

40 days of purpose - Bible references for days 29-35

Day 29

Title: Accepting your assignment

Biblical References:

- John 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.
- Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- Col 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
- Eph 6:7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men
- Jer 1:5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations
- 2 Tim 1:9 who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time
- 1 Cor 6:20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.
- Rom 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God— this is your spiritual act of worship.
- 1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.
- Matt 8:15 He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.
- Rom 1:6-7 And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1 Cor 1:26 Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.
- 1 Cor 7:17 Nevertheless, each one should retain the place in life that the Lord assigned to him and to which God has called him. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches.
- 1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
- 2 Tim 1:9 who has saved us and called us to a holy life— not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time
- Rom 7:4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God.
- 1 Cor 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.
- Matt 20:28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
- Rom 14:12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.
- Rom 2:8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.
- Mark 8:35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.
- Rom 12:5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

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Day 30

Title: Shaped for serving God

Biblical References:

- Job 10:8 Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me?
- Is 43:21 the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.
- Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- Ps 139:13-14 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
- Ps 139:16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
- 1 Cor 7:7 But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.
- 1 Cor 2:14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.
- Eph 4:7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.
- 1 Cor 12:11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.
- 1 Cor 12:29-30 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?
- 1 Cor 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
- 1 Cor 12:5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.
- Prov 27:19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.
- Matt 12:34b For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.
- Prov 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.
- Deut 11:13-14 So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today— to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul— then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil.
- 1 Sam 12:20 ... serve the LORD with all your heart.
- Rom 1:19 God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you
- Eph 6:6 Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.
- Prov 15:16 Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great wealth with turmoil.

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Day 31

Title: Understanding your shape

Biblical References:

- Ps 139:13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 1 Cor 12:4-6 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.
There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.
There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.
- Ex 31:3-5 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts—to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.
- Rom 12:6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.
- 1 Cor 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
- Deut 8:18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.
- Deut 14:23 Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the LORD your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always.
- Mal 3:8-11 Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse— the whole nation of you— because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit, says the LORD Almighty.
- Heb 13:21 equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.
- 1 Pet 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.
- Rom 8:28-29 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
- 2 Cor 1:4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
- 2 Cor 1:8-10 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,

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Day 32

Title: Using what God gave you

Biblical References:

- Rom 12:5 So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
- Eph 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.
- Rom 12:3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.
- Gal 6:4 Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else,
- Deut 11:2, 7 Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the LORD your God: his majesty, his mighty hand, his outstretched arm; ... but it was your own eyes that saw all these great things the LORD has done.
- Gal 3:4 Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing?
- John 13:7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."
- Rom 9:20-21 But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?" Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?
- Eph 4:7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.
- Gal 2:7-8 ... they saw that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews. For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles.
- 2 Cor 10:13 We, however, will not boast beyond proper limits, but will confine our boasting to the field God has assigned to us, a field that reaches even to you.
- Heb 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
- 2 Cor 10:12 We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.
- 2 Cor 10:17 But, Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.
- Phil 1:9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight
- 2 Tim 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- Matt 25:28 "Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents".
- 1 Tim 4:14-15 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.
- 2 Tim 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.
- 1 Cor 9:25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last for ever.

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Day 33

Title: How real servants act

Biblical References:

- Mark 10:43 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant
- Matt 7:16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?
- 2 Tim 2:4 No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.
- Gal 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.
- Prov 3:28 Do not say to your neighbour, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"—when you now have it with you.
- Eccles 11:4 Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.
- Col 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men
- Gal 6:3 If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.
- John 13:15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.
- Acts 28:3 Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand.
- Luke 16:10-12 Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?
- Ps 12:1 Help, LORD, for the godly are no more; the faithful have vanished from among men.
- Prov 20:6 Many a man claims to have unflinching love, but a faithful man who can find?
- Phil 2:19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. I have no-one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.
- Matt 25:23 His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
- 1 Pet 5:5 Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, because God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.
- Eph 6:6 Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.
- Col 3:22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favour, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.
- Matt 6:1 Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.
- Gal 1:10 Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ.
- Col 3:4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
- 1 Cor 12:(21-)22 The eye cannot say to the hand, I don't need you! And the head cannot say to the feet,

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Day 33

Title: How real servants act

Biblical References:

I don't need you! **On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable**

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

Matt 10:42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.

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Day 34

Title: Thinking like a servant

Biblical References:

- Num 14:24 But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.
- Phil 2:5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus
- 2 Chron 25:2 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, but not wholeheartedly.
- Phil 2:4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- Phil 2:7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness.
- Phil 2:20-21 I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.
- Matt 5:41 If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.
- 1 Cor 4:1-2 So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.
- Luke 16:13 No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.
- Luke 16:11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?
- Gal 5:26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.
- Rom 14:4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.
- Neh 6:3 so I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?"
- Matt 26:10 Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me.
- John 13:3-4 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.
- 2 Cor 10:18 For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.
- James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Ps 100:2 Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.
- John 12:26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.
- Heb 6:10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

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Day 35

Title: God's power in your weakness

Biblical References:

- 2 Cor 13:4 For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you.
- Is 55:9 As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- 1 Cor 1:27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.
- Matt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 2 Cor 12:7 To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.
- 2 Cor 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.
- Matt 16:16 Simon Peter answered, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- Acts 14:15 Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them.
- 2 Cor 12:9-10 But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
- Num 12:3 Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.
- Judges 6:12 When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.
- Rom 4:11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.
- Matt 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
- Acts 13:22 After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'
- Heb 11:32-34 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.
- Rom 7:19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.
- 2 Cor 6:11 We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you.
- 2 Cor 1:8 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life.

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Day 35

Title: God's power in your weakness

Biblical References:

1 Cor 2:3 I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling.

2 Cor 12:5 ... I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.

Rom 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.