

Day 1: Righting Wrongs: A Broken World

*For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23*

Thoughts for today: We live in a broken world. If you read the creation story you see that God created everything and said that everything was good. But as we look around us we wonder if that is still the case. So what happened? Sin entered the world and messed everything up. Sin is the problem, and guess what? It is a problem we all have. Today I want you to look at the world and see things around you that do not seem right. Maybe they are parts of your own life. Maybe your family has broken a part. Maybe you or someone you know is living in poverty. I want you to write those things down, write how you think sin may have caused them, and pray for God to bring healing to each situation.

Today's challenge: Begin to look at the world around you with different eyes. Look for what is and what God wants things to be. Pray God would use you to make those things that are wrong right.



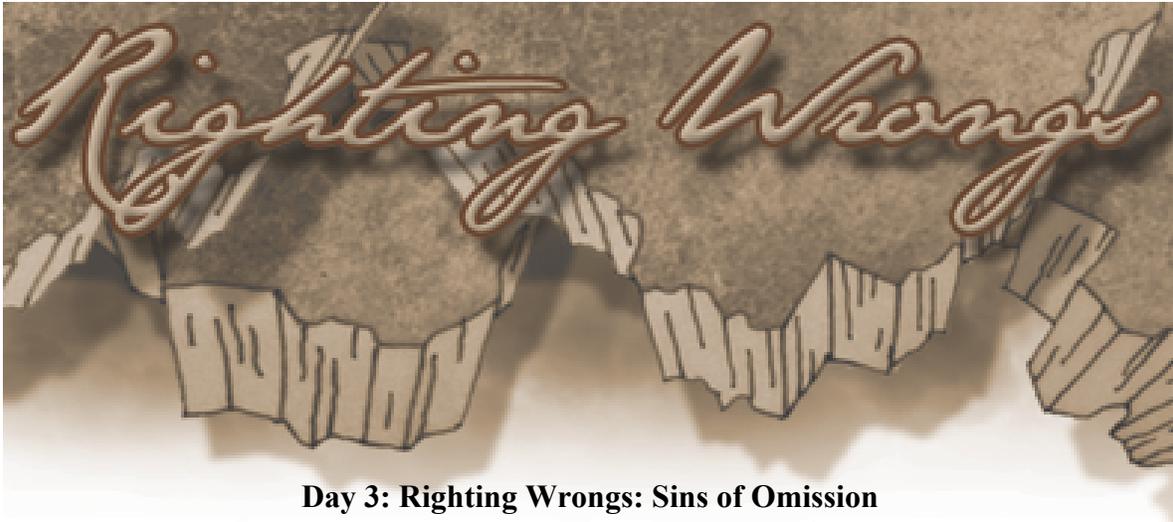
Day 2: Righting Wrongs: Sins We Commit

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

James 2:10

Thoughts for today: God laid out in the Ten Commandments things we are not supposed to do. This is what the law is. And when we break the law we are guilty of sin. These often refer to sins of commission and are usually the type of sin that we think about. These sins lead to brokenness in our lives and in our world. What is sad is that most of these sins of commission are a habit. We struggle with the same ones over and over again and it steadily tears away at our lives. Today I want you to examine your life. Is there one sin that you habitually struggle with? Write it down today.

Today's challenge: Ask for forgiveness from that sin and find someone who can hold you accountable to overcome that sin.



Day 3: Righting Wrongs: Sins of Omission

*If you love me you will keep my commandments.
John 14:15*

Thoughts for today: Last time we talked about the law and sins of commission. But there is another category of sin. These are sins of omission. To omit something means to leave it out or not do it. While we have the law that tells us how to live, Jesus also called us to do many things. He continues to do this everyday. These are things we will look at in this study like sharing the Gospel and helping the poor. When we see those things in scripture or feel God telling us to do them and we do not, that is sin. What are some things that Christ has called you to do and you have not been doing? Maybe right down a specific instance that this happened.

Today's challenge: Confess this instance as sin and ask God for an opportunity to serve Him today and make this right.



Day 4: Righting Wrongs: A Very High Price

*For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23*

Thoughts for today: You may be wondering why we have spent three days on sin. Here is why. Sin has a high cost. It leads to death. Sin literally leads us down a path to destruction and death. If we continue in sin we will not only die physically some day but we will also spend eternity separated from God. Unfortunately though we view sin as not that big of a deal. Granted there are the “bad” sins in our eyes but all sin leads to death and we are to hate it. Today I want you to write down any sin that you think may still be in your life or in the lives of your friends. Ask God to allow you to see that sin the way that He does. Write down the thoughts and feelings that come to you.

Today’s challenge: Spend today looking at sin with different eyes and attitudes.



Day 5: Righting Wrongs: Our Only Hope

*For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23*

Thoughts for today: We have to come back to this verse again because I cannot leave you hanging around without hope. Sin is bad news and there is a very high price for our sin. It leads us to death and our world suffers because of it. But there is hope. The hope is in Jesus. He is our only hope. We deserve death and destruction but God sent His Son to us. Jesus died for our sins so that we can be forgiven and live life for Him. And that life is the only one worth living. All we have to do is trust in Him for our salvation and we can be saved from sin and death. Have you ever done that? If not talk to someone about doing that today. Have you already done this? Then guess what? You need to go share with someone else about this salvation. That is because spiritual emptiness, life without Christ, is the greatest wrong in our world and we have a responsibility to right it by sharing the Gospel with others. Today I want you to right down the names of some people who you know that do not know Christ. Then begin to pray for them.

Today's challenge: Go share the Gospel with one of the people on your list.



Day 6: Righting Wrongs: Making Disciples

*And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
Matthew 28:18-20*

Thoughts for today: Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples. This means that once we share the Gospel our work is not done. We then have to teach and train them in what it means to be a follower of Christ, basically in the things that we are talking about in these lessons. This takes a big commitment and some patience. This discipleship process takes time. Jesus invested in His disciples for three years so we need to understand what we are getting into when we take on this responsibility. Are you discipling anyone? If so write that persons name down and spend time in prayer for them today. If you are not discipling anyone, then write down the names of some people who you think you could disciple.

Today’s challenge: Start a discipleship relationship with someone.



