



MON 3-28

- ✓ SCRIPTURE John 10:27
- ✓ THOUGHT "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." [NIV] Jesus referred to himself as the Good Shepherd who would lay down his life for his sheep. We are offered loving guidance when we listen and follow the ways of Christ. Spend a few extra minutes today in silent prayer seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ PRAYER Lord Jesus, I want to seek your guidance in my life. Help me to slow down my busy pace and spend more time this week listening to your Spirit with a willingness to follow. Amen.

NOTES: _____

TUES 3-29

- ✓ SCRIPTURE John 8:12
- ✓ THOUGHT "Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, 'I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.'" [NLT] Following Jesus is more than tagging along behind him; it is being so taken by him that you join yourself to him. That is how his light becomes our light!
- ✓ PRAYER Light of the World, I thank you that I don't have to stumble around in the dark. Help me to remember to join with you as I move through my life. Help me to do away with things that distract me and lead me off track. Amen.

NOTES: _____

WED 3-30

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:19
- ✓ THOUGHT "'Come, follow me,' he said, 'and I'll show you how to fish for people.'" [CEB] Jesus was on a mission to show love to all people. When we begin to truly follow what Jesus taught us by his example, we will concern ourselves with the same thing. Identify someone who might need to know about the love of Christ. Is there a practical way you can share Jesus' love with that person this week?
- ✓ PRAYER God of love, help me to bring to mind someone who needs me to show them kindness and love. Open my eyes and help me to respond with empathy and compassion. Amen.

NOTES: _____



THURS 3-31

- ✓ SCRIPTURE John 16:33
- ✓ THOUGHT "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." [NLT] Are you experiencing sadness over a situation you are dealing with? Jesus promised us peace despite our trials. Voice your feelings in prayer today and allow God to be your comfort.
- ✓ PRAYER Loving God, I am really struggling to understand _____. Please fill me with your peace and joy as I draw nearer to you. Help me to find satisfaction in your presence. Amen.

NOTES: _____

FRI 4-1

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:16
- ✓ THOUGHT "In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven. [CEB] We are called to actively display the love of Jesus so people see and give God thanks. Sometimes we shy away from openly talking about how Jesus has impacted our lives for fear of offending or because we fear rejection. Jesus asked us to be open, so ask God for courage!
- ✓ PRAYER Almighty God, give me the boldness and courage that it takes to put fear aside as I show others your love. I am deeply grateful for the way you have changed my life, and I want others to experience that as well. Amen.

NOTES: _____

SAT 4-2

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Philippians 4:7
- ✓ THOUGHT "Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus" [NLT] Consider what it means to "live in Christ Jesus." Are there areas of your life that might need to change in order for you to experience the peace God intends?
- ✓ PRAYER Loving God, you know that I am wrestling with _____. I need strength to give that up and form new healthy habits so that my life is patterned after Christ. Renew my heart and mind. Amen.

NOTES: _____

DIGGING DEEPER

✓ **Intro** Perhaps one of the most famous signs Jesus performed was feeding 5,000+ people with five loaves of bread and two fish. Those that followed Jesus thought he was finally getting to the point of what he could do for them. They were more enamored with the signs than with who the signs were pointing to.

✓ **Reflect**

- Have you ever returned from a trip and not brought a gift for someone who expected one? Have you ever expected a gift from someone's travels and not received one?
- How would you define an "authentic" relationship?
- Have you been in a relationship where you or the other person had an agenda? How did that go?
- Read John 6:1-14, where the apostle John recounts the story of Jesus feeding 5,000+ people.
 - What are some details about this story that would lead a reader to believe this actually happened?
 - What do you think it felt like for the disciples to have thousands of people approaching because they wanted something from them?
 - In verse 13, John provides a detail about the amount of bread left over. Why do you think he included this?
- Read John 6:25-27. Describe how the disciples and the crowd may have felt being called out by Jesus.
- What is one thing you have asked God to give you that he didn't or hasn't yet? Has this disappointment led you to take steps toward God or away from God? What thoughts and/or feelings led you in that direction?

✓ **Consider** **Let's not be consumers. Let's be followers. Jesus' followers changed the world once. Perhaps we can do that again.**

"Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." [NIV, John 6:27]



DIGGING DEEPER

✓ What did I learn? _____

✓ How might it apply in my life? _____

✓ What is a next step I can take? _____

