For more than 50 years, Adrian Rogers preached and championed the Word of God. In that time he became one of America’s most respected Bible teachers presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ with strong conviction, compassion, and integrity. His ministry continues thanks to a rich legacy of sermons, studies, books, booklets, and other resource materials. Through Love Worth Finding, his multimedia ministry, tens of thousands of believers have had their faith strengthened and thousands more have entered into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. His teaching will inspire you to grow in your love of the Lord and service in His kingdom.

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We created the “Truth Worth Sharing” series of discipleship tools to help you grow in your personal relationship with Jesus and to fulfill Jesus’ command to go into the world and make disciples. How? It’s simple: disciple-making begins with a relationship. So, look for a friend or perhaps a small group and set up a time each week to meet.

Prepare your heart

The daily Scripture references are on the accompanying bookmark. The reverse side of the bookmark offers five helpful habits for getting the most from your Scripture reading and devotion time. Then read the daily Scripture and brief thought from Dr. Adrian Rogers. Pray and ask God to show you His truth and help you share it. To enhance your journey, listen to the message on the Love Worth Finding website at:

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It’s not enough to say the Bible is absolutely authoritative. You must open the Bible and do as the apostle Paul said, “Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.” There’s no other way you’re going to get it.

I looked in several translations to see ways the word *study* in 2 Timothy 2:15 was translated. Some of them are: “Give diligence.” “Earnestly endeavor.” “Do your best to.” “Try hard.” “Aim first.” All say you must have a burning desire for the Word of God. You must *study* to show yourself approved. If you’re looking for a cheap, easy, lazy way to understand the Bible, forget it.

Jesus said, “He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him” (John 14:21). If you “have” (receive) His commandments
and “keep” (obey) them, you are the one, He says, who loves Me.

You can study the Bible and learn about God, or you can obey the Bible and know God. Bible study gives knowledge about God; obedience gives knowledge of God.

DAY 2

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16).

The Bible is a literary miracle. The word used here for inspiration (theopneustos) appears only one time in all the Bible, and that time is in this verse. It literally means “God breathed.” Not that God breathed His inspiration upon some written words, but that He literally “breathed them out” and onto the page as the authors of the Bible were writing.

Every word of the Bible is inspired. When you read the Bible, you hear God speak. Once you know the Author, you must recognize the sovereign authority of the Bible. It will never be a real book to you if you do not accept it as the Word of Almighty God and believe it is our final authority for life. Your view of the Scripture must be the same view Jesus had when He said, “…the Scripture cannot be broken” (John 10:35).
Day 3

“Lord, sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth” (John 17:17).

In this prayer the Lord Jesus is praying not just for His disciples in the first century but for us as well. If you want to be powerful in the Lord, sanctified for His service, no longer riding a spiritual rollercoaster or walking around on eggshells and Jell-O, you need spiritual steel and concrete beneath your feet. That comes from being faithful in Bible study.

When I was young and had just been saved, sometimes I wondered if I had been saved at all! But then slowly I began to get into the Word of God. I began to study the Bible. I learned some truths. And when I learned truth, that truth became something absolutely solid that I could stand on. My life was transformed. Not by resolution, or emotion, or determination, but by the truth of God’s Word.

Day 4

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Corinthians 2:14).

If you’ve only been born once, you’re blind to the spiritual world. Without Jesus Christ, the author of
the Bible, you will never truly understand the Word of God. The unsaved person can read the Bible and appreciate it as beautiful literature. He might learn the history of the Bible. He might even agree with its moral precepts. But he will never know the deep meaning of God’s Word until he’s born again.

As the god of this world, Satan has “blinded the minds of them that believe not” (2 Corinthians 4:4). If you are to understand it, if you want God’s Word to be a bright, living reality, you must receive its saving Author. You must invite the Lord Jesus Christ into your heart. Jesus explained this to Nicodemus in John 3:3—If you are not born again, you cannot see the kingdom of God.

DAY 5

“Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.... Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.... Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn Thy commandments” (Psalm 119:12, 18, 73).

Never come to study the Word of God without praying “Teach me Your statues, Lord. Open my eyes, stir my heart, quicken my mind.” It’s unthinkable to sit down for a serious study of the Word of God without first asking its Author to teach me.

Can you say with the psalmist, “The law of Thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and
silver” (Psalm 119:72)? Had you rather know the truth of God’s Word or be a multimillionaire?