Day 7: Righting Wrongs: Doing Life Together

*And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
Matthew 28:18-20*

Thoughts for today: Discipleship is about teaching and training others in what it means to follow Christ. There will need to be set times where you sit down with someone and study scripture or go through a study like this and discuss it together. But really discipleship is just about doing life together. Jesus spent three years investing in His disciples and they did everything together. Then out of that time teachable moments arose naturally. You need to view discipleship this way. Invite the person a long to different activities you have. Let them be a part of your tasks and routines. Then look for teachable moments in those times together. Today, write down some ways you think you could do life with the person you are discipling.

Today’s challenge: Find a way to disciple someone as part of your activities today.

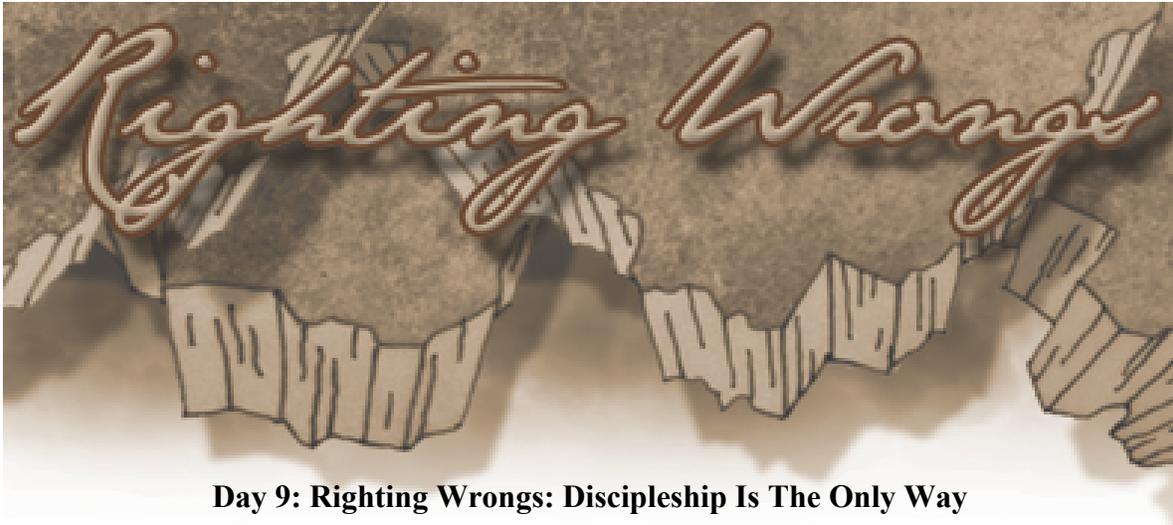


Day 8: Righting Wrongs: You Need to Be Disciplined

*And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
Matthew 28:18-20*

Thoughts for today: Discipleship has a pattern to it. It started with Christ investing in His disciples. Then they went out and disciplined others. Then this pattern continued all the way through to today. So part of this is you being disciplined. Hopefully this is already the case for you. Hopefully you are doing this study with someone else and they are disciplining you. If not think about some people who you think could disciple you. You desperately need this relationship. So make this a priority.

Today’s challenge: Approach someone about disciplining you or pray for the person who is disciplining you.



Day 9: Righting Wrongs: Discipleship Is The Only Way

*And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
Matthew 28:18-20*

Thoughts for today: Part of this study is about dreaming big. I want you to envision about what God wants to do in this world and believe that it can happen. God wants to save the world. The Gospel is for all people and it is God’s desire that all people would be saved. And discipleship is the only way that can happen. How do I know? If someone led 1,000 people a day to Christ every day for 33 years 12,045,000 people would get saved. Amazing right? But if you led one person to Christ and discipled them for a year like we are called to, then do that again next year and the person you discipled does the same thing and so on and so forth, after 33 years 8,589,920,000 people would be saved. That is the entire population of the world. Discipleship is the answer to the wrong of spiritual emptiness.

Today’s challenge: Challenge someone else to start discippling someone.



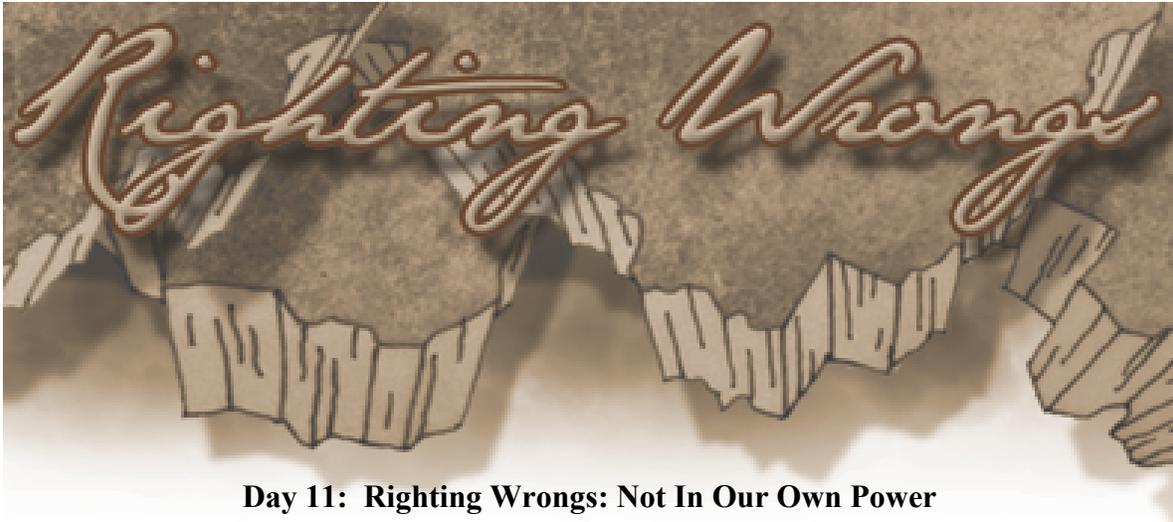
Day 10: Righting Wrongs: Transformation

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, His good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

Thoughts for today: The Gospel and discipleship is where it all starts. That is where righting wrongs begin. This is because our spiritual emptiness is the root cause of all the wrong in the world and our greatest need. But also there is no way we can do the other things we have been called to if we do not have Christ with us. Over the next few days we are going to break this idea. The first part of this is that the Gospel and being discipled transforms us. We have been trained by the world to think, act, and feel. But we have to go through a retraining process so that we can think, act and feel the way that God desires for us to. Take some time and study a scripture passage today. Write down what it says about the way God would have us to think, act and feel. Then write down how that is different from the world's way.

