



# TWENTY-ONE DAYS

## OF PRAYER AND FASTING

**A COMPANION GUIDE TO THE  
"SPEAK LIKE JESUS" MESSAGE SERIES**



# INTRODUCTION

This year our series theme is *Speak Like Jesus*. We'll be spending our time considering how we can reflect Jesus to the world through our words.

This guide will offer daily Scripture readings, devotional thoughts, reflection questions and prayer prompts. It can be used for you individually, although we also encourage you to invite another person or two to work through it with you. Especially when it comes to fasting, having a partner for encouragement and accountability will be helpful.

We will have three “seventh days” in this campaign—on the seventh day God rested from His work. Rest, or Sabbath, is a spiritual discipline we believe is an important aspect in the lives of Jesus’ followers. We encourage you to take some time at the beginning of each week to look forward and make space in your life and on your calendar to be able to rest. Relief from work is good; however, **restoration that comes from the Lord is what we’re aiming for.**

We’ll also include a family activity section each week, designed to help engage your entire family as you work through this guide.

One last thing: this year, in addition to (or in place of) your regular fasting, choose a “word fast.” Think of specific words or phrases that are negative and you would like to eliminate from your vocabulary through this experience.

## MY TWENTY-ONE DAY PLAN

What I will be fasting from:

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The word/words/kind of words I'll fast from:

---

My partner(s) during this fast:

---

How I plan on resting at the end of the week:

---

*\*All Scripture references are NIV unless otherwise noted.*

## DAY ONE

# WHERE DO YOUR WORDS COME FROM?

*“Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”*

—Matthew 12:33–37

## REFLECT

The words that come out of our mouths are the fruit that makes us known. When people hear your words and tones, what do they reveal about you?

“The mouth speaks what the heart is full of” (NIV), or, “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (ESV). What do your words teach you about your heart? How does your heart get filled? What are you filling it with?

When you speak and it is ugly, what tends to be the thing you struggle with the most?

- Angry words
- Sarcastic or passive-aggressive words
- Slanderous words, words of condemnation
- Gossip
- Inflammatory words (goading others on to anger)
- Critical words; words that are full of judgment
- Complaints

## PRAY

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart!  
Try me and know my thoughts!  
And see if there be any grievous way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting!”  
—Psalm 139:23–24 (ESV)*

Lord, help me to see clearly what is it I’ve stored up in my heart that doesn’t belong there.  
Fill me with your goodness. Fill me with your Spirit.

## DAY TWO

# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

*“Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”*

—Galatians 5:19–25 (ESV)

## REFLECT

Fasting and prayer is a healthy reminder that though our human effort is expected, we cannot accomplish the desires of God by our own power. We are walking with the Spirit and the Spirit produces fruit in and through us.

What does it look like to “keep in step with the Spirit?”

What kind of fruit do words from the Spirit produce?

## PRAY

*“For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.*

*Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.”*

*—Hebrews 13:14–15*

Lord, help me to seek you and reflect you and your glory in everything I do and say.

## DAY THREE

# WORDS FROM THE FATHER

*“For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.”*

—John 12:49–50

*“If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God.”*

—1 Peter 4:11a

## REFLECT

We don't have the access to the Father that Jesus had, but according to Peter we can speak from our lips the same life-giving words that Jesus spoke to the people in His life.

Does this mean that we should recite memorized Scriptures to people, or is it talking about something else?

What would it look like in your life to “speak the words of God?”



## PRAY

*“I seek you with all my heart;  
do not let me stray from your commands.  
I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.  
Praise be to you, LORD;  
teach me your decrees.  
With my lips I recount  
all the laws that come from your mouth.  
I rejoice in following your statutes  
as one rejoices in great riches.  
I meditate on your precepts  
and consider your ways.  
I delight in your decrees;  
I will not neglect your word.”*  
—Psalm 119:10–16

## DAY FOUR

# THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL TEACH YOU

*“When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.”*

—Luke 12:11–12

## REFLECT

We can store up God’s Word in our hearts and it will come out. Sometimes we are relying on the Spirit to give us just the right words at just the right time.

Be proactive and petition the Lord for guidance.



## PRAY

“Lord, your words are powerful and full of life. Who needs to hear your Word today? What words do they need to hear?”

Now listen to the Spirit of God and follow that prompt. Send a text, make a phone call, or write a letter of encouragement. Better yet, go knock on a neighbor’s door, set up a meeting at a local coffee shop, or have someone over for dinner.

Whatever it is, as much as it can be, let the Holy Spirit teach you.

## DAY FIVE

# HOW'S YOUR DIET?

*“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.””*

*—Matthew 4:4*

*“When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, ‘Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.’*

*‘Why were you searching for me?’ he asked. ‘Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?’ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.”*

*—Luke 2:42–50*

## REFLECT

Jesus’ life was rooted in being about His Father’s business and knowing the Word of God.

