BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Adam Houge

ALONE WITH JESUS



Alone with Jesus™

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About The Author

Introduction

Come meet with Jesus in the secret place. Be comforted by His love and held in His embrace. Constantly He desires your affection. Don’t you desire His?

Take the time to be refreshed by Him. Let His Spirit minister to your heart and fire up your day.

This book was written as if Jesus were speaking to you. Throughout the years God has spoken to me quietly and privately in my alone time with Him. His words from those moments have forever changed my life. I have documented them here, and if you take them seriously, they will do the same for you.

Day One

I Am the Beginning, So Begin with Me.

Begin your day with Me. Pursue My presence always. Let Me have not only your morning but also your evening and every time in between. I am your Lord, and each of your moments belongs to Me. So render them to Me and let your thoughts constantly reflect on Me.

Read your Bible today and allow My words to consume your heart. Meditate on them and memorize them. If you don’t lock them in your heart, how shall you practice them? Meditate on My voice also and listen diligently for it. For I will show you how and when to apply the word if you submit to Me.

Scripture for Thought

“My voice You shall hear in the morning, O LORD; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up.” (Psalm 5:3)

“Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.” (Psalm 55:17)

Day Two

Do You Love Me? Then Seek Me As I Seek You

Look at Me and tell Me with an honest face: Have you been seeking Me as you ought to? I desire your affection. Daily I long for it, waiting patiently by your side. Don’t ignore My presence to focus on things you think to be more important. While they may be significant, focusing on My presence and voice are paramount. So take it to heart to practice My meditating on presence today while you eagerly busy yourself with daily necessities. I will strengthen you to abide in and meditate on Me and to fulfill the essential tasks. By My strength you can do both—if you have faith.

So don’t avoid My presence, leaving me in the secret place when you’re done with your devotion. You’ll break My heart! Don’t devote a mere twenty or thirty minutes to Me. Yes, you should devote that time to be recharged in Me, but I also command you to devote every minute of your day to Me. Am I not your Lord? Do I not own each second of your life? Then render your time to Me, giving Me the authority to lead you through every moment. After being recharged in your time of devotion, carry Me with you and meditate on My Spirit’s presence, that you may understand how to follow Me.

Scripture for Thought

“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13, NASB)

“When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches,” (Psalm 63:6, NASB)

“I will meditate on Your precepts And regard Your ways.” (Psalm 119:15, NASB)

“And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.” (1 John 2:28)

Day Three

Seek Me in Truth

I am the truth. To seek the truth is to seek Me. I do not merely call you to seek truthfulness in abstaining from lies. Rather, I also call you to seek My perfect doctrine. When I wrote the Bible, I only meant it one way. I have not permitted men to form their own opinions about it and then practice what they believe is right. I am perfection, and everything I say is right. Therefore, do as I say and obey Me.

You are not obeying Me if you don't practice what I've commanded you. If you practice your interpretation of My word, you have not practiced My word in truth. Those who do not practice My word in truth are not walking in My righteousness. But I command you today to pursue My truth through the love you have for Me. If you love Me, then you will desire to love Me for who I am and not who you want Me to be. If you love Me, you will obey My commands and My word the way I intended and not the way you feel is best. Either you will listen to Me and the Holy Spirit or to your own heart. You cannot do both. Therefore, I urge you to seek My Spirit. For My Spirit will guide you to all truth and will not leave you in question. All you have to do is become more attentive to His voice.

Scripture for Thought

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.” (3 John 4, ESV)

“Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.” (1 Timothy 4:16)

Day Four

Become Compassion

I am compassion. Become like Me: Look for the suffering and apply My love. Would I not help them? Do you really want to do as I do? Then become compassion toward everyone. If you walk in My Spirit, you will walk in My love. Either you walk in My steps or you go against the grain. So keep stride with Me, Beloved.

Begin your search today. Look for those who need My loving touch, beginning with my children and then moving on to the world. Start with those who are faithful to Me, for justice demands that the righteous be set free first. Do not say in your heart, “They have God to help them,” but instead be submissive enough to become My tool. For I will not help them through a mysterious, ethereal force but, rather, through your hands.

Then, when you have helped My children, each of you with combined strength must go and love the unbeliever for the sake of conviction. Furthermore, if you truly love My enemies, do not withhold My words from them. Acts of kindness do not save a man; they convict him. Then, when an unbeliever is convicted, he or she will be prepared to hear My gospel. So preach My words, that men may be saved thereby. For this reason I came, and for this reason I died, that those who have sinned against Me may find My love. Now go and practice this love, having compassion and forgiving others as I have forgiven you.