Today's challenge: Ask God to transform you.



Day 11: Righting Wrongs: Not In Our Own Power

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

John 14:12

Thoughts for today: This verse blows me away. First off Jesus says we will do even greater things than He did. Also, He says that it is better for Him to leave us in the physical sense. How can this be possible? This is because in this passage Jesus was talking about the Holy Spirit. He knew that by him dying and raising from the dead we would get the Holy Spirit, the power of God, living inside of us when we believe in Him. This power is what makes it possible for us to do the things God calls us to. If we try to do things in our own strength we will fail. We must remember that we cannot do this on our own. We must rely on God. Write down how some things might have gone differently for you if you had relied on God's power.

Today's challenge: Ask God to show you how to rely on His power today.

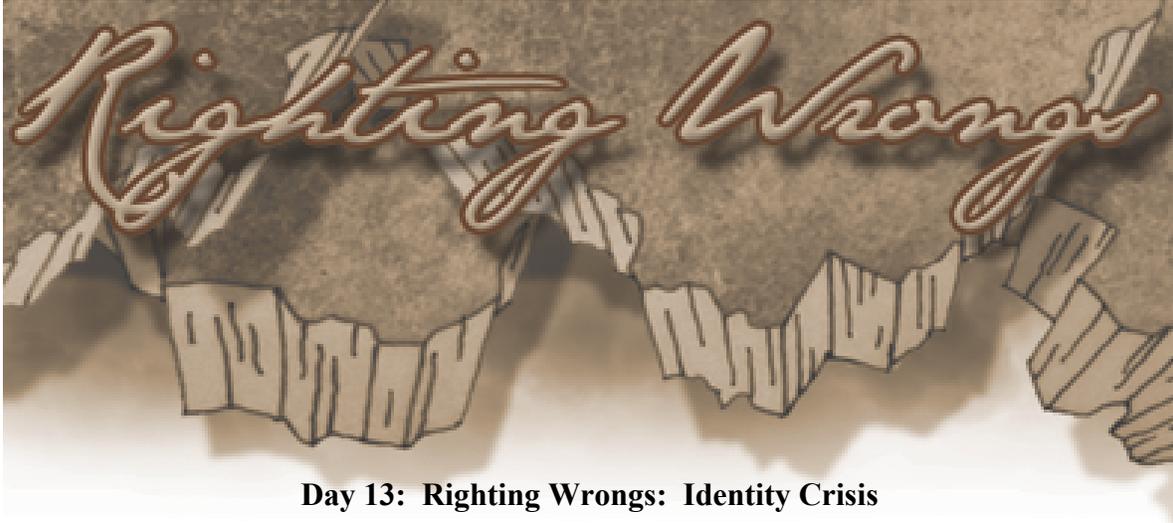


Day 12: Righting Wrongs: No Fear

*For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.
2 Timothy 1:7*

Thoughts for today: The biggest obstacle that keeps people from sharing the Gospel and doing the other things we will discuss in this study is fear. But fear should not be a part of our lives if we are followers of Christ. If we are followers of Christ then we have been given a spirit of power and fear has been removed from us. That means that anytime we feel fear over doing something God has called us to it is a lie from Satan. Satan wants nothing more than to keep you from doing God's work and fear is one of his biggest tools to do that. Has there ever been a time you let fear keep you from doing God's work? Write it down and confess it as sin. Has there ever been a time where you overcame fear and served God? Write that down and celebrate it as a victory.

Today's challenge: Ask God to empower you to live without fear today.

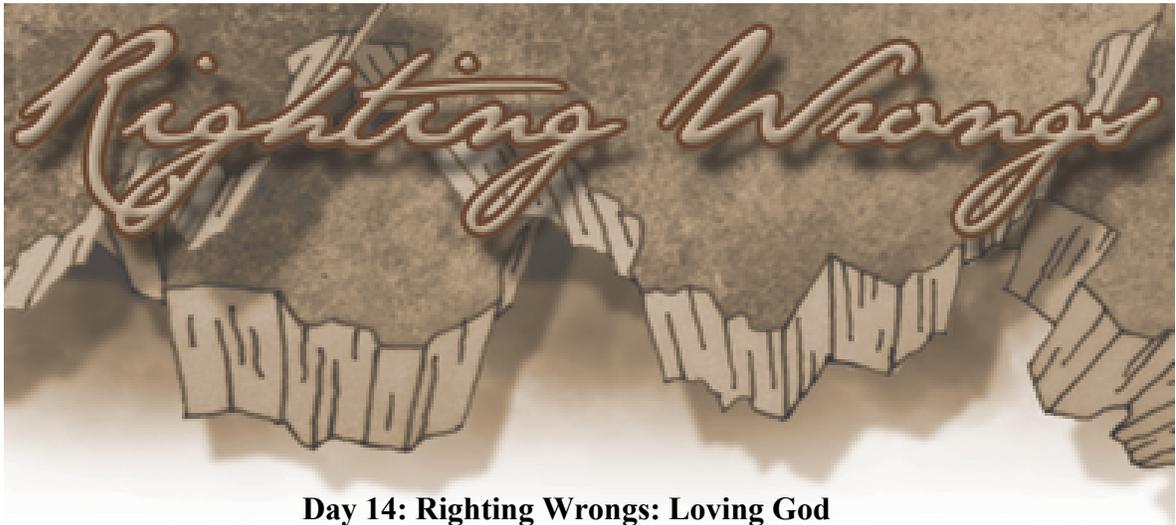


Day 13: Righting Wrongs: Identity Crisis

*By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.
John 13:35*

Thoughts for today: Jesus called us to love one another. As we will see in the next couple of days this is actually the most important thing of all and is the essence of what righting wrongs is. For example, we share the Gospel because we love people enough to not let them go down a road that leads to death. The other big thing hear is that Jesus says His followers are supposed to be known by their love for one another. But so many times I do not see a lot of love in the world among Christians or being poured out to others by Christians. And the world has taken notice. Instead of knowing us by our love the world knows us as being sheltered, hypocritical, anti-gay, too political, and judgmental. We are known for what we are against instead of who we are for, Jesus. We have an identity crisis. Today write down the ways that you see Christians, yourself included, not showing love.

Today’s challenge: Commit to being known for your love. Pray for the Church, meaning all Christians, that we too would be known for our love.