Don’t tell me you believe the Bible is the Word of God unless you have a burning desire to understand it. If you spend more time online or digging through the headlines than the Word of God, you’re spending more time with the bad news than the Good News. You’re saying, “Yes, I know the Author of the Bible and I believe its authority. But I make no analysis of it and do not study the Bible.”

When you lay your intellectual pride in the dust and pray over the Word of God, He begins to teach you. Never fail to study the Bible that way. You must learn to study and analyze. Bring your mind to the Bible.
Day 1

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

To worship God is the supreme duty of any child of God. To worship in spirit and in truth is our ultimate privilege. To learn to worship is our greatest need. We are invited, encouraged, and empowered to worship God. You see, going to Heaven is not the bottom line for us. Being saved is not the bottom line. We’re saved and go to Heaven for the eternal purpose to enjoy fellowship with Him and worship Him forever.

So many of our worship services have left theology and gone to “me-ology,” worship that’s man-centered rather than God-centered. Rather than worshiping God, we turn our eyes inward upon ourselves, seeking to find life. However, Jesus said, “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the gospel’s, the same shall save it.” (Mark 8:35).

If you want to be utterly miserable, turn your life inward. If you want to be filled with joy, turn
your life upward. Look into the face of God and learn to worship.

**DAY 2**

“But we all, with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Why worship? You will be better if you worship better. As you worship Him, you’re changing into His image—becoming more and more like Him. Psalm 115:8 says that those who make idols and trust in them become like their idol. First a person molds the idol, then the idol molds the person. We become like what we worship, for what we worship conforms us to its image. If you worship the Lord, you become more like Him.

When you put a poker in a fire and leave it in there long enough, before long the fire is in the poker! It comes out glowing and red hot. When you immerse yourself in the presence of God, before long, the presence of God is in you. True worship will make you more like the one you worship.
DAY 3

“For in Him we live, and move, and have our being...for we are also His offspring” (Acts 17:28).

Why did God make you? If you say God made you to serve Him, no. If God wanted servants, He’d get angels, not humans. Angels are a lot more punctual—and faithful. He made you to worship Him, love Him, and know Him. God created you for Himself, for you to enjoy Him and for Him to enjoy you. Until you do that, you’ll never know fulfillment.

If you take a fish from the sea and put him in a tree, he’s an unhappy fish. A bird from the air, put under water, is an unhappy bird, to say the least. A person created for God, immersed in the things of this world apart from God, is truly unfulfilled. Life for a child of God is found in God Himself. Paul said as much in Acts 17 to those superstitious people on Mars Hill: “You don’t even know what you’re worshiping!” God made us to worship Him, for in Him we live and move and have our being. Until you learn to worship, you’ll be like a fish out of water, a round peg in a square hole.
Many do not understand the meaning of true worship. Worship is the adoring contemplation of God as He is revealed in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 5:12 lets us glimpse a future scene in Heaven. The setting is the throne of God. Vast numbers of angels and elders proclaim with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.” Worship is all that we are—body, soul and spirit, with our whole heart—responding to all God is.

The English word *worship* comes from “worth ship.” We worship what we feel is worthy. Whatever Jesus is worth to you will show up in your worship. If you want to know what’s in your heart, just look at your worship. It’s the barometer that reveals what you think of God and how much you love Him.

Often we confuse worship with prayer and even with praise. Those are elements of worship, but they’re not the bottom line of worship. Sometimes our prayers are “Help me, Lord. Save me.” Or “Thank you, Lord, for what You’ve done.” That’s wonderful, but how many times have we just simply come to God and said,” O God, I just pour out my heart in love to you.” *That* is true worship.
“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him” (John 4:23).

God seeks those who worship Him. Your purpose for going to church is not for what you can get. No, it is for what you can give. You bring your worship with you to Him. God is so pleased when we worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Some think worship is some sort of spectator sport: The pastor and choir are the performers, and we sit down out front, get out our Bibles, and begin to critique the sermon and music. Somehow it’s become a performance and we are the critics. That’s not the way it’s supposed to be. No, God is the audience. The preacher is the prompter. We are the ones who praise. We’re to come together gloriously united in praising the Lord Jesus Christ, giving Him worship and glory. God’s great heart desires worship.

