

**经节：耶稣说：「不用他们去，你们给他们吃吧！」（马太福音十四章16节）**

耶稣交代门徒去做一件看似不可能的事。这里有五千个男人及其家属，他们全都饿了。而他们只有五个饼和两条鱼，很明显地，这根本不够喂饱一群人。就算只为其中部分的群众购买食物，也超出门徒小小的预算。耶稣居然要门徒把那一点点食物分给一大群听众，实在很不合理。然而，这就是耶稣交代他们的。耶稣既已下达命令，门徒就顺服了，并且亲眼看见这个神迹奇事。

耶稣会领你到许多看似不可能的环境，千万别避开。你将在人看来不可能的环境中经历神。看似不可能的事与确实可能的事，其不同的关键乃是来自主口中说的话！信心是接受主神圣的命令，且迈开步伐，朝向只有神才能完成的目标前行。如果只着手那些有把握的事，你周围的人将看不到神的工作。你可能会在许多方面很成功，可是神与你的成功无分。

仔细检查你目前的生活，以及目前所面对的决定。你是否已经从主那儿领受到话语，而主正等待着你下一步的行动？如果你做了祂交代的事，不管这整件事看起来是多么不可能，你会体验到见证主行神迹的喜悦，你周围的人也会有一样的经历。

**Don't Avoid the Impossible**

*But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."*

*Matthew 14:16*

Jesus asked His disciples to do something that clearly was impossible. There were five thousand men, along with their families, and they were famished. There were only five loaves of bread and two small fish—obviously not enough to feed a multitude. The cost of food for even a portion of the crowd would have far exceeded the disciples' small budget. It may have seemed absurd to the disciples that Jesus should ask them to distribute the paltry amount of food to the massive crowd. Yet that is exactly what Jesus asked them to do. Because Jesus had given the command, the disciples obeyed and witnessed an incredible miracle.

Christ will lead you into many situations that will seem impossible, but don't try to avoid them. Stay in the middle of them, for that is where you will experience God. The key difference between what appears to be impossible to us and what is actually possible is a word from our Master! Faith accepts His divine command and steps out in a direction that only God can complete. If you only attempt things that you know are possible with the visible resources you possess, those around you will not see God at work. You will be the one who receives the credit for a job well done, but God will have no part in it.

Take inventory of your life and the decisions you are presently facing. Have you received a word from the Master that awaits your next step of faith? If you will proceed with what He has told you, no matter how incredible it might seem, you will experience the joy of seeing your Lord perform a miracle, and so will those around you.

11月7日（星期一）- 标题：**被捷径引诱**

**经文：亚比筛对大卫说：「现在神将你的仇敌交在你手里，求你容我拿枪将他刺透在地，一刺就成，不用再刺。」（撒母耳记上廿六章8节）**

你有时候会面对试探，想走捷径达到生活的既定目标。在大卫登上王位宝座时，他好几次面对这个试探。神的先知撒母耳早就用油膏了大卫，预言他是以色列下一个国王（撒母耳记上十六：12-13）。然而，在大卫等候神的时刻来临期间，他困惑地看见扫罗疯狂的作为，他让整个国家陷入危险的境地。扫罗追逐着大卫，亟欲杀他，逼迫大卫亡命天涯。

后来，突然有个千载难逢的大好时机落在大卫手中。大卫发现扫罗与军队安营在一个易受攻击、毫无招架余地的地方。亚比筛是属大卫的勇士之一，他自告奋勇，要为大卫除掉扫罗。这么做似乎是合情合理的，因为扫罗多次想杀大卫，况且神也说要大卫作国王。既然扫罗落在他的手中，大卫大可结束自己亡命天涯的日子，得到王位，作神所膏立的仆人。但就算他很想得到王位，而且这王位原本就属他，他仍然拒绝妥协自己的正直，来取得王权。对大卫来说，以不是神的方式来完成神的旨意，是不可行的。