Day 14: Righting Wrongs: Loving God

*Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. 'All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."
Matthew 22:34-40*

Thoughts for today: We are supposed to be known by our love. That is what life boils down to. That is what Jesus is saying hear. Everything that has ever been taught or commanded boils down to two things, loving God and loving people. Everything in this study so far and as we move ahead boils down to loving God and loving people. Love for God comes first. This is because out of our love for God we are able to pour out love to everyone else. But how do you love God? Jesus said we love Him by doing what He commands. So do you love God? Are you doing what He has commanded? Today write down ways you are loving God and areas you need to improve.

Today's challenge: Ask God for strength to love Him in everything you do today.



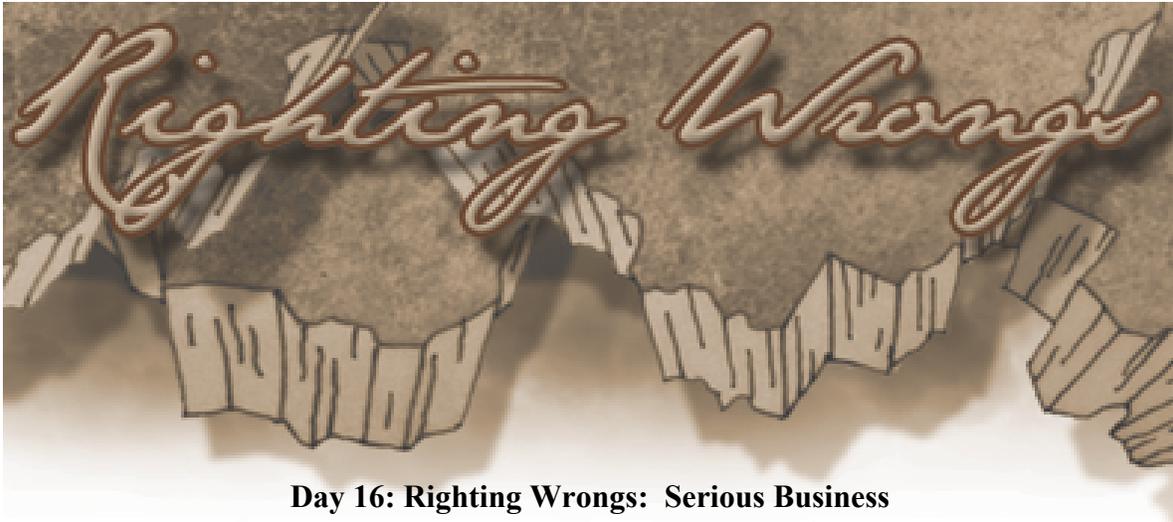
Day 15: Righting Wrongs: Loving Neighbor

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. 'All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:34-40

Thoughts for today: The majority of the rest of our study will deal with how we are to love our neighbor. So today I want to focus in on who are neighbor is. Many people read this verse and look for loopholes. They try to define neighbor in such a way that they can avoid loving people they do not like or agree with. But Jesus also says later on that we are supposed to love our enemies. This tells me that we are to love everyone, no exceptions and no excuses. This is hard. Who is it going to be difficult for you to love? Is it someone from a rival school? Is it someone who has wronged you? Is it someone from another race, culture, or nationality? There is no room for any hatred or division if you are going to follow Christ. It is all about the love. Write down today who it is difficult for you to love and why. Be honest with yourself and with God.

Today's challenge: Ask for forgiveness for your lack of love towards these people or groups. Pray for transformation so that you can love all people.



Day 16: Righting Wrongs: Serious Business

Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: I am sorry make you have to do a little extra work and look up the scripture. But then again I am not because in the Christian life we have work to do. Of course it was work that is much more important and tiring than turning a page. In this passage Jesus talks about us going out and ministering to those in need. Basically this is about seeing things that are wrong and making them right. We will look at each of these things in detail over the next few days. But notice something though. Notice what Jesus says to those who do not reach out and love their neighbor. He says, "...depart from Me into the eternal fire..." to those who did not meet people's needs. That is serious. This is not an optional task. This is because the Gospel is about redeeming sin, making our lives right with God again, and redeeming everything sin has touched, righting all the wrongs that sin has created. After reading this passage, how do you think you are doing in loving your neighbor and righting wrongs? Are you a sheep or a goat? How do you feel after reading this passage.

Today's challenge: Look for a way to be a sheep today.



Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: So we are back in the same passage again and will be for a few a days. This is because I believe this passage is so powerful and important yet we never seem to teach it or study it. There is another key concept here. When we reach out to those in need and right wrongs it is as if we are ministering to Christ Himself. When we ignore those in need and fail to reach out to them it is as if we have ignored Christ. How does this knowledge change the way you view loving your neighbor and meeting the needs of those who are hurting and struggling?

Today's challenge: Ask God for forgiveness for the times you have ignored Him and look for opportunities to make this right by reaching out to those in need.