Scripture for Thought

“If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?” (1 John 4:20)

“By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has this world’s goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.” (1 John 3:16–19)

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”” (Romans 10:14–15)

Day Five

Meditate on My Love

Before time began, I thought of you. I decided what your frame should be and how you would look, and I considered everything about you. Before I made anything, I fell in love with the thought of you. So I set out to make heaven and earth to have a place to meet with you.

And knowing that you would sin against Me, I chose to come forth and suffer the curse you should have suffered—in order to love you. Then, when the fullness of time came, you were set apart for My purpose. Now be set apart for My love so that I can use you for this.

Be filled by Me. How can you be poured out without a constant infilling? Sit in My love today and reflect on Me. Remember My mercies and my faithfulness. Mediate on all the ways I have cherished you, provided for you, and tenderly led you. Then, when you have been filled and inspired by My love, go and show others the same.

Scripture for Thought

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.” (Ephesians 1:3–6, ESV)

““Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.” (John 15:9–10, NASB)

““Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.” (John 15:9–10, NASB)

“We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.” (1 John 4:16, NASB)

Day Six

Let My Love Animate You

Time and again I have told you I love you, and I prove it to you daily through the things I do for you. Not only have I loved you on My cross, but I also nourish your spirit and nurture you as a Father ought.

Now be animated by My love to go and show others the same. How have you been practicing My love lately? Look for the hurting and bless them. I searched for you with all My heart; now search for others to love them with My love. Begin with those nearest to you. I have put them in your life so that you may practice My virtues on them. That way, by constant daily practice, you may perfect My virtues in your life.

Yes, you can be perfect, and I command you to be. How can you be perfect, you may ask? Have I not told you that love fulfills the law? Now go, therefore, and be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect, by practicing the same love I am giving you daily.

Scripture for Thought

“We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has the world’s goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?” (1 John 3:16–17, NASB)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”” (John 13:34–35)

Day Seven

Understand Your Crossroads

The roads of life wind and twist, and to where they lead you do not know. But if you follow My road, you know that it will end in peace. Though turmoil, fears, and doubts may rise up, do not fear, My little one, for I am with you. When you cannot see because of the darkness, I will be your eyes. During the hardest moments of life, I will carry you.

But know that sometimes the hardest moments come just before the next season of life. It is darkest before the break of dawn, and every storm reaches its peak before it dies. When you sit in darkness, I will be a light to you. And when you've reached a crossroad in life, know that I will be on the other side, waiting to relieve you. I go before you to prepare the way. I stand behind you to guide you with My hand. Then I am with you to pick you up when you fall.

So do not fear, My little one. It is all part of the plan. First, the darkness shall come; then the Morning Star will rise. Until then, all I require of you is to listen carefully to My voice. Do not follow your own heart, for it will deceive you. At the beginning of every season, there is a crossroad. Either you can choose your own path or you can choose Mine. If you truly desire to follow Me, then listen to My voice. Though the thunder may crash and wind may howl, you will hear Me, even if I whisper. For I do not whisper from the distance, but in your ear—because I am alongside you and with you.

Scripture for Thought

“Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The LORD will be a light to me.” (Micah 7:8)

“Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity? Unless the LORD had been my help, My soul would soon have settled in silence. If I say, “My foot slips,” Your mercy, O LORD, will hold me up. In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.” (Psalm 94:16–19)

Day Eight

The True Servant

Have a servant's heart today. Remember that I stepped down from My lordly throne to serve you. Can you begin to image My throne? Do you know how wonderful My dwelling place is? You can't fathom the humility I chose to have to love you. But as you know, before I was risen, first I was humbled.

You must go and do likewise. Humble yourself and serve with an upright heart. Let love guide you down this path. My love will teach you what you should do and when. Only listen to My Spirit, for He is My beating heart. Pray for open eyes, and He will open them to show you what to do. Stoop your knees and become a servant of servants. Then, when you are judged, you will be raised from your knees and praised by Me.

Have I not said to take the lower seat at the table and then, when you do, I will call you to sit near to Me? If you desire to be near to Me, first become like Me.

Open your eyes and look around you. Find ways to serve more today. Commit yourself to this always as I lead you.

Scripture for Thought

“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:3–11)

Day Nine

Rest in Me

Rest in Me today. Not only now, while you sit with Me, but for the rest of the day. Can you do this? Can you rest in My Spirit while you work and busily occupy yourself? This can only be accomplished by remaining attentive to My Spirit. Practice sitting in His presence throughout the day. Listen to His voice and faithfully obey it. Pray and worship continuously. Your heart and mind will wander, but be swift to bring them back to meditating on My presence.