Does that make God some sort of egotist because we are to praise Him? Keep boosting His morale by telling Him how good, how great He is? That’s not it at all. Friend, when you worship God, you enjoy God and God enjoys you! You’re better when you worship because you’re becoming like what you worship. He that offers praise, glorifies God.
"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:12).

If I could place one thought in your heart today, it would be this: You are important to Jesus. You are important to His church. And the church is vitally important to you. May God help us understand: the church is the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, and you are somebody in His body. It’s in His body, the church, that we have fellowship.

Jesus is the head and we are the members of that wonderful “Body of Christ,” our Lord’s church. What is the purpose of the church? To manifest Jesus, to make Him known to the world. He has no hands but our hands. We are His hands; we are His feet. As He inhabits our humanity, we display His deity.

The church is more than an organization; it is an organism. The power giving life to His body is the Holy Spirit of God. A body without a spirit is a corpse; a spirit without a body is a ghost. But the church is neither a corpse nor a ghost; it is a body,
the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, manifesting His person, ministering His purpose—motivated by His power. Jesus is known through His body. What your city knows about Jesus Christ is what they learn through His body—through you and me.

**DAY 2**

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing?...” (1 Corinthians 12:13–17).

With all its faults, flaws, and failures, God loves the church. If you love Jesus, you will love what Jesus loves. If you love the head, you’ll love the body.

Even though we are from widely divergent cultures and backgrounds, the Holy Spirit takes us and makes us one body in the Lord Jesus Christ. “There is one body, and one Spirit…” (Ephesians 4:4). That’s why there can be unity of all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

And each member of the body is important. God created us to need one another. He made us different...so He could make us one, with none of us
able to function apart from the rest of the body. We are many, but all with one agenda: to magnify and demonstrate the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

You are somebody in His body. Accept yourself. Be yourself. Then give yourself. Work together. And when you do, who will be shown? Jesus—because He lives in and works through His church. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, in the Body of Christ.

**DAY 3**

“That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.... But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:3, 7).

Fellowship is not just coffee and donuts. And it’s not as the saying says—two fellows in the same ship! The Greek word for fellowship, *koinonia*, means “to hold things in common.” Because of Jesus, we can have fellowship one with another and with “the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.”

Second Peter 1:4 says “We have now become *koinonia* of the divine nature.” We have the fellowship of the divine nature. Jesus took upon Himself humanity—He became like I am—that I might become like He is. He took on the very nature of man that we might take the nature of God and
have fellowship with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

But it follows as night follows day that we must have fellowship with one another because when I am born of God and you are born of God, the same nature that’s in me is in you. The Jesus in me is going to love the Jesus in you. We have the same nature, His nature, because we’re born from the same womb, the womb of grace.

**DAY 4**

“*And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full*” (1 John 1:4).

There is no joy like the joy of knowing one another in the Lord Jesus Christ. John says purposefully, “This is why I wrote this book, that you might have joy.” You’ll not find joy until you find it in the Lord Jesus Christ. It’s the sweetest fellowship this side of Heaven, and is a fellowship that comes through the life we have with the Lord Jesus Christ.

I know one thing about every mother’s child: you want joy. And joy is the byproduct of fellowship with God and fellowship with His family. “*Thou wilt show me the path of life: in Thy presence is fullness of joy, at Thy right hand are pleasures for evermore*” ( Psalm 16:11). John is saying, “Let me tell you about this life. It comes from God and results in a fellowship, *koinonia*. When we have fellowship with God and with one another, and there’s fullness of joy.
“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” (Philippians 2:3-4).

A wise man said, “There’s no life so empty as a self-centered life and no life so centered as the self-emptied life.” When we’re preoccupied with ourselves, we are miserable. When we let Jesus Christ love others through us, we have the joy that Christian fellowship is supposed to give to all of us.

God put us in His body, the church, not primarily to be ministered to but to minister. When we learn we need others and others need us, there’ll be no arrogance, envy, rivalry, self-sufficiency, or disunity. I need you. You need me. Every member in the body has a purpose. We are to serve one another. We are to care for one another. When one member suffers, every member suffers. When one member rejoices, every member rejoices. That is true fellowship. There is room in the family for all of us. “That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another” (1 Corinthians 12:25).
“That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular” (1 Corinthians 12:25–27).