Day 18: Righting Wrongs: Physical Needs

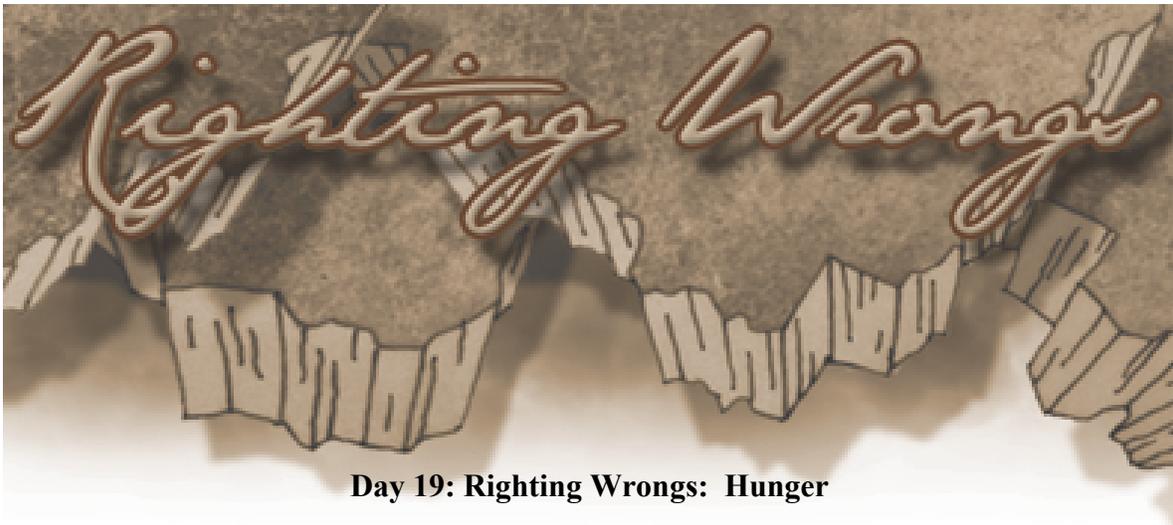
Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: As we look at the words of Christ in this passage and think about the fact that He says when ministering to those in need we are actually ministering to Him, we must take note of the ways that we are to minister. Over the next few days we are going to look at the various aspects of this ministry that Christ speaks of and decide how you can work with those around you to meet the needs of those in our world. First of all in verse 35 He mentions being hungry and thirsty. This is an example of physical needs that people have. Many people do not have their physical needs met for various reasons. Much of these stem from poverty. Today I want you to begin to think about the physical needs that around you that are not being met. Then begin to think out to the rest of the world. This pattern is important because we cannot take care of issues across the globe while we neglect issues at home. Over the next few days we will look at some specific issues but right now I want you to personalize this to your specific area and worldview. Then as you think of those needs decide how you can reach out. The first thing we always look at is prayer because we can and should pray for all issues. The second thing is how we can give of our financial resources. The third thing is going. This is you and I actually taking action to meet the needs we see from this scripture passage. This will be unique for each person based on your background, where you live, and what God lays on your heart. But I believe this exercise will be very beneficial.

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____



Day 19: Righting Wrongs: Hunger

Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: Jesus first mentions being hungry and someone giving Him something to eat. Hunger is a major issues in our world. Every 3.6 seconds someone dies from hunger. Every 5 seconds one of those people is a child. There is enough food for everyone on earth yet 17% are currently malnourished or starving. In the United States alone 10 million people suffer from hunger. In your school there are students who the only meal they get is their free lunch at school. This is a big wrong. Allowing this to continue is sin. Meditate on the scripture passage we have been reading. Think about these statistics. Write down your thoughts and then decide how you can pray, give and go.

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: We will have the same challenge everyday for a few days. Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Read Matthew 25:31-46

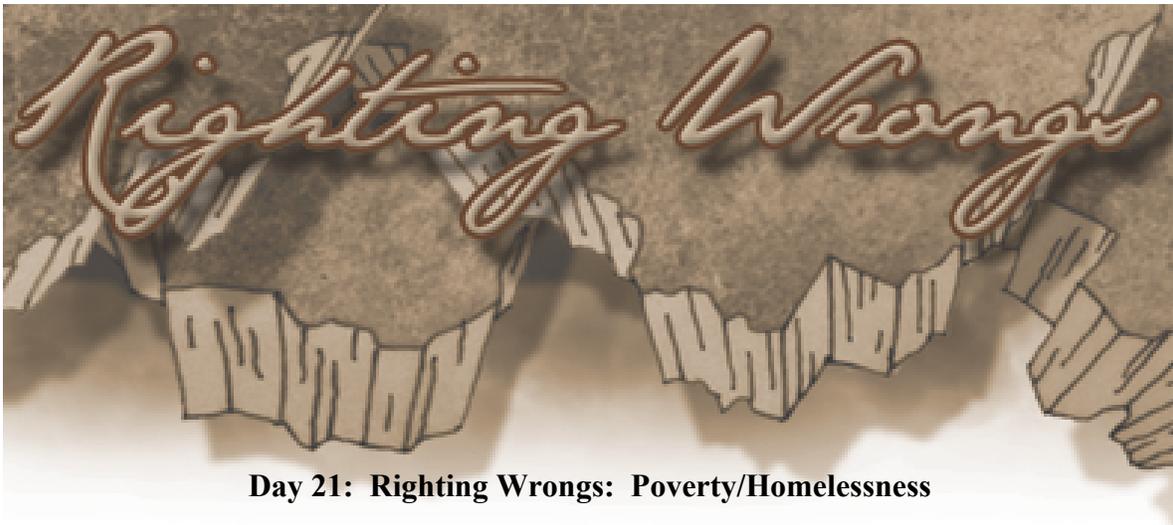
Thoughts for today: Next Christ mentions being thirsty and us giving Him something to drink. 1 billion people in the world do not have access to clean water. 3.5 billion people live without basic sanitation. Globally diarrhea due to lack of access to clean water and basic sanitation is the leading cause of death. Every 20 seconds a child dies from poor sanitation. This is a big wrong. It is our job as the church to right this wrong and meet this need. How will you be Gods hands and feet in this process?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Day 21: Righting Wrongs: Poverty/Homelessness

Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: Next Jesus mentions being a stranger and being invited in and then being naked and being clothed. This makes me think of those who live in poverty and live without and those who are homeless. Part of the reason I think this way is because so often we put ourselves at a distance from those who are poor or homeless so that we do not have to see their pain. This is a sad thing especially when a Christian is guilty of it. We instead need to reach out and open up our wallets, homes and lives. In the United States 3.5 million people experience homelessness every year and 1.5 million of those are children. Nearly 2.5 billion people live on \$2 a day and 158 million children worldwide have to go to work everyday just to survive. And what makes it worse is that America controls 20% of the world's wealth while we are only 5% of the worlds population. This is a big wrong. The church must be at the forefront of righting it. How will you be a part of that process?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Day 22: Righting Wrongs: Healthcare/Disease