I will strengthen you as you practice this. All you must do is have faith, persistence, and self-discipline. Then you will be blessed with the outpouring of My joy. My strength will be with you to walk in Me continuously. Yet you are not walking in Me if you are not being led by Me. You aren't being led by Me if you aren't listening to My Spirit step by step as I lead you through each moment of the day. So let your heart and mind rest on Me through needful prayer and worship. Then, when you are sensitized to My voice and presence, you'll understand all that I require of you.

Scripture for Thought

“And He said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”” (Exodus 33:14)

“pray without ceasing,” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, ESV)

“I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” (Psalm 34:1, ESV)

Day Ten

I Speak with Clarity

My voice comes clearly. The difficulty at times is not that I speak unclearly but that you lack understanding and sensitivity to Me. Do not only seek Me once in the morning or at night but, rather, set your face toward Me always. For I have much to communicate with you. If you aren't listening, how can you obey Me? If you can't obey Me how can I lead you? And you must be led by Me! For all My paths are righteousness, and if I am not leading you, then who is? Therefore, stay faithful to Me by being faithful to seek My voice. I will guide you throughout the day.

Do not seek My voice merely at a crossroad in life. For if you do not seek Me always, then My voice will be difficult to understand when you need to hear Me most. Why? Because you haven't been faithful to Me and you have allowed the voice of your flesh to be louder. My voice comes as still and small, so put to death the sinful members of the body. Do not be captivated by idleness and entertainment, but be diligent to seek Me and grow in our relationship. Then you will always hear Me clearly, and the only time you will not be able to hear Me is when I have not yet spoken.

Scripture for Thought

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17, NASB)

“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.” (Exodus 19:5)

Day Eleven

I Desire Obedience

Obey Me. If you want Me to praise you, then be faithful to Me. A servant must always obey his or her master. Therefore, when you hear My voice, do not delay but, rather, submit to Me immediately. What would I call you to do that wouldn't be perfect? While you may not always understand why I tell you to do certain things, you must always obey Me without question. True faith is blind, and when it is blind, I will be your eyes and guide you by the hand. So have faith in Me and be faithful to Me. Search for My voice with all your heart and live for My word.

Scripture for Thought

“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.” (James 1:22–25, NASB)

““Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”” (Matthew 7:21–27)

Day Twelve

Where I Am, You Will Be Also

You are precious, My love! As if you were a jewel, I seek you, for your worth is infinite to Me. Therefore, I have given My life for you. Is this a small thing—that the King of kings and Master of all should surrender His life for yours, that of a sinful peasant? Yet I have loved you and made you a king's child. Therefore, be motivated by My love to bless others also. Put on My love and become like Me, for I am gentle in Spirit and humble in heart. Let My Spirit guide you daily, and He will lead you to where I am.

If a treasure were buried in a field, wouldn't a man give everything for that field? Likewise, I have given everything for you. If you were to lose a gold coin, wouldn't you overturn every piece of furniture and check every crevice of your house until you find it? Even so, I pursue you with passion, for you are worth much more to Me than gold. I will part the heavens and search for you, and when I have found you, I will take you to be where I am with great rejoicing! I will gather you into My hand, and where I am, you will be also. So rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for in My proper time this shall happen. Until then, remain faithful to Me by listening to and obeying My Spirit.

Scripture for Thought

“He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.” (John 12:25–26)

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thessalonians 4:16–18)

“After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen.” Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”” (Revelation 7:9–17)

Day Thirteen

Seek Me in My Word

Read My word today. I have written it for you with eternal purpose. Therefore, do not treat My Scriptures lightly but, rather, be edified by them daily. Read until you're familiar with them, but then, when you're familiar, study them diligently so that you may practice them faithfully.

Cleanse your walk in My water. Daily the soot of life covers your toes, so let Me wash your feet, that you may have a clean walk before Me. For I have given you My word to serve you with immortality. If you will not obey My word, how shall you be found righteous? Righteousness comes through obedience. And how can you obey and apply My Scriptures unless you know them? So study daily and faithfully, that you may bind My word to your heart.

Yet I do not call you to interpret the word. Instead, you must listen intently to My Spirit so that He can teach you the true meaning behind My Scriptures. That way you can apply them as I have intended and not according to how men interpret them.