If the purpose of the Body of Christ is to be His hands and feet in ministry, manifesting Him to a lost world, then there can be no schism—no disunity—among us. Unity is one of the ways the Body of Christ will stand out to unbelievers. We must not be envious of each other. There certainly should be no infighting, no pride, arrogance or jealousy. When the body begins to war against itself, you are tragically sick. In fact, rivalry and dissension could be called cancer in the Body of Christ.

Our friendship together means we will have “the same care one for another.” The Bible has many of these “one another” verses, and as we study them, we see that when they are followed, strong bonds of friendship are formed among the members of His
body. As friendship is strengthened, the Body of Christ is strengthened.

**DAY 2**

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34-35).

This was the last commandment Jesus gave to His followers before His arrest, trial, and crucifixion. He calls it a “new commandment.” Why was it a new commandment? Didn’t the Old Testament talk about love?

Yes, but what was new was that He said, “You love one another *as I have loved you*.” It’s a new quality of love: we are to love as Jesus loved. And it’s not optional, because Jesus commanded it. But it is not automatic, either, or He wouldn’t have had to command it.

This love is not giving people what they deserve; it’s giving people what they need. Not merely doing our neighbor no harm, but seeking opportunity to do him good, even when he doesn’t deserve it. That’s what Jesus did for me. “God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Love says, “I will do you good, regardless of what you do to me.” We’re to love one another. That’s the way we care for one another, according to 1 Corinthians 12.
Day 3

“Wherefore receive ye one another as Christ also received us to the glory of God” (Romans 15:7).

We are to love as He loved and receive others as He received them. This is one of the most needed commands in the Bible: to make people feel loved and welcomed. If you look at the New Testament church, what a mixture there was of all kinds of backgrounds—religious, racial and cultural. We have to make everyone who wants to worship God feel welcome. “Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations” (Romans 14:1). The Living Bible paraphrases it, “Give a warm welcome to any brother who wants to join you, even though his faith is weak.” That doesn’t mean we put a premium upon weak faith. But who is it that needs love? The weak…not the strong. The church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints. Show acceptance, extend the hand of warm friendship. People need to be loved. We must demonstrate our love to every person who comes in. Not just say, “You’re welcome to come sit down,” but move toward them with a smile, handshake, an embrace. Together—we’re in a family.
Day 4

“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:1–3).

Forbearance is graciously enduring and putting up with the displeasing, offensive, or sinful attitudes of other people. We need to understand that we’re in it together and we have to forebear one another. We’re different. We don’t all like the same thing, but we love Jesus and we love one another. We need to be open and honest with each other. “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed…” (James 5:16).

Don’t criticize one another. Pray for one another. The confession of a fault is not a call to criticism; it’s a call to prayer. The failure to confess to one another holds back revival, forgiveness, and healing.

Real revival is not just getting the roof off, saying, “God forgive me for my sins.” That’s fairly easy. It’s getting the walls down—when we go to one another and confess our faults and pray for one another. That’s when real koinonia begins.

Sometimes there is somebody you have wronged. You need to confess to that person privately. Personal sin, personal confession. Public
Day 4

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Sometimes there is somebody you have wronged. You need to confess to that person privately. Personal sin, personal confession. Public sin, public confession. None of us is perfect. If there were less criticism and more forbearance and prayer, what a mighty healing there would be, both physically and spiritually.

Day 5

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:32).

Has someone done you wrong? So, what’s new? When you fail to forgive, you destroy the bridge over which you yourself must travel, for Jesus said, “But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Matthew 6:15).

An unforgiving spirit has ruined so many churches. There is a legacy of forgiveness for every one of us, but it never becomes ours until we claim it by repentance and faith. Yet in the great loving heart of God, He died for every one of us. That’s the spirit we must have. The church is a body, the body of Christ. In our friendship we must care for one another, love one another, receive one another, confess to one another, and forgive one another. True friendship is found when we are one in the bond of love.
"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him” (Psalm 126:5–6).

It’s amazing how few tears are shed today when we have so much to weep over. Are we afraid of our tears? Jesus wasn’t. When he came over the brow of the Mount of Olives and saw the city of Jerusalem, knowing the destruction to come, the Bible says He wept, not just a little, but great convulsive tears as He looked at Jerusalem.

Paul reminded elders of the Ephesian church that he had “ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears” (Acts 20:31). Jeremiah in the Old Testament was known as the weeping prophet. God said to King Hezekiah, “I have seen your tears.”

