

appnotes



DAY 1

READ ACTS 8:26-39

This account gives us great insight into what it means to take the next step. It's full of individuals who are listening to God and taking them. Phillip's next step of obedience to God's leading was "to go." As he stepped out in obedience, God gave him another next step to approach the Ethiopian eunuch. The eunuch listened to God's prompting and responded to God's truth by taking the step of baptism! Next steps don't have to be complicated. They're simply about listening to God and doing what He says.

DAY 2

READ 2 PETER 1:3-10

Think you have no next steps to take? Think again. Peter tells us that since God has given everything we need for godliness, we must always strive to be more like Jesus. He even lists some qualities we should aim for: goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, and love. If we honestly pursue that list, we'll never run out of next step. Verse 10 says it well in The Message: "Don't put it off, do it now." Everybody has a next step! Look for yours and take it.

DAY 3

READ MARK 10:17-30

There are consequences when we don't take our next step. The account of the rich young ruler should shake away our apathy. This isn't the story of a guy who was on the wrong path. He was actually ambitiously seeking after God. Yet, when Jesus called the man to his next step, he walked away disheartened. What's stopping you from taking your next step? God will help you identify it, but only you can make the choice to follow through.

DAY 4

READ HEBREWS 5:11-14

The writer of Hebrews reminds us of a natural progression of our faith life. It's acceptable for a child to need his/her parent to care for them, but it's not okay for an adult! In the same way, we who have been walking with Jesus for a while need to learn how to be self-taught. We need to make it a priority to pour into our relationship with Christ and move from being taught to teaching others. What's your next step? Maybe it is to develop the habit of spending time alone with God. Or, perhaps your next step is to start teaching others by facilitating a community or student group!

DAY 5

READ EXODUS 13:17-22

This account in the book of Exodus reminds us that God wants to lead us step by step. After God freed his people from the nation of Egypt, He didn't just tell them about their destination then disappear. He remained close and led His people step by step. God was present with His people, always giving direction. By day, He led by a pillar of cloud and by night, in a pillar of fire. God still wants to lead His church step by step. Maybe we don't have a cloud or fire to lead the way, but we do have something even better. We have the very Spirit of God living in us, whispering to us and directing us step by step (John 16:13).

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

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