你也会遇见类似的试探。有时候，朋友好意地建议你尽快完成神的旨意，不要你继续等候。你可能一心一意想控制自己的环境，以为只要有好结局，不择手段也没关系。你要相信，神的时机永远是最恰当的。神可能计划要你得到某一个职位，或转变一个新方向，然而，时机可能不像你所想象的。要保守你的心，不要让其他人说服你，而妥协你自己的正直，来达成神的旨意。

#### **Tempted by Shortcuts**

***Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!" 1 Samuel 26:8***

You will sometimes be tempted to take shortcuts to your destinations in life. David faced this temptation numerous times before he finally assumed the throne. Samuel, God's prophet, had anointed David and prophesied that he would be the next king of Israel (1 Sam. 16:12-13). Yet, while David waited on God's timing, he watched in frustration as a crazed King Saul brought the kingdom into jeopardy. Saul pursued David to murder him, forcing David to flee for his life.

Then an incredible opportunity presented itself to David. David found Saul in a vulnerable position, sleeping with his army. Abishai, one of David's warriors, offered to kill Saul. It seemed to make perfect sense. Saul had tried to kill David on numerous occasions. God had said He intended for David to be the king. By taking matters into his own hands, David could bring an end to his exile and assume the throne as God's anointed servant. Yet he refused to compromise his integrity in order to become king, even though he wanted the position and it was rightfully his. Accomplishing God's will in any manner other than the way God prescribed was unthinkable.

At times you may face similar temptations. Well-meaning friends advise you to hasten God's will for you rather than waiting upon Him. You may be sorely tempted to take control of your situation, assuming the end will justify the means. These are the times when you must trust God's perfect timing. God may plan for you to attain a certain position or take a new direction, but the timing may not be right. Watch over your heart. Don't allow others to persuade you to compromise your integrity as you follow God's will.

11月12日（星期六）- 标题：**神永恒计划的一部分**

**经文：又说：「我是你父亲的神，是亚伯拉罕的神，以撒的神，雅各的神。」摩西蒙上脸，因为怕看神。（出埃及记三章6节）**

神总是用前人的经历，来对我们说话。当神遇到摩西，祂交给他的任务并没有超越前人的任务。在几百年前，神曾给亚伯拉罕、以撒和雅各应许，现在祂要摩西参与祂的事工，实现祂向摩西先祖所应许的约。

这位曾经带领摩西、借着以利亚作工、指示保罗、引领世代男女的神，与现在邀请你参与祂事工的神，是同一位神。你是否感到这份重要性？你是神大能计划中的重要一部分！

我们倾向于只想到现在，我们要马上看到结果，缺乏对永恒的意识。我们的行为，就好象神在邀请我们之前，一点也没有动工。我们期待神透过自己所做的事工，能够完全成就、看到结果。当神要其他人或其它世代，来完成我们所开始的事工，我们会变得没耐心。

摩西了解，自己的事工是承继神几百年来圣工的。当摩西与曾引领自己先祖的神面对面时，他非常谦卑。你是否感觉到，自己的生命是神永恒计划的一部分？

#### **A Part of Somthing Bigger**

***Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father--the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.***

***Exodus 3:6***

God always speaks to you in the context of what He has done in the lives of those who have gone before you. When God encountered Moses, He did not give him an assignment independent of what He had done through those who had preceded him. God had made promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob hundreds of years earlier, and He was now going to involve Moses in His ongoing activity to fulfill the covenant He had made with Moses' forefathers.

The God who led Moses, who worked through Elijah, who directed Paul, who guided each man and woman of God through the centuries, is the same God who approaches you to become involved in His work. Do you sense the significance of that? You are a vital part of something much bigger than yourself!

We tend to think only of the present. We want immediate results and lack a sense of eternity. We often act as if God had not been working at all where we are before He approached us. We expect that anything God does through us will be completed while we can see the results. We become impatient if God intends to complete what He began in us through another person or even another generation.

