay, we can stop searching now. I have found one!" He says triumphantly.

Mom is aghast. "One! How can we leave having only found one?!? No, no, no! We have to find at least one more. I am not leaving until we have two out of the five!" Fortunately, Mom and Dad do find another happily playing with coyotes in poison ivy. Rejoicing, they pack up and head home, stopping for ice-cream to celebrate on the way.

Now, you might be asking, "What parent would actually do such a thing?" If you are asking that question, ask yourself this one also: If we don't think a human parent would settle for 40% of their children found, what makes us think that God would settle for that many?

1. Through Paul, how do we see God's heart for ALL His children in verse 1?
2. What does verse 13 say?
3. For verse 13 to happen, what else must occur according to verses 14 and 15?
4. What are you doing to reach out to those who need Jesus?

### PRAYER

- ~Thank God for wanting all of His children found
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not being that interested in finding His lost children
- ~Ask God to show you what He would have you do among your friends, family, neighbors, and classmates
- ~Keep praying for the five people on your card