Read Matthew 25:31-46

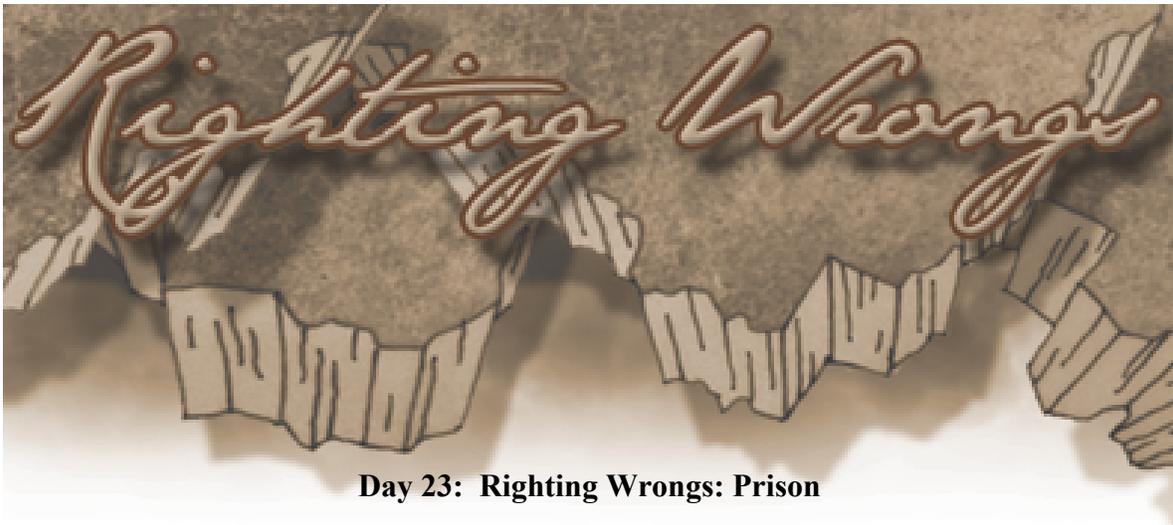
Thoughts for today: Jesus next mentions being sick and we visited Him. Disease is rampant in our world yet we often try to ignore it or distance ourselves from it. We as Christians those have to get our hands dirty and draw close to those who are sick and hurting and show them God’s love. 8,000 people die of aids each day. Over 40 million people worldwide do not have healthcare. How does that weigh on your mind and heart? How can your church body get involved in bringing about change?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today’s challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Day 23: Righting Wrongs: Prison

Read Matthew 25:31-46

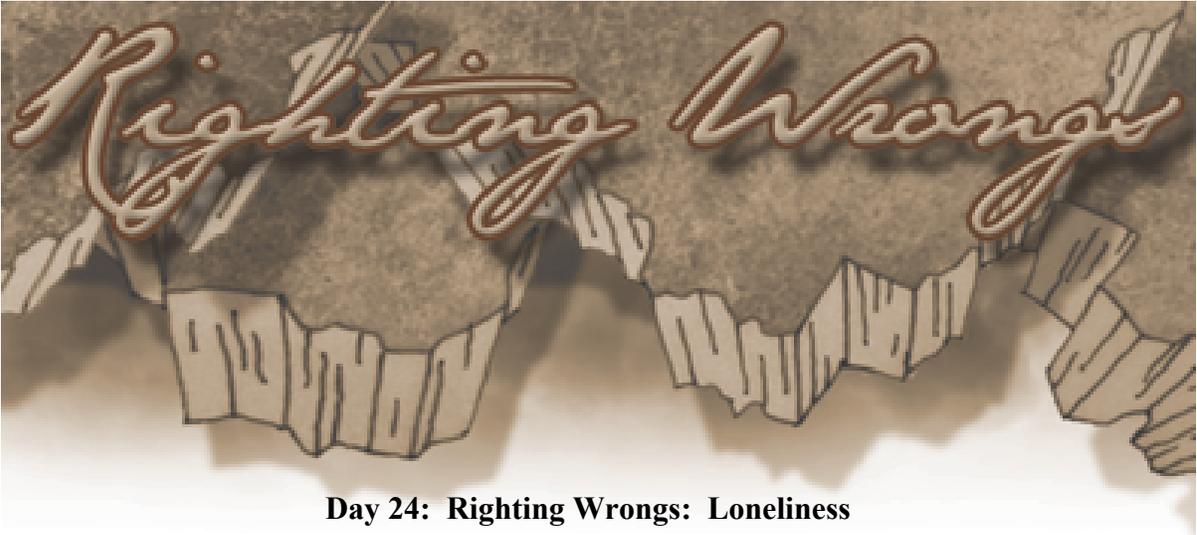
Thoughts for today: Millions of people, including teenagers, are in prison everyday. We need to find ways to minister to them. There are ministries you can look into to see how they do this. But I think there is something more going on here. This is about our hearts. Many times when someone goes to prison we right them off and say they are beyond hope. But all people can receive God's salvation regardless of what they have done or where they are. The second we say one person is incapable of receiving God's grace we say that all of us are incapable of receiving God's grace. What needs to change about your mindset? How can you be a part of reaching those that most people are afraid to reach out too?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Day 24: Righting Wrongs: Loneliness

Read Matthew 25:31-46

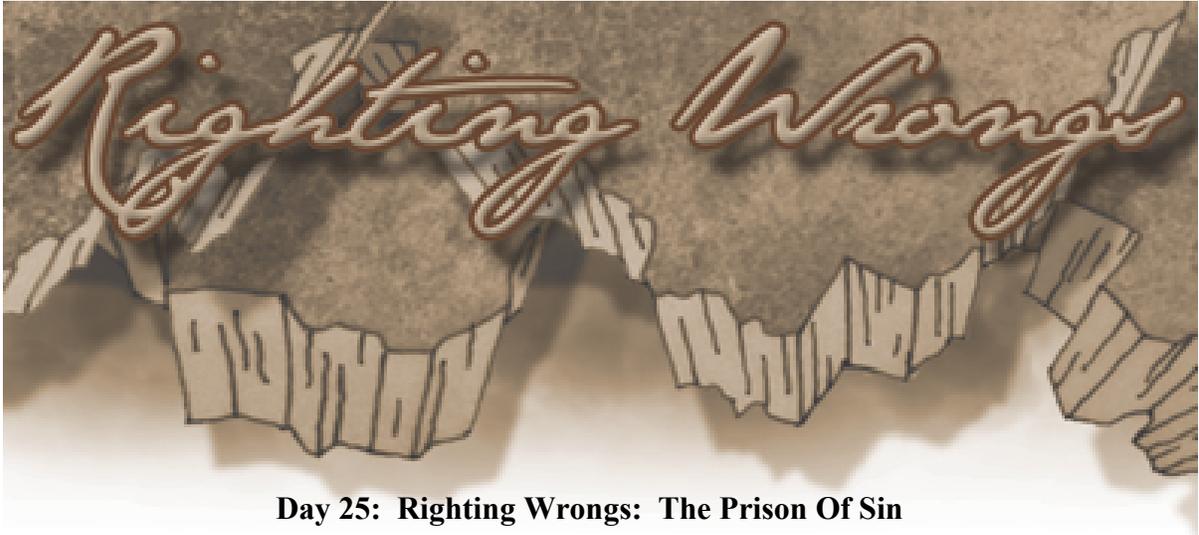
Thoughts for today: When I think about prison there are things that come to mind beyond just literal prison. Jesus mentions us coming to visit Him. When you think about prison you think about a lonely place. But some people are in their own prison of loneliness. Many times the worst part of poverty is the loneliness that accompanies it. In fact Mother Teresa said that the greatest poverty in the world is loneliness. And loneliness is often the root of a whole other host of issues. Who around you is lonely? How should you and your friends as the church reach out to them and show them God's love and community?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.