Moses came to understand that his involvement in God's work was in the context of hundreds of years of divine activity. When Moses came face to face with the same God who had guided his forefathers, he was deeply humbled. Do you sense that your life is a part of God's eternal purposes?

11月11日（星期五）- 标题：**丧失自己的性命**

**经节：因为，凡要救自己生命的，必丧掉生命；凡为我丧掉生命的，必得着生命。（马太福音十六章25节）**

基督徒被命令要丧失自己的性命。这代表他们要慎重地将自己的生命，交给神与神的国度。拦阻你服事神的最大阻碍之一，是你对自己的「合法权利」之看法。这是指那些你自觉有权享受或拥有的权利。对于你不在意的事物，要交出主权给神并不难，因为对你而言，失去那些不算牺牲，是否拥有它们根本无所谓。难的是把自己心爱的东西交出去，这些东西会挡住你顺服神的旨意。

举例而言，住在子女身边很好，但神却要你去另一个城市，或另一洲宣教。能够睡饱固然好，但也许三更半夜来了一通电话，有人在伤痛中需要安慰。你可能自以为有权拥有某些物质，然而，神可能要你为了祂的事工，把所有财产全交出去（马太福音十九：21）。

耶稣在这方面完美地作了生命的榜样。祂有权利在天堂享受尊荣，但祂没有视之为应享的权利，也没有认为放弃的代价太大、牺牲太重（腓立比书二：5-11）。结果，神高举祂，并把救恩赐给这破败的世界。

这世界是否说服你要保护某种权利？你是否试着想拯救自己的生命？你是否注意到，如果你真的如此行，你将失去神要你拥有的生命？

### **Losing Your Life**

***For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Matthew 16:25***

Christians are commanded to lose their lives. This means they ought to deliberately release their lives to God and His kingdom. One of the greatest hindrances to you being on mission with God will be your view of what constitutes your “legitimate rights”; that is, those things that you feel you have a right to experience and enjoy. It’s not difficult to turn over to Christ those things that are not a sacrifice or that you would prefer to do without anyway. Rather, it is the things that are good and that are dear to you that may stand between you and God’s will.

It’s good to be near your grown children and grandchildren, for example, but God may want you to go to another city or continent on mission with Him. It’s good to get adequate rest, but you may receive a call of distress in the middle of the night. You may assume that you have a right to certain material things, yet God may ask you to release all of your possessions to Him and His purposes (Matt. 19:21).

Jesus modeled perfectly this attitude toward life. He had a legitimate right to enjoy the comforts of heaven. Yet, He did not look at it as a right He should hold on to, nor did He see leaving all that was His as a sacrifice too costly to make (Phil. 2:5-11). As a result, God highly exalted Him and brought salvation to a broken world. Has the world convinced you that there are certain rights that you must protect? Are you trying to save your life? Have you noticed that in so doing, you are actually losing the life God wants you to have?

11月8日（星期二）- 标题：**坚定你的决心**

**经节：耶稣被接上升的日子将到，祂就定意向耶路撒冷去。（路加福音九章51节）**

基督徒很容易在生活中分心！当你了解神要你去做某件事时，你身边的人事物似乎很需要你的注意力！当耶稣走向十字架的那一刻，祂定意「面向」耶路撒冷而去，没有任何事情可以拦阻祂完成天父的旨意。祂的决心是那么明显，祂选择经过撒马利亚人的村庄，直接前往耶路撒冷。而撒马利亚人向来仇视犹太人，他们不愿接待耶稣，因为他们认出祂是犹太人，并且面向他们所仇恨的耶路撒冷而去。

耶稣定意不让自己的任务节外生枝，但是，祂还是在旅途中尽可能地辅导许多人。祂差遣七十个人去邻近城市，传天国来临的消息（路加福音十：1）。祂医治痲疯病人（路加福音十七：11-19）。祂医治一个患水肿的男人（路加福音十四：1-4）。祂把救恩带到撒该的家（路加福音十九：1-10）。祂继续教导祂的门徒（路加福音十五：1-32）。当祂前去加略山时，耶稣并没有拒绝辅导其他人，然而，祂自始至终拒绝让任何人事物，妨碍祂遵行天父的旨意。

