

Day 1:

The Tragedy of Almost

Devotional Have you ever been "almost" somewhere important? Almost caught the flight, almost got the job, almost made it on time? In most areas of life, "almost" is just a minor disappointment. But when it comes to your relationship with Jesus Christ, "almost" becomes a tragedy of eternal proportions. King Agrippa found himself in this exact position. After hearing Paul's powerful testimony about transformation and hope, Agrippa admitted he was "almost persuaded" to become a Christian. He was so close he could taste it. The truth resonated in his heart, the Spirit was moving, yet he walked away unchanged. What makes this so heartbreaking is that Agrippa had everything he needed to make the right choice. He had heard the gospel clearly presented, witnessed Paul's transformed life, and felt the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Yet something held him back from taking that final step of faith. Today, many people find themselves in Agrippa's shoes. They attend church, know the Bible stories, feel moved during worship, and even acknowledge Jesus as Lord. But they've never made that personal commitment to follow Him completely. They remain in the "almost" category, thinking proximity to the truth is enough. The beautiful truth is that God doesn't want anyone to remain "almost." He desires a full, complete relationship with each of us. He's not looking for perfect people, but for willing hearts ready to say "yes" to His love and lordship. The gap between "almost" and "completely" may seem small, but it makes all the difference in eternity.

Bible Verse

"Then Agrippa said to Paul, 'Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?'" - Acts 26:28

Reflection Question

What areas of your life are you holding back from God, keeping you in the "almost" category rather than fully surrendering to Him?

Quote To be almost a Christian is to be totally lost.

Prayer

Lord, help me examine my heart honestly. Show me any areas where I'm holding back from complete surrender to You. I don't want to be "almost" - I want to be completely Yours. Give me the courage to take that step of full commitment today. Amen.

Day 2:

The Power That Holds Us Back

Devotional What kept King Agrippa from crossing the line from "almost" to "completely"? Two powerful forces were at work in his life: the power of sin and the power of self. Agrippa was living in an immoral relationship with his sister Bernice, and his pride as a king made him unwilling to humble himself before Christ. These same two forces keep many people today in the "almost" category. Sin has a way of making us feel comfortable in our rebellion, whispering that we can deal with our relationship with God later. Meanwhile, pride convinces us that we don't really need a Savior, or that admitting our need would somehow diminish us. But here's what Agrippa didn't fully grasp: coming to Christ isn't about losing yourself - it's about finding who you were truly meant to be. Yes, repentance is required, but it's not God's way of taking away your joy. It's His way of removing the barriers that keep you from experiencing real life. The truth is, we all have areas of sin and pride that resist God's call on our lives. Maybe it's a relationship that you know isn't honoring to God, a habit that's become your master, or simply the pride that says "I can handle life on my own." These things feel like they're protecting us, but they're actually keeping us from the abundant life Christ offers. God's love is both accepting and transforming. He meets us exactly where we are, but He loves us too much to leave us there. The power of sin and self that seems so strong is no match for the power of God's love working in a surrendered heart.

Bible Verse

"Paul replied, 'Short time or long—I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.'" - Acts 26:29

Reflection Question

What specific sins or areas of pride are you allowing to keep you from fully surrendering to Christ's lordship in your life?

Quote He loves you right where you are, but he refuses to leave you there. He'll clean you up, he'll shine you up, and he'll set your foot on a different path.

Prayer

Father, I confess that there are areas of sin and pride in my life that I've been holding onto. Help me see these things as You see them - not as sources of pleasure or protection, but as barriers to the abundant life You offer. Give me the strength to let go and trust You completely. Amen.

Day 3:

The Truth That Transforms

Devotional When Paul shared his testimony with Agrippa, he didn't sugarcoat the message or try to make it more palatable. He spoke truth - raw, honest,

life-changing truth. And that truth had the power to offend before it could heal. Sometimes we think the gospel should be easy to accept, but the reality is that truth often makes us uncomfortable before it sets us free. When we hear that we're sinners in need of a Savior, our natural response might be to bristle or push back. When we're told that our way isn't working and we need God's way, our pride rebels. But this offense isn't a bug in the system - it's a feature. It's not until we're confronted with the truth about our condition that we realize our desperate need for rescue. A person who doesn't know they're drowning won't reach for a life preserver. Agrippa felt the weight of this truth. He understood what Paul was saying, and somewhere deep inside, he knew it was right. But instead of embracing the discomfort as the first step toward freedom, he chose to walk away from it. The beautiful thing about God's truth is that while it may initially wound our pride, it ultimately brings healing to our souls. Yes, it's humbling to admit we need help. Yes, it's uncomfortable to acknowledge our failures and shortcomings. But on the other side of that humility lies forgiveness, peace, and a relationship with the God who loves us beyond measure. Don't let the temporary discomfort of truth keep you from the eternal comfort of salvation.