Scripture for Thought

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15, NASB)

“O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.” (Psalm 119:97, NASB)

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” (John 14:26, ESV)

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” (John 16:13)

Day Fourteen

Be Content

Be content with My supply. Do not allow fear to corrupt your peace in Me. For if you act through fear, you'll sin. But if you wait patiently in faith for My deliverance, I will carry you in My righteousness. Waiting can be difficult. However, if you focus on My Spirit, My comforts shall ease your burdened heart. So abide in Me and My daily presence, that I may help you bear your cross.

My daily providence is sufficient for you. Fear only sets in when you stand to lose the things you desire. But what you would desire is not the same as what you need. It is better to have a lean and healthy heart than one that is fattened by lust.

But if you fatten yourself with empty desire, how will My love be guiding your heart? If you love Me, then you'll trust Me. Whether you trust Me or not, I will save you. I cannot deny Myself, and My love for you compels Me to be faithful. So let your love do the same, loving Me through faith as you ought to do.

Scripture for Thought

“Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”” (Hebrews 13:5)

 ““Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” (Matthew 6:31–34)

Day Fifteen

I Am Lowly in Heart

Take My yoke on your shoulders, and I shall lead you gently. Become as I am. For I, the everlasting Lord, am humble. If I, the Master of all, would practice humility, how much more should you, My servant, be found doing the same? If I was risen and glorified after showing humility to the Father, won't you be blessed in the same way?

Indeed, you will partake in My inheritance if you partake in My suffering. However, if you should abandon the cross, what have you gained? Assuredly I say that if you should be proud and gain this world, you will have lost everything. But if you serve, you will be exalted as I was exalted. So humble yourself under My mighty hand. Let Me lead you. I do not promise that the path will always be peaceful, but I do promise that it will end in perfect peace.

Humble yourself also before your brethren and put on a humble heart. Do this not only with your friends, but also with those brethren whom you do not know. Show kindness to all, whether or not they attend your building of worship. Kindness begets kindness, and love leads to everlasting life. Therefore, be as I am and put on My image, and you shall receive the reward.

Scripture for Thought

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”” (Matthew 11:28–30, ESV)

“Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:5–7, ESV)

Day Sixteen

Go and Preach My Gospel

Be filled with My love, for My love gives a heart confidence and boldness. Why, then, would you fear to share My words, if you're compelled by love? Go and preach My gospel. Turn the unbelievers to Me and have compassion on their souls. If they should sin against you, then bless them. Bless and do not curse. If they turn and repent, it shall only be through My conviction. So convict them lovingly and kindly as I have done to you.

Scripture for Thought

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”” (Matthew 28:18–20, ESV)

Day Seventeen

Embrace the Heart of Worship

Worship Me. Am I not worthy? But let your actions speak louder than your words. Worship Me and honor Me with what you do and not merely with what you say. While I certainly treasure your words, I am most pleased by a faithful servant—one who listens to Me. Go and love. Understand My will and live by it. Surrender to Me, that I may work in you and through you. I desire worshippers in Spirit and in truth, so be led by My Spirit and walk in My truthful doctrine. Study My word, embrace it, and live by it. Be compelled by your love to draw nearer to Me so that you can become like Me.

For in these works of obedience and faithfulness is true worship. Focus on doing what is right. Am I not glorified in this?

And how do you practice what is right? By walking in My Spirit. Therefore, make it your aim from this day forward to walk soberly in My Spirit. Listen intently to His voice, that you may be led by it.

Scripture for Thought

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” (Romans 12:1, NASB)

Day Eighteen

The Power of Prayer

As the thunder answers the lightning, so I shall answer your prayers. You may not think your words are much, but whatever you ask according to My will—whether little or much—I shall grant you. Thus, your prayers are like streaks of lighting thrashing and striking the sky, confounding your spiritual enemies, while the thunder is the deep rumbling of My voice. When I utter a word, new things are created.

In the beginning was My word, and My word went forth and made the heavens and the earth. By the power of My word I made land and sea and every living creature. If you want to see new and beautiful works in your life, then increase your prayers, that I may increase My answers. Remember that you do not have only because you do not ask. Why would you refrain from asking anything? How can you assume to know My will without My communicating it to you?

For this reason, I have commanded that all men should not walk presumptuously. Therefore, you must not presumptuously withhold your prayers, assuming to know My will. But pray in faith believing that if I am willing, I shall perform what you have asked. And if I am not willing, have the humility to accept it.

