

# Starting Blocks

Spending Time With Jesus In His Word Every Day - Week 25

Day 1:

PREP: What did these people want from Jesus and what did they get instead?

READ: Matthew 20:20-28

SO WHAT: Where in your life do you want to be out in front? Where in your life do you want to make sure you get the proper respect and admiration? What if you made it your goal to be the biggest servant in that area of your life? Are you willing to try that? What holds you back?

PRAY: Ask Jesus today to show you someone you could serve by humbling yourself.

Day 2:

PREP: The crowd thinks these guys are out-of-bounds. Why? How does Jesus react to them?

READ: Matthew 20:29-34

SO WHAT: What if Jesus were to ask you point blank - "What do you want me to do for you?" Would you have an answer? What holds you back from being completely honest with Jesus about everything you're feeling (good and bad) and everything you need from Him?

PRAY: Today, try telling Jesus everything, with no filter, all day long in your heart. What's it like?

Day 3:

PREP: Jesus asks His guys to do something that seemed strange and maybe a little stupid. What did they do? What happened as a result?

READ: Matthew 21:1-11

SO WHAT: What if Jesus wants you to do something that other folks may not like? What if He wants you to do something that doesn't make any sense to you? Have you ever decided to do something Jesus' way instead of your own and the result was amazing like this? What was it?

PRAY: Ask the Lord to help you to know what He wants you to do today, and ask Him for the courage to do exactly what He wants.

Day 4:

PREP: The folks in charge of the temple used the sacrifices as a way to get rich off of people who came to worship God. How did Jesus react to this? Who did His heart go out to?

READ: Matthew 21:12-17

SO WHAT: In this scene you have two groups: the rich, popular, powerful leaders and the lame, poor, voiceless masses. If Jesus showed up in your day and acted like He did in the temple, who's side would He be on in your life, and how can you get yourself on His side today?

PRAY: Tell Jesus you want care about the people He cares about, and ask Him to help you.

Day 5:

PREP: These verses show life without God vs life with Him. What stands out to you most?

READ: Ephesians 4:17-24

SO WHAT: Look at your own heart in these descriptions. In what ways can you see that Jesus is growing you? What things about your own heart still need work today? How are you specifically like the "Gentiles" of old (those outside the faith) and what does Jesus want to change in you?

PRAY: Ask the Lord to clearly show you what He wants today to be about in your growth.

Day 6:

PREP: Paul lists lots of things to not do. Why are those things so damaging to relationships?

READ: Ephesians 4:25-28

SO WHAT: Obviously there was no such thing as social media when Paul wrote these words, but read over them again and think about the way you use social media. Do these words apply to the way you present yourself online and the way you behave with your device? How do we lie to each other and take from each other with social media?

PRAY: Ask the Lord to show you how you can share and help people with your communication.

Day 7:

PREP: David seems to be having a good day in this Psalm. What happens at the end?

READ: Psalm 40

SO WHAT: Even on your most spiritually victorious day, when you're riding a wave of praise and encouragement, you can be bombarded with troubles and temptations. How can you be ready for that? What is so good about how David deals with what he's feeling?

PRAY: Try to pray little prayers throughout the day today, being as honest as you can about the state of your heart and what you need from the Lord to make it.