

CHANGE

THEY TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN.

ABANDON SHIP 6-Day Devotional Journey

Day 1 — Purpose Is God's Present

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Devotional: When we think about purpose, we often think about what we can *do* for God, but Scripture reminds us that purpose is also what God does *in us*. Purpose is not just about impact; it's about improvement. God uses your assignment as His classroom. Moses didn't know his anger until leadership exposed it. Gideon didn't know his insecurity until his calling tested it. Paul didn't realize the pride in his heart until ministry humbled him. Peter didn't see his instability until discipleship demanded more of him.

Your purpose is God's gift to you because it forces you to become someone you would never have become if purpose hadn't demanded it. That's why you can't afford to treat your calling casually. Purpose is the pathway to growth that outlasts dilemmas, despair, and destruction. Those things may change you for a moment, but purpose will keep developing you for a lifetime.

Prayer: Lord, thank You that my purpose is not pressure but a present. Use my calling to shape me into the person You created me to be.

Day 2 — When Comfort Becomes a Cage

Scripture: Mark 1:20 – “Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.”

Devotional: Peter wasn't broke. He wasn't desperate. He wasn't without options. Archaeology and Scripture tell us he owned boats, had hired men, and ran a fishing operation. He had financial stability and professional identity. Yet Jesus called him out of that comfort into something completely unfamiliar.

Here's the lesson: comfort isn't always sinful, but it can be stifling. What we call “comfort” sometimes becomes a cage that locks us into mediocrity. Purpose always lives on the other side of uncomfortable. The relationships that will grow you, the resources that will sustain you, and the spiritual maturity you long for requires you to step outside the predictable.

When God calls you, He doesn't just call you from sin; sometimes He calls you from comfort. Following Jesus will always cost you your comfort zone.

Prayer: Father, don't let me mistake comfort for calling. Give me the courage to leave what feels safe so I can step into what You've prepared.

Day 3 — Who's Really in Control?

Scripture: Proverbs 19:21 – “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”

Devotional: When Peter left the boat, he also left control. On the water, he determined when to sail, where to fish, and when to stop. Following Jesus meant surrendering that autonomy. From now on, Jesus decided where he went, how long he stayed, and what he did.

We all wrestle with control. It’s not evil to want stability, but when we refuse to surrender it to God, control becomes an idol. The truth is this: you can contribute to outcomes, but you can’t control them. You can plant seeds, but only God makes them grow. You can plan steps, but only God orders them.

Abandoning control doesn’t mean becoming passive. It means releasing the illusion that your strength sustains your destiny. True freedom comes when you realize God’s sovereignty isn’t your enemy; it’s actually your security.

Prayer: Lord, I release my illusion of control. Teach me to plan faithfully but surrender fully, trusting that Your purpose always prevails.

Day 4 — Breaking Free from Comparison

Scripture: John 21:21–22 – When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?” Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

Devotional: Even after years of following Jesus, Peter still struggled with comparison. At the end of John’s Gospel, he asked about John’s assignment instead of focusing on his own. Jesus’ answer was sharp and clear: “What is that to you? You must follow me.”

Comparison distracts you from your assignment because you’re too busy watching theirs. It diminishes your appreciation because you magnify what God did for others while minimizing what He did for you. And it damages your authenticity because you’re tempted to become who you think works instead of who God called you to be.

In culture, success is measured by how much you catch. In the Kingdom, success is measured by whether you let God catch you. When you abandon comparison, you stop competing with others and start completing your assignment.

Prayer: Lord, free me from the trap of comparison. Help me to celebrate others without losing sight of my assignment and anchor my worth in You alone.

Day 5 — Clean Your Nets

Scripture: Luke 5:2 – “He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.”

Devotional: Fishermen washed their nets after every trip. It wasn’t glamorous, but it was necessary. If they didn’t, salt would rot the fibers, debris would weigh them down, and the nets would eventually tear. Clean nets are strong nets.

Our “nets” today are our minds, habits, relationships, and disciplines. They pick up debris along the way such as fear, trauma, resentment, bad habits, and broken patterns. If we don’t stop to clean them, yesterday’s junk will compromise tomorrow’s effectiveness.

Sometimes what looks like delay is really divine preservation. God makes you pause because He knows your nets need cleaning before your next catch. Don’t mistake His pause as punishment; it’s preparation.

Prayer: God, show me the debris I’ve carried in my nets. Teach me to clean what I’ve neglected, so I’m ready for the harvest You have prepared.

Day 6 — The Cost of Commitment

Scripture: Luke 5:11 – “So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.”

Devotional: Luke’s detail makes it clear: this wasn’t Peter’s conversion moment; it was his commitment moment. He already knew who Jesus was. He had seen His power, heard His teaching, and even witnessed miracles. But this was the moment Peter decided that following Jesus was worth abandoning everything else.

Commitment always costs something. For Peter, it cost his comfort, control, and comparison. For us, it may cost habits, relationships, or opportunities that distract from our destiny.

The question isn’t whether following Jesus is costly, but the question is whether the cost is worth it. Peter thought so. And history proves he was right.

Prayer: Lord, strengthen my resolve. Help me to not just believe in You but to be fully committed to following You, no matter the cost.