Ask Me, and the nations shall be yours. For I will come riding on the clouds of heaven and upheave this earth. Then I will plant a new and living city, in which you will dwell. Thus, I shall give you the nations in My own due time.

Increase your prayers today. Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it. Satan will come to distract you with an idle mind. Therefore, you must be self-disciplined and intentional about keeping your head in prayer. Practice this always and be sensitive to My Spirit’s voice while you pray, for He will guide your heart to pray according to My will, thereby making your prayers more effective and powerful. He will also communicate My answers, that I may converse with you. Prayer is more than an opportunity to speak to Me; it is a time to communicate intimately with Me. So seek Me affectionately in prayer, that I may tenderly answer you.

Scripture for Thought

“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.” (1 John 5:14–15, ESV)

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” (Romans 8:26–27, ESV)

Day Nineteen

Have Mercy

Have mercy, for I have had mercy on you. If any should offend you, forgive them. How long does it take Me to forgive you when you repent? Do I hold your sins against you bitterly, or do I have compassion? Be filled with My Spirit and operate in My love. Be merciful with the things you say. Have godly and edifying words. Let My words bubble up in your heart, and speak in love.

Become mercy in all you do. Are any among you suffering? Do more than pray for them. Step out and be righteous. Love them and relieve them of all their suffering. For as I am, so you must be also.

How have you been practicing My mercy? Consider this today and practice My love.

Scripture for Thought

““Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.” (Matthew 5:7, ESV)

“With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;” (Psalm 18:25, ESV)

“Let there be none to extend mercy to him, Nor let there be any to favor his fatherless children. Let his posterity be cut off, And in the generation following let their name be blotted out. Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the LORD, And let not the sin of his mother be blotted out. Let them be continually before the LORD, That He may cut off the memory of them from the earth; Because he did not remember to show mercy, But persecuted the poor and needy man, That he might even slay the broken in heart.” (Psalm 109:12–16)

Day Twenty

Inquire of Me

Let your mind reflect on Me. Do not be caught up with foolish or idle thoughts, for an idle mind shall lead you to wander lost. However, if you inquire of Me, you shall find your way. My heart is after you constantly. I can’t stop thinking of you! My love for you compels Me to meditate on you and your needs always. Shouldn’t your love compel you to meditate on Me always?

You will always need My guidance, not only in the biggest steps of life but also in every little decision in between. For if you have My mind, then each of your decisions, no matter how small and insignificant, will be founded upon My will and guiding hand.

Events today could distract you from Me. Therefore, keep a steady and sober mind, that you may reflect on My presence. Do not inquire of Me only in the big decisions, but seek Me constantly so that you may always have My mind.

Scripture for Thought

“Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!” (1 Chronicles 16:10–11, ESV)

“Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?” And the LORD said to David, “Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah.” But David’s men said to him, “Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?” Then David inquired of the LORD once again. And the LORD answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”” (1 Samuel 23:2–4)

Day Twenty-One

Surrender to My Will

Seek My will at all times, that you may live according to it. By My word, heaven was made. Through My will, the earth began to spin on its axis. Yet even before the world was set in motion, I established a plan for you. My plans are not only well thought-out, but they are also perfect. So submit to My plan, for it is the most excellent way.

Daily I have works that I desire you to accomplish. Submit to them as you ought. Be pliable clay in My hands and let Me mold your future. I already have in mind what I will do through you, for I know the plans I have for you—plans that will give you a future and a hope.

What can your plans accomplish? Can you climb your way into heaven by your own wisdom? Seeing that you cannot, why would you try to honor Me in the manner you assume best? Submit to My Holy Spirit and listen to His voice. He will communicate My will to you on a moment-by-moment basis. Then you will understand what I desire of you and you will truly be pleasing to Me.

Scripture for Thought

"'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11, NASB)

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10, NASB)

Day Twenty-Two

You Are Holy in Me

My child, I understand your grief. You strive to be strong yet remain weak. But I have created you to need Me. I have given you weakness so that you may learn to rely on My strength.

I complete you. You are holy only in Me, so learn to depend on Me and to lean on My Spirit. I will guide you down the paths I desire. I will prepare you for the tests that lie ahead of you. But first you must learn to call on Me—not only in times of trouble, but always. Every step you take, take in Me. If you remain attentive to My voice, My Spirit will show you every little thing I require of you. He shall complete you in Me if you remain submissive to Him.

So seek Me today, that you may abide in My Spirit. Study your Bible and listen intently to My voice, for I will guide you through the pages. Thus, you shall be perfect, fulfilling My word both written and spoken as My voice teaches you.

