



DO HARD THINGS

staying the course when you'd rather run

Do Hard Things Week 5

Day 1: God's Unfailing Love

Reading: Jonah 4:1-11

Devotional: Jonah's story reminds us that God's love often extends further than we're comfortable with. Just as Jonah struggled to accept God's mercy for Nineveh, we too can find ourselves resenting God's grace towards those we deem unworthy. Today, reflect on a time when you felt God's love was "too much" for someone else. How does this challenge your understanding of God's character? Remember, the same grace that saves us is available to all. Pray for a heart that celebrates God's expansive love, even when it makes you uncomfortable.

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Day 2: Overcoming Prejudice with Compassion

Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Devotional: The parable of the Good Samaritan echoes the lesson God was teaching Jonah. It's easy to love those who are like us, but Christ calls us to a radical love that crosses boundaries. Think about the "Ninevites" in your life - those you struggle to see as deserving of God's love. How might God be calling you to extend compassion to them? Challenge yourself to take one small step towards showing kindness to someone you've previously judged or avoided.

Day 3: The Joy of Salvation

Reading: Luke 15:1-10

Devotional: Unlike Jonah, who sulked over Nineveh's repentance, Jesus teaches us that there is great rejoicing in heaven over every sinner who repents. Have you lost the joy of your own salvation? Or perhaps you've forgotten to celebrate when others come to faith? Take time today to remember your own journey to Christ and the joy it brought. Then, pray for those who don't yet know Him, asking God to give you His heart of celebration for every soul that turns to Him.

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Day 4: Hope in the Midst of Suffering

Reading: Romans 5:1-5

Devotional: The transcription mentions difficult times, like dealing with a serious medical diagnosis. In such moments, hope can seem distant. Yet Paul reminds us that even our sufferings can produce perseverance, character, and hope. Reflect on a challenging time in your life. How did God meet you there? How did it shape your faith? If you're in the midst of suffering now, cling to the promise that God is working even through this to deepen your hope in Him.

Day 5: Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Devotional: The story of the Carpathia's rescue efforts during the Titanic disaster illustrates how we're called to actively respond to those in need. Jesus teaches that when we serve "the least of these," we're serving Him. Today, ask God to open your eyes to the needs around you. Is there someone in your life who's metaphorically "sinking" and needs rescue? How can you be the Carpathia in their life? Remember, sometimes the most powerful way to share God's love is through practical acts of service and compassion.