What habits are you cultivating to have God’s Word an active part of your life?

The Bible mentions listening, reading, meditating on, and studying as all valid ways of taking God’s Word into be a part of our lives. What have you found helps you the most?

## PRAY

*“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.”*

—Romans 15:4

Lord, guide me as I read your Word. Help me to have a willing heart and to understand, meditate and put into practice what you want me to learn from your holy Word.

DAY SIX

# HEAVEN AND NATURE SING

*“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”*

—Colossians 3:16

## REFLECT

“Lord, your words are powerful and full of life. Who needs to hear your Word today? What words do they need to hear?”

Now listen to the Spirit of God and follow that prompt. Send a text, make a phone call, or write a letter of encouragement. Better yet, go knock on a neighbor’s door, set up a meeting at a local coffee shop or have someone over for dinner.

Whatever it is, as much as it can be, let the Holy Spirit teach you. The above passage shows us that the Bible also mentions teaching, admonishing, and singing as ways to absorb the Word.

What are your favorite songs to sing that come directly from Scripture?

Sing some of those songs today on your own, in the car, or maybe at the supper table with your family.

## PRAY OR SING

*“Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.  
For the Lord is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.  
The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;  
for he is our God  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.”*

—Psalm 95:1–7

### FAMILY CHALLENGE

Write a song! Start with one of your favorite verses, or a Scripture that you want to memorize or that you'd like to dwell in your heart. Work alone or with your family members to turn it into a song.

DAY SEVEN

# LULLABY OF HEAVEN

*“The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.”*

—Zephaniah 3:17 (ESV)

## REFLECT

Today, may you be quieted by God’s love. Rest in it. Many of the nastiest, ugliest, and meanest words we say are ones that are never spoken out loud, but kept quiet in our minds. They are also often aimed at ourselves.

You are loved and the Lord Almighty is rejoicing over you. Today, may you be reminded of who you are and whose you are.





## PRAY

*“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.  
I will say of the Lord, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust.’  
Surely he will save you  
from the fowler’s snare  
and from the deadly pestilence.  
He will cover you with his feathers,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.”*  
—Psalm 91:1–4

WEEK TWO

# DISCIPLE (LEARNER) OR DECIDER (JUDGER)?

**You made it to week two!**

How was your first week of fasting?

If it was a slow start or you had a shaky go of it, regroup and reset for a better week.

Fasting is not a pass/fail nor will you be getting a grade for your efforts. Even as we struggle to fast, that is a reminder of how attached to this world we can be at times.

Don't get discouraged.

If you did really well, keep up the good work. Don't get overconfident but keep looking to the Lord for strength.

Maybe things will be the same, or maybe you'd like to adjust or make a new plan for week two.

## MY TWENTY-ONE DAY PLAN

What I will be fasting from:

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The word/words/kind of words I'll fast from:

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My partner(s) during this fast:

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How I plan on resting at the end of the week:

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## DAY EIGHT

# DO NOT JUDGE

*“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”*

—Matthew 7:1-2

## REFLECT

We all have to make judgments in life. Just moments after Jesus says this He tells His hearers not to “give a dog what is sacred.”

Judging happens when we assume someone’s motivation and/or condemn them.



## PRAY

*“Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.*

*Let your Kingdom come.*

*Let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*Forgive us our debts,*

*as we also forgive our debtors.*

*Bring us not into temptation,*

*but deliver us from the evil one.*

*For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.”*

*—Matthew 6:9–13 (WEB)*

## DAY NINE

# ASK

*“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”*

—Matthew 7:7–8

## REFLECT

Why do you think these verses come right after Jesus’ command to not judge?

Isn’t the judging part about dealing with other people and the asking part about asking God?

How are those connected?

Is it possible that both are about God or that both are about how we interact with one another?

## PRAY

*“Our Father in heaven,  
may your name always be kept holy.  
May your kingdom come  
and what you want be done,  
    here on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us the food we need for each day.  
Forgive us for our sins,  
    just as we have forgiven those who sinned against us.  
And do not cause us to be tempted,  
but save us from the Evil One.’ The kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours forever.  
Amen.”*

*—Matthew 6:9–13 (NCV)*

## DAY TEN

# WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

*“Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.’”*

—Matthew 16:13–17 (NASB)

## REFLECT

Who do you say Jesus is?

What are the implications of your answer for your life and your words?





## PRAY

*“May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,  
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.”*

*—Psalm 19:14*

Lord, may your Holy Spirit reveal your truth to me. Let it change me and produce glory to your kingdom. Let every falsehood of the enemy be exposed so that my mind won't be deceived and that I may convey your presence to all around me. Amen.