Scripture for Thought

“And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” (2 Corinthians 12:9)

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (Romans 8:14)

“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.” (Galatians 5:25)

Day Twenty-Three

I Will Guide You Through My Word

Have you been reading My word lately? Commit yourself to study. Be faithful to seek Me in My word, and I will be there waiting for you in the pages. Listen carefully for My voice. When the pages pop out at you and speak to you, it is My Spirit who speaks. Let Him lead you through the book. If you don’t hear My voice, then I am guiding you to study something else.

Keep a pen handy, for when I speak, I would have you write what I say. Do not write your own thoughts, but listen intently to My voice and write My words only. For in so doing, you will be training your spiritual ears to listen to Me and not your own heart. It will help you to understand My voice more clearly so that you can obey Me more sincerely.

Scripture for Thought

“These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” (1 Corinthians 2:13)

“Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,” (Luke 24:45, ESV)

Day Twenty-Four

Wait! Please Don't Go—I Want More of You

Will you sit a little longer in your devotions? I want more of you. I know that you may be tempted to do other things and jump into the activities of the day. However, when you're done with your devotion, do not walk away from My presence. Do not leave Me here in the quietness, but continue to meditate on My presence.

It is not that you step away from My presence to go about your day but, rather, that you leave me in the secret place in your thoughts. While you try to continue in My presence, within a few moments you may forget and preoccupy yourself with other things. You must, however, pay attention to My Holy Spirit and abide in Me.

Give Me more time to communicate to you in the secret place. I have much to say to you, but you walk away too soon. Make time for Me—don't I deserve it? What if I want to spend an hour with you? Would you do it? Do you spend hours with your friends? Am I not your friend? Then why not seek Me likewise, daily? Too often have you walked out while I still wanted to talk. Please grant Me the time to be intimate with you today. I need more time to communicate the lesson at hand.

Scripture for Thought

“For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere...” (Psalm 84:10, ESV)

Day Twenty-Five

Depend on Me

I anticipate your needs. They do not shake me, for I know when they will arise. I see them from afar on the horizon and make preparations in advance. Lean therefore on Me because I will prepare the way. Do not live by your own wisdom or try to plan for trials. You don’t know what manner of trials you will have, nor can you prepare for them. Yet I know everything that will come your way.

So depend on Me. Release your life to Me. Give Me your anxieties, plans, and goals, and let Me be your salvation in everything.

Scripture for Thought

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” (Proverbs 3:5–6)

“A man’s heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.” (Proverbs 16:9)

““Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” (Matthew 6:31–34)

Day Twenty-Six

Be Revived

You seek revival, and in this you do well. But before there can be a revival, first you must revive yourself through Me. Every ministry is the overflow of time spent with Me, for I must do the ministering through you. It is My work, after all! Therefore, rest in Me and submit to My Spirit.

Be pliable clay in the Potter's fingers. Be My glove and allow My hand to work through you. A glove is soft and pliable so that the hand can move and do as it wishes. Even so, I must do as I wish through you. But I will not do anything if you don't allow Me, so you must put away all self-will.

Practice My principles as I lead and teach you. You cannot practice them if you don't understand My voice. And how can you understand My voice if you don't give Me the continual attention I deserve?

If you want to set others on fire for Me, first you must become a consuming fire yourself. You cannot make a difference in this world unless I work in you and conform your heart to My will. So seek me and cease to interfere with My moving. Allow Me the freedom to operate through you as I wish.

Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. I will strengthen you and prepare you for the work that lies ahead.

Scripture for Thought

“You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.” (John 15:14)

Day Twenty-Seven

I Will Set My People Free

Behold, I will set My people free. I deliver them from the slavery of false teachings and remove the bonds of legalism. I have prepared for them an enduring hope, which has no need of law. For you shall be a living law as you walk in My Spirit and practice My love.

Those who have embraced false doctrine will not find My favor, for their faith must be in My word and not their own interpretation of it. I am pleased by the obedient; therefore, obey Me. Seek My doctrine and live by it. My Holy Spirit will communicate it to you if you listen.

Cut loose the cord of self-righteousness. Set yourself free from the hidden works of the flesh, for they come as works of goodness, love, and uprightness but do not permit Me the sovereignty over them through My guiding hand.

Consider the magnificent works of Moses. Which of these could he have done without Me? Without My guidance, all your works are dead. Therefore, let the dead die, and come be alive for Me. For I will resurrect the deadness of your hands to produce an enduring fruit unto everlasting life.

