



PRESSING ON PRESSING IN
DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH | FRIDAY SEPTEMBER, 22ND

PRAY & FAST

Pressing On, Pressing In

5 Day Devotional Guide

Introduction

“Pressing on, Pressing In” is not just a phrase of words to memorize, but they are active in our actions. The phrase “pressing on” means “to continue moving forward in a forceful or steady and in a determined way”, while the phrase “pressing in” means “the situation requiring quick or immediate attention or action.”

Joshua 1:1-3 is the story of Joshua’s calling to lead his people into the promised land after Moses was dead. God says to Joshua in Joshua 1:3, *“Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.”* God is saying to Joshua that He has opened the doors for him to enter the promised land just as He did for Moses, it just requires him to press on and press in. Just as God is saying this to Joshua, He is promising the same promise to us. The Lord is opening the door of opportunity for us to arise, to go, and to take every place that our foot sets on as ours because He has given them to us just as He promises.

During these 5 Days of Prayer and Fasting, take this time to seek God and listen to His voice as He speaks destiny and calling over you. Make this week a pivotal moment in your life for repentance, re-dedication, and pressing on, pressing in toward the direction of the promises God has in store for you for His kingdom.

We are entering the Hebraic Calendar 5784 and it is a moment of celebration and tradition. The number 4 is represented by the Hebrew letter “dalet” meaning the seasons of doors. As we embark on the next 5 Days of Prayer and Fasting take time to read and meditate on the devotional verses and pray according to the revelation you received from the Holy Spirit. Let’s continue to Press On and Press In for God’s Kingdom.

Day 1 | The Lord is With You | Joshua 1:5-9

5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so **I will be with you**. I will not leave you or forsake you. 6 **Be strong and courageous**, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success^[a] wherever you go. 8 **This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it.** For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for **the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.**” - Joshua 1:5-9 (ESV)

Read: Joshua 1:5-9, Isaiah 55:6-13, John 10:1-18, Psalms 24:1-10, Ephesians 5:8-17

As we start off these 5 Days of Prayer and Fasting, know that **the Lord is with you**. Be strong and courageous to press on towards the adversities you may face and to fight knowing that God is with you and He will never leave you. No matter who you are, know that every single person has faced adversity, the only difference is the outcome and the strategy on how one overcomes it.

In Joshua 1:5-9, **God gives Joshua a strategy** on how to overcome his and the Israelites' adversity and how to inherit the promised land. He reminds Joshua that they will be prosperous and have good success when they meditate on the book of the law – day and night and do what it says. Meditating on God's word allowed them to “Be Strong and Courageous” because it reminded them that God is with them wherever they go.

The strategy God gives to Joshua, He is giving to us today. We need to seek the Lord with all of our heart, mind, and soul. We need to meditate on His word because His word gives us strategy, encouragement, and faith to face and take on our adversity. Romans 10:17 (ESV) says, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” When we **meditate on His word and hear His word**, we have faith that God is with us, enabling us to “Be Strong and Courageous” to press onto our adversity, so that we overcome it and come out victorious.

As you spend time with the Lord this week, take this time to really delve into the Word of God and meditate on it day and night. Push aside the distractions of netflix, social media, and the extra workload and take the time to be still in the presence of the Lord. Read the Word of God out loud that your ears would hear it and your faith would arise. **Remember that the Lord is with you.**

Prayer

Father God, thank you that you are with me and that you will never leave me nor forsake me. Thank you that when I seek You, You may be found and when I call upon You, You are near. As I press onto adversity, Thank You that you have given me the strength and the courage to face it and to overcome it. May Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the Body of Christ, that they will choose to meditate on the Word of God day and night
- Pray for faith to arise in you and in the Church to overcome any obstacles or adversity that the world or culture may bring.

Day 2 | Consecrate Yourself | Joshua 3:5

“5 Then Joshua said to the people, “**Consecrate yourselves**, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.” - Joshua 3:5 (ESV)

Read: Joshua 3:5, 5:2-9, Psalm 119:25-32, Genesis 4:7, James 5:7-12, 1 Peter 5:6, Ezekiel 36:25-37

What does it mean to consecrate oneself? In the Merriam-Webster dictionary it defines “consecrate” as dedicated to a sacred purpose. In the Strong’s concordance, we can find the word sacred/consecrated in the Hebraic as “**Kadosh**” meaning “**to consecrate, sanctify, prepare, dedicate, be hallowed, be holy, be sanctified, be separate.**” Consecration is a preparation towards pressing into God’s presence and towards the wonders He will do among you.