DAY ELEVEN

# DON'T WORRY

*“Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?”*

*—Luke 12:25–26*

## REFLECT

People make a lot of decisions in life based on their worries and fears. Instead of judging someone for their actions, words or appearance this week, what questions can you ask them that may uncover the concerns of their heart?

What are you worrying about? What is concerning you?

Do these things ever spill over into how you talk to your spouse or children? Your friends or neighbors? Even how you speak to strangers (specifically bad or dangerous drivers on the road)?

## PRAY

Father, give us today our daily bread... and lead me to some soul today. Some person who needs a disciple of Christ to ask them caring questions. Give me a word to sustain and lift up the weary.

DAY TWELVE

## DON'T BE SHY

*“When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Will you give me a drink?’”*

—John 4:7

### REFLECT

As Christians, we often feel like we need to be the ones getting water for others. If we never ask others to help or serve, we deprive others of those wonderful opportunities. Serving others and being served bonds us with people. Asking for help from others isn't always intrusive, sometimes it is a welcome invitation to be a part of your life.

Is there a friend or neighbor you can make a simple request of that would make them feel special?



## PRAY

Lord, give me this day the necessary humility to let myself be helped by others. Teach me to be open to being taught and counseled, not only the one who teaches and provides advice. Please give me the wisdom to see the opportunities for relationships in the trivial situations of life.

## DAY THIRTEEN

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

*“What do you think?”*

—*Matthew 18:12a*

*“How do you read it?”*

—*Luke 10:26b*

*“Tell us then, what is your opinion?”*

—*Matthew 22:17a*

## REFLECT

Jesus, who was with God from the beginning. Jesus, who speaks what the Father tells Him to speak. Jesus, the One for whom and through whom the world was made...that Jesus is walking around asking for peoples' opinions. He is not asking them which pair of sandals make his ankles look less fat; He is genuinely interested in their ideas about important spiritual things.

Who can you ask a question like this to today?

Try making a list of five questions you could ask.

## PRAY

*“Blessed are those who find wisdom,  
those who gain understanding,  
for she is more profitable than silver  
and yields better returns than gold.”*

*—Proverbs 3:13–14*

Lord, fill me with your spirit. Lead me to those who can provide wisdom and understanding of your word. Give me a hunger to seek you and your ways.

DAY FOURTEEN

# WISDOM FROM ABOVE

*“Some Pharisees came up to Jesus, testing Him, and began to question Him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife. And He answered and said to them, ‘What did Moses command you?’”*

—Mark 10:2–3 (NASB)

## REFLECT

Another surprising thing about Jesus is that He answered a lot of questions with other questions. This shows us Jesus’ wisdom. Sometimes people are looking for answers, but often they have other motives in mind.

Rather than reacting or getting offended, rather than giving people a quick and easy answer, Jesus turns these questions back to others.



## PRAY

*“To answer before listening— that is folly and shame.”*

*—Proverbs 18:13*

Lord, help me to be slow to answer and quick to listen. Help me to learn anew your teaching and never tire of understanding your wisdom.

### FAMILY CHALLENGE

Put this idea into practice today. Play a game with your family or friends in which you can only ask each other questions. For reference, the show *Whose Line is it Anyway* used to play a game called *Questions Only*.

WEEK THREE

# PEOPLE OF PURPOSE

## **Don't give up...**

Today is a great day to recommit to what you started two weeks ago. It is also a great day to start something new.

The next seven days can be life changing.

Will you let the Holy Spirit and the Word of God change you?

Will you reflect on your word choices and make the effort to speak like Jesus?

## MY TWENTY-ONE DAY PLAN

What my prayers will focus on this week:

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What I will be fasting from:

---

The word/words/kind of words I'll fast from:

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My partner(s) during this fast:

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How I plan on resting at the end of the week:

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## DAY FIFTEEN

# STORIES OF HOPE

*“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, “Son, go and work today in the vineyard.” “I will not,” he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.*

*“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, “I will, sir,” but he did not go.*

*‘Which of the two did what his father wanted?’*

*‘The first,’ they answered.’”*

*—Matthew 21:28–31a*

## REFLECT

This parable wasn't good news to the chief priests and the elders to whom Jesus was speaking. It would have brought a good deal of hope to the people He was teaching in the temple courts. Here's what He said next:

*“Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him” (Matthew 21:31b–32).*

Many people who are not Christians don't believe they can be. They think they've already done too much wrong or are too far gone to receive God's grace. Some of Jesus' stories are designed to show them how valued and loved by God they really are.

## PRAY

Father, I know you want my heart and not just the right answer from me. May I be a person of integrity, saying and doing the right thing for you and your kingdom. May the way I speak be full of hope and good news for those who hear me.