Abide in My Spirit, and He will show you what you must do. Listen to His voice and obey His conviction. If you obey Him, in what manner shall you ever be unrighteous or unloving?

Scripture for Thought

“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,” (1 Timothy 4:1)

“Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.” (1 Timothy 4:16)

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;” (2 Timothy 4:3)

“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him;” (2 John 9–10)

Day Twenty-Eight

I Am the Giver

My child, there is no good thing that I would keep from you. I am the giver of every good and perfect thing. Yet what you consider good isn't what I know to be best. Do not purse what you feel to be good or right but, rather, pursue Me, for I am perfect.

Do not sacrifice My best and perfect plan for you on the altar of your own good intentions. Wait for Me, My child, and in My due and proper time, I will lead you. I have plans for you—plans to excel you and prosper you in My kingdom.

Scripture for Thought

"'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11, NASB)

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)

Day Twenty-Nine

I Shall Provide

Do not make your way by your own wisdom. I have not left you to fend for yourself. To the contrary, I shall provide for you and open the windows of heaven. My providence is perfect, so do not worry about tomorrow, because My present will is all you need. Keep a steady pace in My Spirit. Walk in Him and tread the path of love. As you surrender to Me and allow Me to lead you daily, I will guide you to every path of providence.

I am aware of your needs; I never forget them. Can a nursing mother forget her infant? Even if she may indeed forget, I can never forget you. I will provide for you, not with everything you desire but with everything you need to sustain your life while growing in Me. It may not always feel like enough, but during the moments of hardship, I am teaching you obedience through the circumstances you suffer.

I am testing you. Will you wait for My word to live by it? Or will you live by fear and follow your own heart to take care of yourself? Every trial has a lesson. Therefore, learn the lesson so that we can move on to greater things.

Scripture for Thought

““Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.” (Isaiah 49:15–16)

“So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.” (Deuteronomy 8:3)

Day Thirty

I Will Comfort You

I am the light. Walk in Me, and you'll see all things. When the waves of your trials crash over you, I am there, preparing to calm the storm. Simply wait for My word, and when I have spoken, there will be a great stillness.

Until then, embrace the waves. Remember that I approached the disciples on the sea in the midst of the tempest. When the tempest of your life reaches its peak strength, rejoice and be exceedingly glad. For your Savior is coming to you on the waves, and soon He will restore you. Until then, have faith in Me, and I will comfort you in My embrace.

Scripture for Thought

“I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!” (Psalm 27:13–14)

“Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’” (Isaiah 41:10)

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”” (John 16:33)

I’d Love To Hear From You!

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About The Author

Adam is a preacher, teacher and #1 internationally bestselling author of over 100 books on the Christian faith. He is a devoted husband and father of 3 boys. Through His travels he’s seen the need for a new awakening and a new revival: A revival of the heart. Come join Adam on this journey of redemption and experience God like never before!

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The following is an excerpt

The Power of Habitual Prayer

God is an intimate and loving Person who is always looking for a way to draw nearer to you. But if you don't reach back, you will never experience the depths of a fulfilling relationship with Him.

So I challenge you to commit yourself to building a lifetime habit of continual prayer over the next seven days. By constant prayer you will be able to hear God's voice more clearly, and it will increase your faith. There is no better method to seek God than through prayer. For prayer enters you into His throne room, and by prayer you can come boldly before His throne and make requests, lay down burdens, and find rest.

Out of all the prayers we could pray, some are more significant than others. God doesn't always answer every prayer, but there are some He will always answer. In this book we will discuss seven of the most powerful and life-changing prayers you could ever pray. Each of these prayers the Lord will certainly answer, and He will transform your life as you practice the concepts. These concepts will set you on the right course in life and teach you how to please God.

So come and build a life of habitual prayer.

If you have already prayed these prayers and applied these principles, then you can attest to the power prayer has had to transform your life. If you have experienced this, then consider encouraging others to take the same steps you have taken so that God can transform their lives as He has transformed yours.

Day One

Continual Pursuit

"*Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving…*" Colossians 4:2

The Prayer

Lord, help me to realize the importance of constant and fervent prayer. Sometimes it doesn't feel practical because there are many activities that require my attention throughout the day. So I ask that You would be my strength in my weakness and that You would help me to obey You in this. I believe that You have the power to help me pray continually. So I will let my continuous prayer be done through a measure of faith as You help me to grow in my prayer life, that I will pray constantly by habit and not begrudgingly. Lord, you matter more to me than anything. So forgive me that I would choose to give other things and activities my attention while I continue to live out my day. Help me to remember that it isn't even my day to begin with because, when I gave my life to You, I gave you twenty-four hours a day, not one hour in a daily devotion. Rather than limiting You to a mere devotion, help me to continue to practice Your presence by carrying the secret place with me in my heart everywhere I go.