如果你知道神要你做什么，你的眼目要朝目标正看，要定意完成它（箴言四：25）。你决心做神领你做的每一件事，会成为你周遭人的见证。要小心，不要被周围的机会分散心思，以至于失去了神给你的最终目标。不要因试探而延迟你的顺服，或根本抛弃神给你的目标。一旦你由神那儿领受到清楚的指示，你应该是坚定且义无反顾地顺服。

### **Steadfast in Your Resolve**

***Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem. Luke 9:51***

It is easy to become distracted in the Christian life! The moment you understand what God wants you to do, it will seem as though everyone around you requires your time and attention! When the time came for Jesus to go to the cross, He “set His face” toward Jerusalem, so that nothing would prevent Him from accomplishing His Father’s will. So obvious was His resolve to go to Jerusalem that the Samaritans, who hated the Jews, rejected Him because they recognized that He was a Jew traveling through their village to the hated city of Jerusalem.

Jesus determined not to digress from His mission, but He took time to minister to many people along His way. He sent out seventy disciples into the surrounding towns (Luke 10:1). He healed lepers (Luke 17:11-19). He cured a man of dropsy (Luke 14:1-4). He brought salvation to the home of Zaccheus (Luke 19:1-10). He continued to teach His disciples (Luke 15:1-32). Jesus did not refuse to minister to others as He went to Calvary, but ultimately He refused to be deterred from His Father’s will.

If you know what God wants you to do, set your sights resolutely toward that goal with full determination to accomplish it (Prov. 4:25). Your resolve to go where God is leading ought to be evident to those around you. Beware of becoming so sidetracked by the opportunities around you that you lose sight of God’s ultimate goal for you. Do not succumb to the temptation to delay your obedience or to discard it altogether. Once you have received a clear assignment from God, your response should be unwavering obedience.

11月9日（星期三）- 标题：**新的力量**

**经文：但那等候耶和华的必从新得力。他们必如鹰展翅上腾；他们奔跑却不困倦，行走却不疲乏。（以赛亚书四十章31节）**

有时候，你可能会觉得筋疲力竭，压力大到你不确定可否迈出下一步。你可能把时间花在处理一个接着一个的危机，不断地把时间与精力投注在帮助他人。主要更新你的力量，使你享受祂所要给你的丰盛生活。得福之钥在于等候神。

我们这个世代最不喜欢等候。我们被自己所有的承诺和责任推得团团转。我们匆忙度日，从未停下来评估自己的活动。我们有时候急躁地着手动工，跑在神的前头。神重建我们的工作之一，是要我们慢下来，聆听祂。当我们等候神的时候，祂会提醒我们完全倚靠祂的力量；当我们慢下来，寻求祂的旨意时，祂会透露祂的计划。

以圣经的角度看，等候主绝对不是被动的，它永远是主动。等候本身需要停止自己的追求，全心注意在神的身上。我们可能要放弃某些填满生活的活动，也可能要一整天安静地坐在主的面前。然而，如果求问神，神会提供事工的资源，而那些资源是我们过去凭靠自己力求取的。神可能让你知道，你做事背后的动机是出于罪恶感，那不是神要你去做的。

耶稣所担负的责任，比你所担负的责任，要大得多。需要祂的人数，比起需要你的人数，要多得多。然而，祂从未被事工压得喘不过气，或力不从心。现在，基督已经提供你指引，好叫你能达成天父的旨意，每日得到足够的力量前行（马太福音十一：28）。

### **New Strength**

***But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31***  
At times you may feel so worn out and stressed that you are not sure you can take another step. You may seem to spend all your time running from crisis to crisis and to be constantly giving your time and energy to others. Your Lord wants to renew your strength and enable you to enjoy the abundant life He intends for you. The key is to *wait* upon Him to do so.

