

Daily Devotions
But I Tell You...

DAY 1 Read Matthew 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world - like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." (Matthew 5:13-16)

- What is the purpose of salt and light and how does this relate to you in your daily Christian life?

DAY 2 Read Matthew 5:21-22a; Matthew 5:27-28a; Matthew 5:48

"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment." (Matthew 5:21-22a)

"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away..." (Matthew 5:27-28a)

"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:48)

- Why do you think Jesus raises the bar so high, even asking us to do the impossible (be as perfect as God) in Matthew 5:48?
- How can we even attempt to live this kind of life?

DAY 3 Read Matthew 10:37-39

"Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:37-39)

- Why does Jesus demand you love Him above anything else in order to be a devoted follower?

DAY 4 Read Matthew 6:33

“But more than anything else, put God's work first and do what he wants. Then the other things will be yours as well.” Matthew 6:33 (CEV)

- What gets in the way of you putting God's work first in your life?

DAY 5 Read Matthew 7:24-27

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.” (Matthew 7:24-27 - NLT)

- Think about this formula: Desire + Decisions = Devotion. Assuming you want to follow Jesus, do you think your struggle is more with desire or daily decisions? What can you do to overcome this challenge and be more effective as a follower of Christ?