

A Day By Day Guide

Day by Day Guide for Praying through the New Testament in One Year

As you read each day's passage from the New Testament, spend a few minutes in prayer inspired by the passage and the thoughts below.

Monday, January 12 – Matthew 9:9-34 – Ask God to help you reach out to the “Matthews” of your world; accept them right where they are and love them with the same kind of love and acceptance Jesus had for Matthew. Ask Jesus to allow you to be a healer of the sick in the same way He is.

Tuesday, January 13 – Let's pray for the same kind of compassion that Jesus had for the general public. Ask Him to use you in ministry with the same kind of abandon in which He sent out His untrained disciples. The emphasis was not on their spiritual intellect but on God's power working through willing hearts. God, use me on mission for You today!

Wednesday, January 14 – Matthew 10:16-33 – Father, help us to be shrewd as serpents (not naïve), but gentle as doves (compassionate and kind) today as we live in the ministry that you have given us – our professions. Let us live boldly in your will as you speak it to us.

Thursday, January 15 – Matthew 10:34-11:15 – Examine today your priorities in life with God. Is there anyone or anything that you have put ahead of obeying Him? If so, write them down in the space below and commit to loving them only after you have committed to love God first in your life. Watch what he does to that relationship.

Friday, January 16 – Matthew 11:16-30 – Are you tired of life? Answer Jesus' plea in verses 28-30. Give up control of living how you want to live and trying to control your destiny (how in control are you anyway?). Talk to Him about giving it all up for Him today!

Saturday, January 17 – Matthew 12:1-21 – Do you listen to the voice of God and obey Him or do you just follow the traditions of humanity (family, church, friends...)? God has specific instructions for you. Commit to Him right now that you will not be a non-thinking, non-praying “rule keeper,” but sensitive to His leading and voice in your life.

Sunday, January 18 – Matthew 12:22-45 – No matter what you do (even if you are God Himself) you will be criticized. Are you an approval addict (living to be accepted by others)? Life gets really rocky that way. Commit to Jesus right now to live only for His approval and to not let the thoughts or criticisms of others dictate your life in the same way that He did not let the Pharisees dictate Him! Write that prayer out below.

January 11, 2009