Day 25: Righting Wrongs: The Prison Of Sin

Read Matthew 25:31-46

Thoughts for today: There is one last thing that comes to mind when I think about sin. This is the fact that many people are in prison to sin. Most people are in prison to sin and do not want to turn from it. But some people are into this very deep. These are people who deal with addictions that range from cutting, to alcohol, to drugs, to pornography. Some people are pulled into bondage like sex trafficking, a modern day form slavery. These addictions and terrible situations are a prison and instead of shunning these people and pushing them out of the church we should be dragging them into the church so we can show them God's love and the grace of God that can free them from their bondage and heal them of their deep hurt and pain. Who do you need to lead to freedom today?

Pray- _____

Give- _____

Go- _____

Today's challenge: Decide how you can get involved in righting this wrong in your community and then in the world.

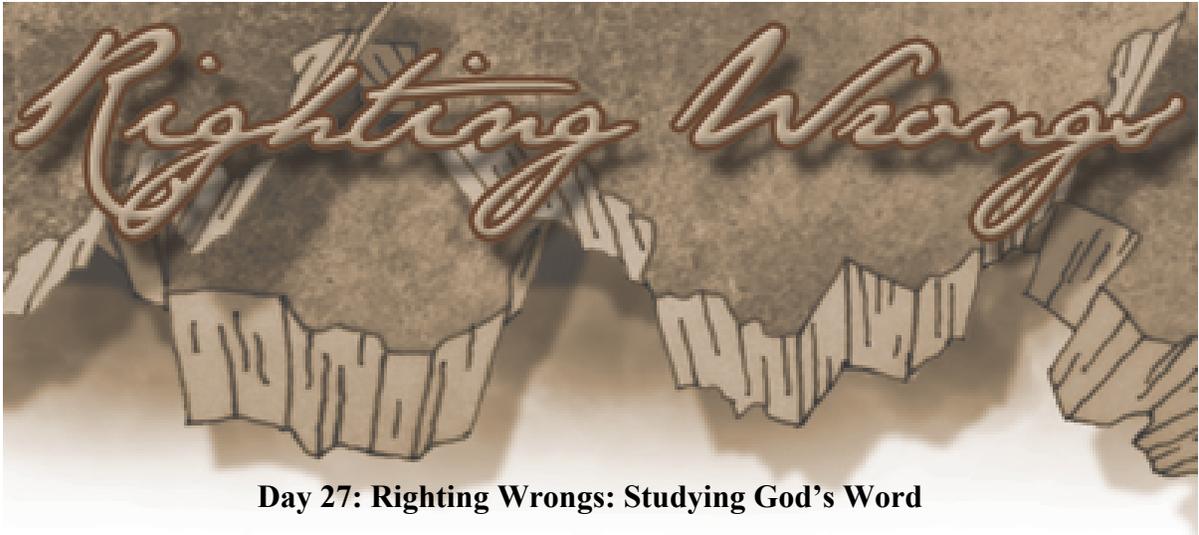


Day 26: Righting Wrongs: The Power Of Prayer

*...pray without ceasing;
1 Thessalonians 5:17*

Thoughts for today: We have talked about some big ideas that are mandates that God has laid out for us. But we cannot do these things alone. If we do we will burn out and fail. That is why we need the community we talked about in discipleship. But also, we need to tap into the power of God that we talked about. One of the ways that we do that is through prayer. This is not just a quick prayer before a meal or at the end of church. This is getting together as a community, on our faces before God, broken and crying out to Him to move in our world. We can never pray too much and we should not stop praying until God moves in each situation. And then we should pray some more. Write down some things you as a church community need to pray for and what you think praying without ceasing would look like.

Today's challenge: Set up a specific time for you to get together with your friends and/or church community to pray without ceasing.

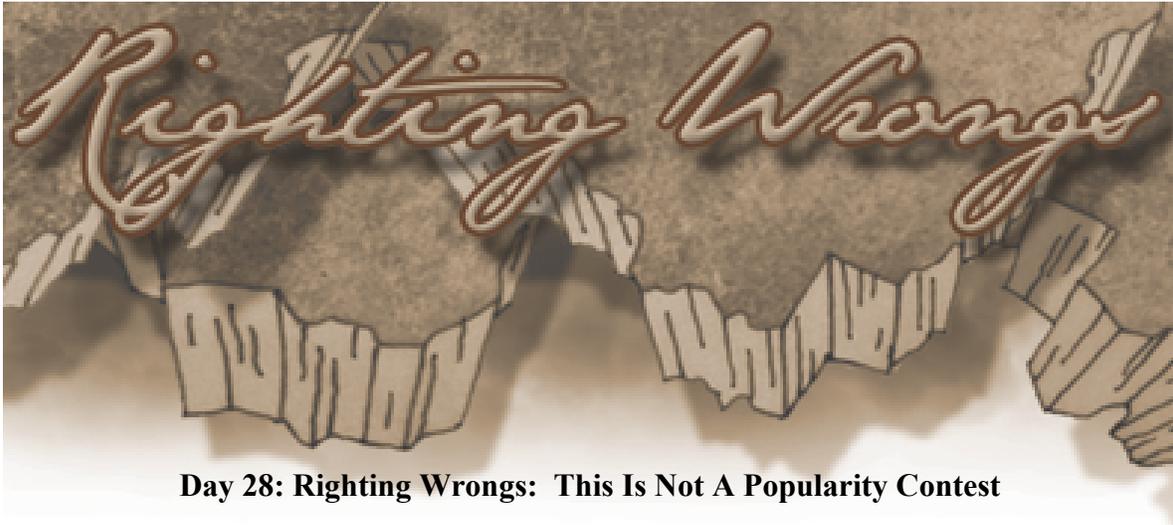


Day 27: Righting Wrongs: Studying God's Word

*All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Thoughts for today: The Bible is the word of God. It teaches us the things we are supposed to be doing and trains us in how to do those things. It also corrects us when we are doing wrong and spurs us on when things are difficult. You must get into God's word everyday. It is a privilege that we get to read it and we cannot survive without it. Today write down things that keep you from getting God's word and some scripture passages that you think you and your friends could study together.