Tears touch the heart of God. I wonder—has God seen your tears? When was the last time you shed a tear over some soul who was mortgaged to the devil? If you don’t have a broken heart for the lost, confess it to God as sin. Ask Him to give you
the eyes of the Lord Jesus, full of compassion. If you do not have tears for the lost, you do not have the Spirit of Christ in you.

We’ve lost our passion. The tragedy today is a dry-eyed church in a hell-bent world. Look around and see the multitudes in confusion, heartache, and despair. Your heart will be moved with compassion.

**DAY 2**

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise” (Proverbs 11:30).

Do you consider yourself a wise person? Better yet, does God see you as wise? Let me speak frankly. If you’re not endeavoring to win souls, you’re not wise.

Think about the great worth of a soul. We’re told the value of a property is determined by what a buyer is willing to pay for it. What was the Lord Jesus willing to pay for you? We weren’t purchased with temporal things like gold or silver, but with the precious blood of Christ. Jesus died in agony upon the cross—that’s how much He valued a soul. When He said, “What should it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” One soul, He was saying, is worth more than all the wealth of the world.

How long does a soul last? For eternity. God made the human soul in His own image; your soul could no more cease to exist than could God Himself. There was a time when you were not. There
never will be a time when you are not. Your soul will go on—endless, timeless, measureless. When the sun, moon and stars have grown cold, your soul will still be in existence forever, either in heaven or in hell. There’s nothing more sacred than a soul made in the image and the likeness of God.

DAY 3

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world” (Matthew 28:19–20).

This passage, which closes out the book of Matthew, is known as “The Great Commission.” We have been commissioned by our Lord to go. And no one is wise who disobeys his master. If you’re not endeavoring to bring souls to Jesus Christ, you’re disobedient to Him—you’re not wise. “And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever” (Daniel 12:3). I don’t care what else you’re doing, how faithfully you attend, how circumspectly you live, how beautifully you sing or how liberally you give. If you’re not a soul winner, you’re not following Jesus. He said, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). It cannot be more clear. What
right does a man have to call himself a follower of Jesus Christ if he willfully disobeys Him?

**DAY 4**

“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost” (Luke 19:10).

When you get to the bottom line, why did Jesus come? To seek and save the lost. You can put the message of the Bible into two words: **come** and **go**. Come to Jesus, then go tell others. The “Go ye therefore” of The Great Commission, literally translated, says, “As you are going, teach all nations, baptizing them…” *That* you are going is already understood.

Soul winning is like sowing seed. Where should you sow? In the field, not the house or the barn. You have to get seed out of the barn and into the field—the world. Jesus is not limiting His commission to some foreign field as a missionary. It’s **as you go** into the everyday sphere of your life, **you win souls**. We are to go into the highways and hedges.

You say, “But those people are so sinful. They drink, curse, tell off-color stories, sleep around—.” Of course. What do you expect? They’re sinners! That’s what sinners do. They’re trying to find satisfaction. Have pity for them. Their problem is not their lying, drinking or carousing; their problem is they don’t know Jesus. They need to know the Lord. How are they going to hear unless you tell them? We are to **go**.
In the parable of the sower, Jesus plainly said, “The seed being sown is the Word of God.” There’s power in that seed. Hebrews 4:12 says, “[living, active and full of power] and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” That is the power the soul winner has. There is power in the Word of God. I’ve preached it long enough to know that if you keep scattering the seed, it will sprout and give life, and sometimes the hardest heart will crack.

I’ve seen that happen. I’ve seen people with hearts like concrete wrapped in steel bands, but then just a little seed of Word of God gets in, breaking that hard heart open. There’s power in the Word of God.

But what good is a seed if you don’t sow it? It is not what you know; it is what you sow that counts. You must know it in your head, stow it in your heart, and sow it in the world. You only reap if you sow.
“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10).

Read this passage again today as though for the first time. It contains one of the most incredible promises in the Word of God. When you’re faithful in stewardship, you’re going to find the way to financial freedom.

Stewardship means much more than just money. We’re stewards of our time and talents as well as our treasure. But in all we’re responsible for, money reveals where our hearts truly are, for Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21).

That’s why the way we handle our treasure is important to God. Of Jesus’ 38 parables, 16 have to do with stewardship. One of every ten New Testament verses deals with stewardship—twice as
many as those about faith and prayer combined.