## DAY SIXTEEN

# WHO'S LISTENING?

*“Jesus replied: ‘A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, “Come, for everything is now ready.”*

*‘But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, “I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.”*

*‘Another said, “I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.”*

*‘Still another said, “I just got married, so I can’t come.”*

*‘The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, “Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.”*

*“Sir,” the servant said, “what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.”*

*‘Then the master told his servant, “Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.””*

—Luke 14:16–23



## REFLECT

In many ways, this is a story about priorities. Our stories and conversations tell other people about what is important to us.

What does it say about someone who talks about work all the time? Or sports? Or their children?

What do you speak about the most?

What did Jesus speak about?

*“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. ‘Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?’” (Luke 2:49).*

## PRAY

Lord, you are holy. Fill me with your spirit. Help me to seek you first in everything I do. Give me your perspective.

## DAY SEVENTEEN

# STORIES THAT MAKE YOU THINK AND DRAW YOU IN

*“What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.”*

—Matthew 18:12–14

## REFLECT

When you hear a story you usually try to identify with one of the characters. At first read, one might think, “Why would the shepherd do that? Why jeopardize the well-being of the 99 for the sake of the one?”

It is not as hard to imagine once you enter the story.

If you were a parent walking through a crowded market with six of your children and one got lost in the crowd, what would you do? Would you cut your losses? Move on without one of your children?

What if you were the one sheep that wandered away? Would you want your shepherd to come get you or not?



## PRAY

*“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”*

*—John 10:11*

Lord, you are merciful. Thank you for being patient with me and seeking me when I wander from you. Thank you for your willingness to pay the price for my sin on the cross.

DAY EIGHTEEN

# SHARING YOUR STORY

*“He went on to tell the people this parable: ‘A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.*

*“Then the owner of the vineyard said, “What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.”*

*‘But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. “This is the heir,” they said. “Let’s kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.” So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.*

*‘What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.’*

*When the people heard this, they said, ‘God forbid!’”*

*—Luke 20:9–16*

## REFLECT

Jesus even told some parables that were about His own life and situation.

It is important to speak the good news about Jesus to others—to talk about what Jesus did. It is also important for them to know what Jesus has done for you.

*“Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.”*

—Acts 5:42

## PRAY

Lord, thank you for your salvation through Jesus. Help me to love the way you love and be a light to the lost. Help me to see the opportunities and not let them pass. Give me the words to say and use me to declare your salvation.

### FAMILY CHALLENGE

Spend some time on your own, or as a family, and sketch out the story of your life. Look back through the key times in your life (together) where you see God breaking through and making a significant impact.

DAY NINETEEN

# CHANGING YOUR STORY

*“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;  
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.  
I will be glad and rejoice in you;  
I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.”*  
—Psalm 9:1–2

## REFLECT

If you have ever written a song or a poem, you know that saying “I will” is not necessarily a commitment you are making for the future, but an expression of the heart at that moment.

We sing together every Sunday morning, and often sing these types of phrases. It’s not being a hypocrite if you don’t immediately do it or accomplish the “I will” by that evening. It’s being hopeful. It’s imagining a desired future and declaring it publicly.

What is the story of how you expect God to work in your life?

What is the story of how you will work in His kingdom?

## PRAY

Lord, thank you for your gift of love and life. Please help me always remember your goodness and kindness toward me and be thankful. Let the joy of your salvation in my life be a beacon to others, pointing them to you.

DAY TWENTY

## THE CRAZY FARMER

*“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.’*

*When he said this, he called out, ‘Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.’”*

*—Luke 8:5–8*

### REFLECT

About a year ago, in a sermon from Paul Huyghebaert, we heard the sower of the seed in this parable described as “the crazy farmer.” The seed went everywhere!

How excited are you about who God is, what God has done, and the things of God?

How can you be a little more like the crazy farmer this week?

## PRAY

Lord, please give me opportunities to be a faithful witness to your presence in my life. Help me be attentive and bold so that I can make use of every chance to spread the word of your kingdom. Let your praises fill my heart in such a way that when I open my mouth they will spill forth and minister to those who listen.

DAY TWENTY-ONE

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?

*“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”*

*The expert in the law replied, ‘The one who had mercy on him.’*

*Jesus told him, ‘Go and do likewise.’”*

*—Luke 10:36–37*

### REFLECT

This is how Jesus ends the parable of the good Samaritan—a call to action.

For the last 21 days you have fasted from something. You have spent extra time petitioning the Almighty God to help you to speak like Jesus. What will you do next?





## PRAY

*“May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.”*

*—Psalm 19:14*

Dear God, may we learn to speak with wisdom and grace the words that flow from your throne. Let us edify one another with psalms and spiritual songs. Let us remind one another of your holy word. May we always speak hope to the lost and extend a warm welcome to the needy. Let us be the image bearers you have designed for us to be. Amen!