Today's challenge: If anything keeps you from God's word, get rid of it. Also, set up a specific time that you can study God's word each day.

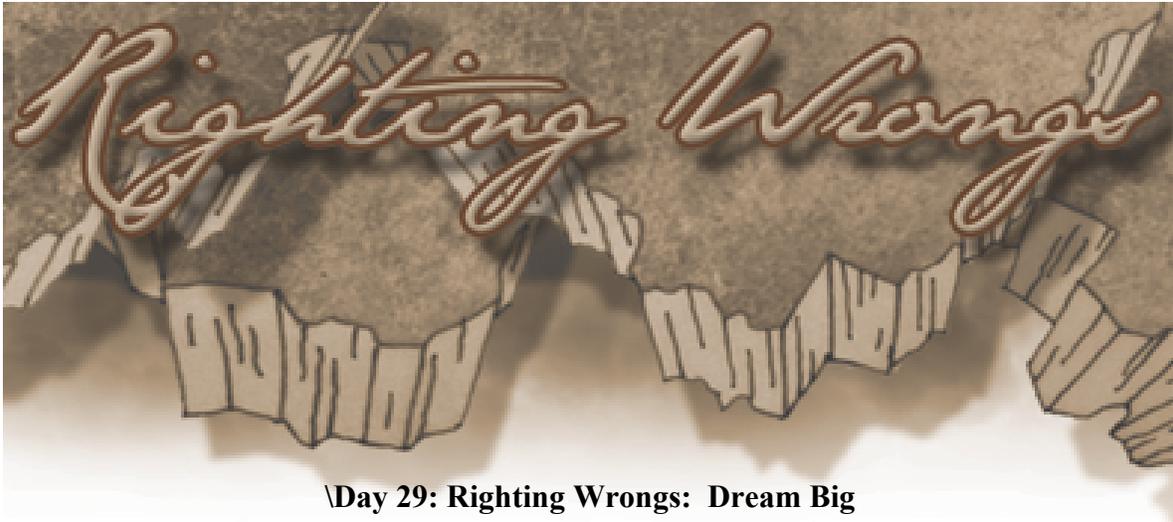


Day 28: Righting Wrongs: This Is Not A Popularity Contest

If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.
John 15:19

Thoughts for today: You would think if you did all these things we are talking about you would be pretty popular. I mean loving people and meeting needs, that is great. But this will not necessarily be the case. In fact you may actually be hated. This hatred can come by the world or quite possibly from within the church. Part of this is because people do not understand and part of this is because people will not like having light shown on what they are not doing that they should be doing. I share this with you because I want you to be prepared. This will not be an easy journey but we have no choice but to take it. Write down some ways that you could deal with the discouragement that may come a long as you do God’s work in the world.

Today’s challenge: Ask God for the strength and perseverance to battle through the opposition that often comes from serving Him.

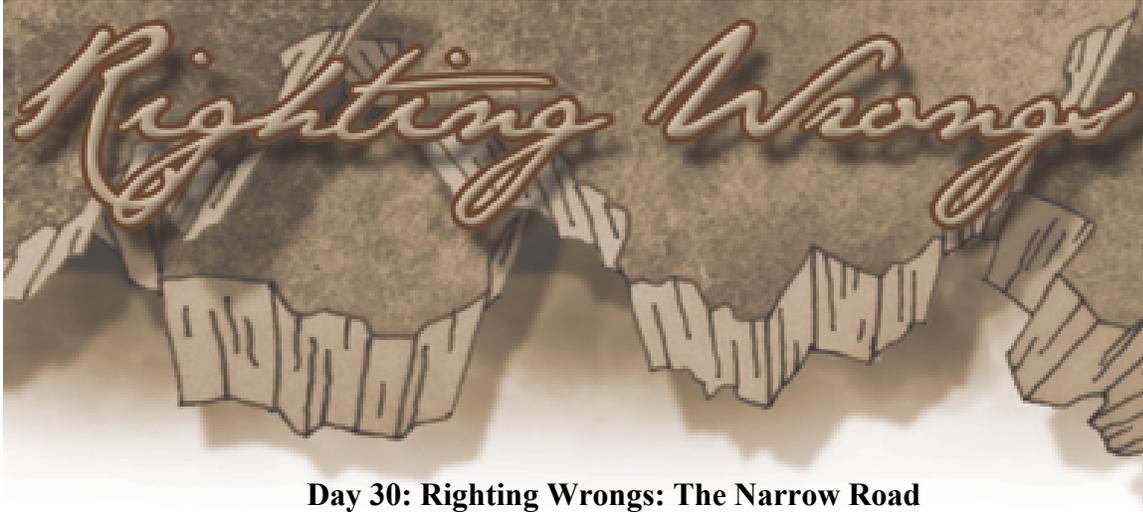


\Day 29: Righting Wrongs: Dream Big

*It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.
Joel 2:28*

Thoughts for today: This is a prophecy, message from God, by the prophet Joel. It talks of a day when people see vision and dream dreams. You need to envision with your Christian friends what could be. You need to dream about what God can do and wants to do through you. You need to think about what is possible and what some think are impossible and ask God to be God in each situation. Big things are possible. We saw that in what can happen if we commit discipleship. Not to mention that with the money Americans spend on ice cream every year children all over the world could have education, health care, food, and water. Big things are possible. Dream big today.

Today's challenge: Dream big and pray those dreams come true.



Day 30: Righting Wrongs: The Narrow Road

Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:13

Thoughts for today: The things mentioned in this study are not easy. That is why many people do not do any of them. But this way of life is the narrow that God has called us to. But there is another part to this. There are people everyday on the broad road that leads to destruction. A road filled with sin and the effects of sin. We need to spend our lives pulling people off that road and bringing them to the narrow road. And maybe we even prepare the road a little along the way. Which road will you choose? What is that road going to look like in your life and where will it lead you? Pray God gives you some vision today that provides answers to these questions.

Today's challenge: Commit to a lifetime on the narrow road and a lifetime of pulling others onto the narrow road. This is a lifelong journey and it is only beginning.