In Joshua 3:5, Joshua prepares the Israelite by letting them know to consecrate themselves because the Lord will do wonders among them. Continuing to the following verse in Joshua 3:6, Joshua goes on to let the priests know to take up the ark of the covenant and pass it on before the people. There is so much significance to this passage as we begin to understand what it means to be consecrated and what the ark of the covenant is. The ark of the covenant is known to represent God’s presence who is holy and as we read before consecrated is to be holy and set apart. **God’s presence and consecration cannot be separated.** When God passes over His people to do wonders among them, consecration needs to be prepared beforehand because God calls His people to **be holy just as He is holy** (1 Peter 1:15-16 (NKJV)).

As we press on towards our adversities and as we press into God’s presence, we are reminded in Joshua 3:5-6 that **we need to prepare ourselves for the Lord’s wonder in our lives.** We need to prepare ourselves by consecrating ourselves and setting ourselves apart from what the world has defined us and has told us to be, which is unholy. We need to be holy just as God is holy and we start by asking for forgiveness and repentance where we have wronged someone or sinned. From then, we start to live a life that is honorable and consecrated to the Lord just as Christ has called us to be as His sons and daughters. As you continue to meditate on this passage, take time to be still and listen to the Holy Spirit. **Ask the Holy Spirit**, “Is there anyone I need to forgive or is there anything that I need to ask repentance for?” and if there is any, begin to ask for forgiveness, repent, and **start walking a life that is consecrated before the Lord.**

Prayer

Holy Spirit, search me. Search my whole being and cleanse me from any and all sin and unforgiveness. Give me a clean heart, that I may be consecrated before you. Jesus, I ask that you would forgive me of all my sins and that I would be the salt and light of the world. In Jesus name, amen.

Prayer Points

- Pray that you would become the salt and light of the world, that others would come to know Christ because you represent Him.
- Pray for the world, that they would turn from their wicked ways and come to know the truth of God – that all nations would bow before Him.

Day 3 | Holy Ground | Joshua 5:13-15

*“13 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?” 14 And he said, “No; but **I am the commander of the army of the LORD.** Now I have come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped[a] and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?” 15 And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place **where you are standing is holy.**” And Joshua did so.” - Joshua 5:13-15 (ESV)*

Read: Joshua 5:13-15, Isaiah 6:1-8, Revelation 4:1-11, 2 Corinthians 12:1-2

As we continue to press on and press in, **lift up your eyes, look, and behold, God is with you** with a sword in His hand ready to battle with you and command you on how to fight the battle towards victory. Now, the question is, what are you seeing? **Are you looking with your natural eyes or with your spiritual eyes?**

In Joshua 5:13-15, we see that as Joshua was entering into the battlefield, he lifted up his eyes, looked, and behold he saw a man with his drawn sword in his hand. If Joshua saw with his natural eyes, Joshua would have already fought the man, but instead, he saw with his spiritual eyes and had discernment to ask who the man was. And when the man spoke to Joshua that He is the commander of the army of the Lord, Joshua had discernment to recognize its truth.

Joshua saw that although he was the commander of the Israelites, **God, Himself, is actually the ultimate commander who gives strategy on how to win the battle towards the promised land.** When Joshua saw and recognized who was with him, he postured himself into a place of humility, worshiping the Lord, and asking the Lord for strategy. And the strategy that was given to him was to see and realize that the land they were stepping on was not just any land, but holy ground and this land has been given to them because it is God's land.

As we look into this passage, we need to learn to **start seeing with our spiritual eyes with discernment and recognize that God is with us and leading us towards victory.** We need to humble ourselves, and worship God, and wait for his command and strategy where He assures us that the battle we are entering will become a place of holy ground. As you continue to walk your daily life, remember, where you tread is holy ground, because God lives in you.

Prayer

Dear God, open my eyes to see the way You see. Open my eyes so that I would see that You are with me. Lord, I humble myself before You and I exalt you. I ask that you would speak and that I would listen to the strategies You have given me to win the battle. Lord, give me the eyes to see that where I tread is holy ground, because You are holy and you live in me.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the 2024 Election, pray that the elected President will live a life that is holy and honorable to God. Pray that he/she would lean into the ultimate understanding that God is the ultimate commander and Authority
- Pray for all the Christian believers in the world, that they would live a holy life and walk in a place of understanding that God is the ultimate commander and authority.