Our generation does not enjoy waiting. We are harried by all the commitments we have made and the many responsibilities we hold. We rush through our lives without stopping to evaluate our activities. Sometimes in our haste to get on with our work, we race ahead of God. Part of God's restorative process is to slow us down and make us listen to Him. As we wait on Him, God will remind us of our utter dependence upon His strength. When we slow down and seek His will, He will reveal *His* plans.

Biblically, waiting on the Lord is never passive; it is always active. Waiting requires us to cease our own pursuits and give God our complete attention. We may have to give up some of the activities we have allowed to inundate our lives. We may need to take an entire day to sit quietly before the Lord. If we ask Him, God will show us the resources He has provided to help with the work we have been attempting on our own. God may address feelings of guilt that have motivated us to do things that He has not asked us to do. Jesus carried more responsibility than you do. More people needed Him than will ever need you. Yet He was never overwhelmed or inadequate for the task. Now Christ offers to guide you so that you will fulfill your heavenly Father's will and gain the strength necessary for each day (Matt. 11:28).

11月10日（星期四）- 标题：**继续前进**

**经文：弟兄们，我不是以为自己已经得着了，我只有一件事，就是忘记背后，努力面前的。（腓立比书三章13节）**

世人告诉你，对于你目前生活的最大影响是你的过去。如果你成长于有问题的家庭，这会决定你将来的生命方向。如果你曾遭受种族文化的歧视，这会主宰你今日的生活状况。如果你受过伤害或被虐待，或者你在青少年时期很叛逆，你的余生将与你的过去翻滚挣扎。这个世界被过去给占满，因为它面对的是未知的将来。

基督徒则恰恰相反。基督徒自由地活着，因为基督已经战胜我们的过去。「旧事」已经都过去，一切都成了「新事」（哥林多后书五：17）。神完全饶恕了基督徒的罪，祂不再纪念那些罪（以赛亚书四十三：25）。基督徒不是忘记过去，而是不被过去所控制或刺激。基督徒对将来有盼望。

世人专注于所要克服的挑战或困难，而基督徒专注于成为什么样的人。基督徒知道，圣灵在自己身上动工，使我们有基督的形像。基督徒知道，自己终究会站在基督面前，交代一生的所作所为，并与基督同在，直到永远。基督徒知道，所有不义之事终有一日会被陈明，每个伤痛都可得安慰。基督徒知道，撒但和死亡在末了会结束。基督徒的生命是丰盛，且充满激情的。不但如此，过去发生的一切不再影响他们。

如果你沉浸于过去，求神打开你的眼睛，看到等在你面前的是奇妙的将来，就像保罗一样，忘记背后、努力面前。

### **Press On**

***Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead.***

***Philippians 3:13***

The world will tell you that the dominating influence in your life is your past. If you came from a difficult home life, that will determine the direction of your life. If your culture was treated unfairly, that will dictate the condition of your life today. If you were hurt or abused or if your youth was spent in rebellion, the remainder of your life will be spent struggling with your past. The world is preoccupied with the past because it faces an uncertain future.

Christians, on the other hand, live in freedom because Christ has overcome our past. The "old things" have been done away with and "new things" have come (2 Cor. 5:17). God has so totally forgiven the Christian's sin that He chooses not to remember it (Isa. 43:25). Christians do not forget the past; but we are not controlled or motivated by it. The Christian looks to the future with hope.

The people of the world focus on what they are overcoming. Christians focus on what they are becoming. Christians know that the Holy Spirit is conforming them into the image of Christ. Christians know that ultimately they will stand before Christ to give an account of their actions and will spend an eternity in the presence of God. Christians know that eventually every injustice will be addressed and every hurt comforted. They know that Satan, and death itself, will finally be brought to an end. The Christian's future is so full and rich and exciting that it supersedes whatever happened in the past.

If you are preoccupied with your past, ask God to open your eyes to the incredible future that awaits you and begin, like Paul, to press on to what is ahead.