Bible Verse

"Then the king rose, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them." - Acts 26:30

Reflection Question

How do you typically respond when confronted with uncomfortable truths about yourself - do you embrace them as opportunities for growth, or do you resist and walk away?

Quote The truth that we find in Scripture is offensive, and there's no way around that. And it's actually a good thing that the truth is offensive, because it's not until we are offended by the truth that we realize that we are sinners in need of a Savior.

Prayer

Lord, help me to receive Your truth with a humble heart, even when it makes me uncomfortable. I know that Your truth is meant to set me free, not to condemn me. Give me the courage to face the reality of my need for You and to embrace the transformation You offer. Amen.

Day 4:

The Ripple Effect of Our Choices

Devotional Agrippa's decision to remain "almost" didn't happen in a vacuum. His sister Bernice was watching. Governor Festus was listening. The guards, the officials, the servants - they all witnessed his response to Paul's message.

In that moment, Agrippa wasn't just deciding his own eternal destiny; he was influencing everyone around him. This is one of the most sobering realities about our spiritual decisions: they never affect just us. When we choose to follow Christ wholeheartedly, we become a light that draws others toward Him. When we choose to remain "almost," we give others permission to do the same. When we outright reject Him, we can lead others down that same path of destruction. Think about the people in your life who look up to you - your children, your friends, your coworkers, your neighbors. They're watching how you respond to God's call on your life. Your decision about Jesus Christ will influence their decisions about Him too. Agrippa could have changed the course of history. As a king with influence and power, his conversion could have impacted an entire region. Instead, his "almost" became a stumbling block not just for himself, but potentially for countless others. But here's the encouraging flip side: when you choose to move from "almost" to "completely," you create a ripple effect of hope and transformation. Your wholehearted commitment to Christ becomes a beacon that guides others toward the same life-changing relationship. Your decision matters - not just for you, but for everyone whose life intersects with yours.

Bible Verse

"After they left the room, they began saying to one another, 'This man is not doing anything that deserves death or imprisonment.'" - Acts 26:31

Reflection Question

Who in your life is watching your response to God's call, and how might your decision to fully follow Christ influence their own spiritual journey?

Quote No one goes to heaven or hell alone. If you refuse to come to Christ, you need to stop and think who's following me? Because there is somebody.

Prayer

God, help me realize that my spiritual decisions affect more than just me. Show me who is watching and learning from my example. Give me the courage to be a positive influence that draws others toward You rather than away from You. Use my life to create a ripple effect of Your love and grace. Amen.

Day 5:

Today Is the Day

Devotional As Paul stood before Agrippa, he knew this might be the king's only opportunity to respond to the gospel. There was an urgency in Paul's words, a recognition that moments like these don't come around often. Agrippa had heard the truth, felt the conviction, and stood at the crossroads of eternity. But he chose to walk away, perhaps thinking there would be another

time, another opportunity. History tells us that Agrippa never got that second chance. He died without Christ, forever remembered as the man who was "almost persuaded" but never committed. His story serves as a sobering reminder that tomorrow is never guaranteed, and the opportunity to respond to God's call may not come again. Right now, as you read these words, the Holy Spirit may be tugging at your heart. You may feel that familiar stirring, that gentle conviction that says, "It's time." Don't let the enemy whisper lies about waiting for a better moment, a more convenient time, or when you've got your life more together. God loves you exactly as you are, right where you are, in this very moment. He's not waiting for you to clean up your act or figure everything out. He's simply waiting for you to say "yes" to His love and lordship. The gap between "almost" and "completely" is bridged by a simple prayer of surrender and faith. Don't let it be said years from now that you "almost" got saved. Don't become another tragic story of someone who came so close to the kingdom of God but never entered in. Today is the day of salvation. This is your moment to move from "almost" to "completely His."

Bible Verse

"Agrippa said to Festus, 'This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.'" - Acts 26:32

Reflection Question

If you're still in the "almost" category, what is keeping you from making that complete commitment to Christ right now, today?

Quote Don't let it be said that, you know, several years ago we had homecoming at Kelleytown Baptist Church. And that Sunday morning that guy came. I'll never forget his name. Cause his last name was Pig. He preached a message and I almost got saved.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I don't want to be "almost" anymore. I want to be completely Yours. I confess my sins and my need for You as my Savior and Lord. Come into my heart, transform my life, and help me follow You wholeheartedly from this day forward. Thank You for Your love, Your grace, and Your patience with me. I surrender my life to You completely. Amen.