Day 4 | Passing Over | Joshua 3:14-17

*“14 So when the people set out from their tents to **pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people**, 15 and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), 16 the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. 17 **Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan**, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.” - Joshua 3:14-17 (ESV)*

Read: Joshua 3:14-17, Acts 5:19-20, 16:25-34, Genesis 41:14-16, Psalms 27:1-14, 1 Corinthians 15:57, Isaiah 22:22

Today, let's continue to press in. In Joshua 3:14-17, we get to witness a powerful illustration of the theme of pressing in. The Israelites were on the brink of entering the promised land, but there was a significant obstacle in their path—the Jordan River, which was at flood stage. Yet, **God had promised them this land**, and they had to press in and cross over to reach their destination.

Likewise, in our lives, there are often obstacles and challenges that may seem impossible. We may be pursuing a dream, a goal, or a promise that God has placed in our hearts. Just like the Israelites, **we must press in, trusting that God will make a way where there seems to be no way**. The promised land may be on the other side of your challenges, but God asks us to press on in faith to reach it.

As we continue to meditate in Joshua 3:14-17, we come to realize that the priests carrying the ark of the covenant played a crucial role in this miraculous crossing. The priests had to step into the flooded river before it parted, demonstrating their unwavering faith in God's promise. **As they stood firmly on the ground, lifting the ark, they symbolized the importance of exalting God in our journey towards the promised land.**

In our pursuit of dreams and promises, it's easy to rely on our own strength and wisdom. However, like the priests, we must stand firmly on the foundation of faith, exalting God above all else. When we lift Him up in our lives, He can work miracles, parting the waters that stand between us and our promised land. We need to seek God's guidance and trust in His timing. Our dreams may lead us to places we never expected, but with unwavering faith, like the priests at the Jordan, we can cross over into the fulfillment of God's promises. As you face the challenges and obstacles on your journey, **remember that God is with you**, and pressing in with faith, exalting Him above all, will lead you to your Promised Land, just as He led the Israelites across the Jordan River.

Prayer

Father God, thank You that Your promises are always Yes and Amen. Thank you that You have given me a promise and that you will help me fulfill my promise. God I exalt You for who You are! I put my trust and my faith in you! Thank You for being with me on the journey. In Jesus name, Amen!

Prayer Points

- Pray for your church and for the promises God has for the Church that it would be fulfilled as we come together in unity
- Pray for faith to arise in You and that You would exalt Him above all challenges or obstacles that You face

Day 5 | Taking the Land | Joshua 11:23

“23 So Joshua **took the whole land**, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for **an inheritance to Israel** according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war.” - Joshua 11:23 (ESV)

Read: Joshua 11:23, Revelation 3:19-20; Matthew 22:8-10; Joel 3:9-17.

In the final ends of the battle or war, land needs to be taken and in Joshua 11:23, “Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses”. When Joshua took the whole land, he took the promises that God gave to him and the Israelites, he fought the battle and won. Notice that **he took it just as all that the Lord had spoken**. The Lord gives us promises and there are obstacles and challenges that are in the way, but as we have been meditating in the book of Joshua, we have come to understand that we need to press on towards and through the challenges and we need to press in to the Lord to take all the promises that the Lord has spoken to us. **God is with us and He is the one who gives us strategy on how to fight the battle**. We need to take the time to listen to His voice and obey His commands.

As we continue to learn and meditate in the book of Joshua, we come to realize that when we take the promises that God has given to us, **the promise is never just about us or for us**. In the following sentence in Joshua 11:23, it says that “Joshua gave it (the land) for an inheritance to Israel...” Joshua gave the land as inheritance and we must recognize that the promises God gives us is an inheritance for another. It is for His kingdom that all may come to know Jesus is the son of God and that He died on the cross and rose again in 3 days from the grave.

So **be strong and courageous, press on, and press in towards the victory of the promised land**. Take your promise according to all that the Lord has spoken to you and bless your promise to another by sharing the gospel of God’s goodness of how He sacrificed His only begotten son, Jesus, to die for our sins and rise again so that we may have eternal life. “...The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38 (ESV)). **Take the whole of your promise and take it with the strategy that God has spoken to you**.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the promise that You have given to me. Thank you that I can take the whole of the promise and not a partiality. Thank you that the promise you’ve given me is not just a one time promise, but it is a promise that gives inheritance to another. Holy Spirit, reveal to me who my promise is for and how I can be a living testimony for Your kingdom. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Prayer Points

- Pray to the Lord of the Harvest that He would send more laborers into the field. Pray that the laborers would tend and reap the harvest.
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any friends, family, and/or co-workers that need to hear the gospel. Ask the Lord to give you strength and courage to share the gospel to them