***

Have you been reading your Bible lately? God calls us to study daily and show ourselves approved. As it is written,

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

How can you rightly divide the word unless you study it? How can you rightly discern the word unless the Spirit teaches you and guides your heart? As it is further written,

"These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual." 1 Corinthians 2:13

And as Jesus said,

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14:26

We must be taught by God regarding all things, especially the Scriptures. So the question is this: How have you been taught by God lately? Have you been surrendering to His voice, listening intently for it and obeying it? You cannot be taught by Him if you cannot hear Him. You cannot hear Him if you are not paying attention to Him.

It is easy to be distracted by the day-to-day activities of life—especially in the workplace. However, God calls us to pursue Him continually throughout the day. While it is not practical to study and read all day long, we certainly can pray and worship. As it is written,

“…pray without ceasing…” 1 Thessalonians 5:17

And as the Scriptures also say,

“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” Psalm 34:1

When we pray and when we worship, we naturally become more attentive to the Spirit’s voice because we are paying attention to Him. Prayer forces us to focus on God as we talk directly to Him. If you listen intently, you’ll find that the Spirit will attempt to guide your heart as you pray. If you pray with the words that He gives you, then you know that whatever you pray shall happen. Allowing the Holy Spirit to affect your heart will conform your heart to the Lord's heart. And if you pray anything according to the Lord’s heart, you can have confidence that you have the things for which you pray. As it is written,

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” 1 John 5:14–15

If you know that God will answer you with power and authority if you pray, then why would you want to stop praying? Do you really want more of God in your life? Then pray and be intimate with Him every moment of the day and watch it transform your life!

You know that the Lord is intimate, so take it to heart to be more intimate with Him. Let Him minister to your heart and guide your decisions daily. Submit to

God in prayer, and you'll see Him working more powerfully in your life. It doesn't matter how much faith you have. If you do not ask God for something, you won't get it. If you don't think God will give you what you ask for, then you're placing Him in a box. You don't know with certainty what He will and won't give you.

A friend of mine once invited me to a bonfire with his church, which he held on his property. Halfway through the night, the bonfire grew so large it sent full sheets of flaming newspaper flying into the air and deposited them on the roof of his house, which then caught on fire. My friend couldn't reach the fire with the garden hose because his home was two or three stories high, and he couldn't wait for the fire department, either, because he lived too far out in the country; half his home would have burned down by the time they came. So one person in the group suggested that they pray and ask God for rain. My friend and the entire church group mocked this man and said with certainty, "God wouldn't do that!" Then my friend proceeded to try to scale his house with a bucket of water because he had no other way of getting water up there. When he failed, the man who had been mocked prayed out loud, "Lord, please save his home and send rain!" and immediately it rained, putting the entire fire out within moments.

For me this was a tremendous lesson on both the power of prayer and the uncertainty of the Lord's will. Are we God? How can we know what He will or won't deliver? Perhaps my friend chose not to pray because he didn't believe God would help him. Are you doing this in your own walk? Beloved, don't put God in a box. Remember that Jesus said,

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" Matthew 7:7–11

Increase your prayer life today by dedicating yourself to constant worship. Grow in your faith, not setting God any boundaries. For Jesus said that if you ask, you will receive as long as it's in the will of God. But who are we to say, "God's not willing"? Let Him speak for Himself. The worst that could happen is that God says "no." At least you gave Him the chance to speak for Himself.

How can this change your life?

When you're paying attention to God's presence through prayer, you can hear His voice more clearly to obey it more effectively. When you obey the voice of God in every little step you take, you're creating a true foundation and future for your life. Each time you obey is like adding a brick on a wall. Slowly over time, a whole temple of obedience is built. When you obey God and lead a life directed by the Holy Spirit, you will experience all the blessings God has had planned for you. But if you follow your own heart, you'll honor only yourself and miss out on the incredible gifts of God.

So I would like to exhort you to be faithful to obey God in every little step you take. And as Jesus said,

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10

The little steps you take matter to God. Remember that a temple is not built by the larger pillars alone but, rather, by every small brick as well. Consider the wisdom of drawing near to God to be sensitive for obedience, lest when you are judged, all that remains is the foundation and pillars. Beautify yourself as a building for God and seek to obey Him continually.

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