Now, understand: God doesn’t need your money—He owns everything. He’s not interested in what you have; He’s interested in who you are, and He wants your heart. He wants to bless you. But how you handle what He’s already given you will reveal what He can entrust you with, going forward. One of the greatest tests of how much you love God and believe His Word is your stewardship.

**DAY 2**

“**He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase...**” (Ecclesiastes 5:10).

You may think I’m trying to guilt-trip you by talking about stewardship. But I want just the opposite: to set you free. If Satan can keep you in bondage to money, he has you right where he wants you. He knows he can defeat you and keep you under a curse. God has come to set you free. When your chief aim in life is to make money, your money increases your worries, and you become a slave to your money.

I can tell you this: if your aim in life is to be rich, you’ll be miserable. When that’s your chief goal, you’re in financial bondage. This is true for the rich too, when they try to find satisfaction in their money. Someone once asked John D. Rockefeller, “How much is enough?” He said, “Just a little more.” More is never quite enough.
DAY 3

“But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth…” (Deuteronomy 8:18).

The Bible never condemns riches. It’s the Lord who gives you the ability to earn money, and the Bible is not against that. But if you make it your goal to get money, money is going to get you. Proverbs 23:4 says, “Labor not to be rich,” or you may find your labor has been in vain. You see, wealth can be fleeting. Money talks. It says, “Good-bye.” A change of circumstances, something unforeseen—and it’s gone. “Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not, for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven” (Proverbs 23:5). You are in financial bondage if you have plenty in the bank but no treasure in Heaven.

DAY 4

“But God said unto him, ‘Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?’ So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God” (Luke 12:20–21).

Suppose you have plenty in the bank, but you don’t know God. Jesus speaks in this parable of a man
who had “much goods laid up for many years,” but he was driven to get more. He never thought to invest it or share with somebody else. Yet the very night he was plotting to get richer, he died. You have to feel sorry for someone like that. This man didn’t have the wisdom of an ant. He didn’t prepare for the future; he presumed upon the future, thinking he had many years. He had only a few hours.

He was sure of two things: his wealth and his health. Boasting one moment about his possessions, the next moment he woke up in hell.

That, my friend, was a successful fool. True success is the progressive realization of the will of God for your life. Failure is succeeding at the wrong thing. Soon and very soon—sooner than you think—we’re going to stand before God. When you die, you’re going to leave behind everything you have and take with you everything you are. Then you will find out whether or not you’ve been truly prosperous. Don’t wait until then.

**DAY 5**

“Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from Mine ordinances [laws], and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you,” saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, “Wherein shall we return?” (Malachi 3:7).

God’s rebellious people strayed far from Him, yet they arrogantly challenged Him, “How can we
return when we’ve never gone away?” Here’s how you return: Jesus said, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33). You say, “Well, I’ll seek things first; then if there’s time, I’ll seek God.” That’s backward. Seek His kingdom first.

When we fail in stewardship of our time, talents and treasure, we rob God, the church, missions, and the needy. Worse yet, we rob ourselves! You see, we don’t really “give” the tithe; we return it. It’s already the Lord’s. It would be better to rob a bank than rob God.

Tithing is not God’s way to impoverish you; it’s His way to enrich you, His way to bless. There’s always a blessing when we give it and always a curse when we steal it. God is not seeking your money; He is seeking you. More than your money; God wants you. “For I seek not yours, but you” (2 Corinthians 12:14). Before you give your money, you’ve got to give yourself.

The early Christians “first gave their own selves to the Lord” (2 Corinthians 8:5). God pleads with His people, “Return unto Me.” No gift, no tithing, can please God if it doesn’t come from a loving, surrendered heart.
“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ” (Ephesians 4:7).

You are a gifted child. Look at the words “every one” in this verse. Did that include you? You should underscore that. The word grace here is the Greek word charis (in English, “gift”). When the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, He left you with an incredible gift, received through your risen Lord. We all have natural gifts, but this goes beyond natural talent. To each God has also given a spiritual gift.

But many don’t even know they have a spiritual gift, much less what it is or how to use it. Your spiritual gift is a God-given spiritual ability for service and ministry.

