

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE ON THE NEXT PAGE

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE May 19-25, 2025

INTRODUCTION

As the "Voices" series came to a close, Dr. Chris Hena, a medical missionary in Liberia and long-time Asbury Mission partner, shared her experience with us. This week, our devotions will walk through various thoughts on serving others, one of the core actions of a follower of Jesus.

Monday: 1 John 3:18

Words are important. They're used to better understand other people and what makes them who they are. They're used to share and provoke thought. Yet words have limits. There are certain barriers they simply can't cross. If someone can't understand the words you're using, the words are of no use. The way that we share Christ must transcend what we say and, rather, be communicated through the way that we act and the manner in which we convey God's truth. How can you seek to show God "through actions and in truth" this week?

Tuesday: Matthew 4:18-22

For some of the disciples, when Jesus approached them and said "follow me," they were simply tending to their jobs as fishermen. And, still, they did it – they followed Jesus. This seems way too easy – why would these men just leave what they were doing and follow someone they'd never met? With the benefit of the end of the story, it's easy for us to think it was a simple choice for the (soon-to-be) disciples; but consider that were leaving their home, their family, their livelihood – everything they knew. Yet they were willing to give it all up because Jesus told them to follow him. When have you made a bold step for Jesus? When have you been given an opportunity to make a bold step but didn't take it?

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul writes about how hollow a Christian life lived without purpose can be. There are far too many examples of Christians (or, perhaps more accurately, "Christians") who don't show Christ's love, but are all too willing to talk about their expectations of how others should live their lives. The result is giving the world a horrifically watered-down picture of what a follower of Christ should be and leaving a sour taste instead of being the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13). Consider how you can better align your words and your actions. How can you work to use both - individually or in tandem - to communicate love the way Jesus would?

Thursday: Proverbs 11:25

Often to complete a task, what we need isn't a huge leap, but a series of small steps. Typically, a project won't get done through immense, immediate actions, but through individual hammer swings and brush strokes contributing towards a larger goal. How can your small acts of generosity benefit not only others, but also your own well-being? How have you been "refreshed [by] refresh[ing] others?"

Friday: Matthew 14:30-31

Jesus asked a question of Peter as Peter began to sink into the wild water around him: "why did you doubt?". The question applies to all of us. We may not see the clear end in sight and our human nature wants control. But God is on our side, with a hand extended when we begin to sink. What causes you to sink? How can you allow God to help you stay afloat?

MOVING FORWARD

Christ followers have a story to share and words are only complimentary to telling it. Actions speaking God's truth are what most effectively show God's love. As we finish this week, say the following prayer. In fact, consider praying it multiple times as you head into another week, framing each step with the desire to live in a Christ-honoring manner: "Lord, let my actions speak Your truth, Your will, and Your way. Amen."