Have you ever said, “God can’t use me”? Don’t insult God like that. He has given you a grace gift, and He can use you. Our spiritual gift isn’t for our own enjoyment but our employment—it’s to bless others. It falls to us, now, to discover, develop, then deploy our spiritual gift and minister both within the church and to our world—to everyone we encounter.
“When He [Jesus] ascended up on high, He led captivity [the devil] captive, and gave gifts unto men [that’s you and every believer]” (Ephesians 4:8).

Here’s what happened: The Lord Jesus descended to earth, lived a perfect life, suffered, bled, died on the cross, was buried, and rose again. When He died for us, He purchased our salvation with His blood.

At the same time, He broke Satan’s back. Satan’s kingdom came crashing down. Calvary crushed the devil and his malevolent forces, who had taken the world captive. By His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, the Lord Jesus took Satan captive, ascending on high, leading a parade of captives. Satan’s kingdom no longer has a legal hold over God’s creation.

In His triumph, Jesus gave the spoils of the battle to His followers—us—our grace gift to serve our great King. Never despise or overlook your spiritual gift from our conqueror, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your natural talents are natural; your spiritual gift is supernatural in source, nature and purpose. You don’t choose your spiritual gift any more than you could choose your natural gifts. Your talents are genetically encoded in you by your first birth. Your spiritual gift is given to you at your new birth.
DAY 3

“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all” (1 Corinthians 12:4–6).

The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to the church. Everything is not always done the same way. “Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us…” (Romans 12:6). But it’s the Lord who’s doing it.

First Corinthians 12 lists these various gifts:

- Word of wisdom—supernatural insight into the mind of God; uncommon sense.
- Word of knowledge—supernatural ability to know and apply the things of God, wisdom put to practical use.
- Faith—not just people with enough faith to be saved, but mountain-moving faith.
- Prophecy—primarily not to foretell the future, but tell forth the will of God in a particular matter.
- Paul continues with healings, working of miracles, discerning of spirits, gift of tongues, and interpretation of tongues.
- If none of these feels like your gift, he adds: ministry—acts of service within the church, teaching, exhortation, the gift of giving, ruling (leadership) and mercy.

Day 4

“And He gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11–13).

“Perfect man” doesn’t mean sinless, it means mature in stature, like the Lord Jesus Christ. God gave us leaders: apostles, prophets, pastor/teachers, and evangelists to lead and equip believers. Your spiritual gift may even be developed with leaders to help you mature.

Mature in stature.

Our spiritual gifts work together. When the gifts are operating within the Body, we will mature in stature, and the Body becomes more and more like the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mature in stability.

“That we be henceforth no more children, tossed to and fro, carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive” (v. 14). We will be immune to false cults or any other lies of Satan, deceiving the immature.
You may discover your gift simply by beginning to serve. You find people saying, “You really blessed me with that.” Be usable and available and God will wear you out.

**DAY 4**

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DAY 5

“But speaking the truth in love, [we] may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together...maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love” (Ephesians 4:15–16).

**Mature in speech.** “Speaking the truth in love,” we’re growing up—becoming more like Jesus, the Head of the Church. If you speak the truth without love, that’s brutality, but if you speak in love without truth, that’s hypocrisy.

**Mature in service.** With “the whole body fitly joined together,” we serve one another in flexible harmony, the gifts operating, and the body working together. Don’t you want to be a part of a church like that? If you’re not already, find one and start serving!

The Greek word *charis* means grace, but it also means joy. If you say, “I just don’t have any joy,” let me ask: are you serving anywhere in your church or your community? You’ll find true joy as you get involved with the needs around you. Joy multiplies when we serve others.

Friend, if you’re not serving, you won’t have joy. May God help you find what God wants you to do and get busy doing it. When you serve the Lord, the juices of joy begin to flow.
How to use “Truth Worth Sharing” tool

We created the “Truth Worth Sharing” series of discipleship tools to help you grow in your personal relationship with Jesus and to fulfill Jesus’ command to go into the world and make disciples. How? It’s simple: disciple-making begins with a relationship. So, look for a friend or perhaps a small group and set up a time each week to meet.

Prepare your heart

The daily Scripture references are on the accompanying bookmark. The reverse side of the bookmark offers five helpful habits for getting the most from your Scripture reading and devotion time. Then read the daily Scripture and brief thought from Dr. Adrian Rogers. Pray and ask God to show you His truth and help you share it. To enhance your journey, listen to the message on the Love Worth Finding website at:

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