

Steps of Faith: Day 8 – 14

8. Gather with God and His people

9. Body build

10. Pay it backward

11. Be pleasing

12. Random encouragement

13. Trust that God is right

14. Prepare my offering

Day 8: Step of Faith

Gather with God and His People.

Day 8 Step of Faith: Gather with God and His people today.

Gathering with God and His people is life-giving and refreshing! You find your purpose and meaning through the Body of Christ when you commit yourself to it. Imagine what the heavenly's are like on Sunday morning when millions of God's people are singing together on earth, people are coming to Christ, offerings are being made, and talents are being used for Him!

If you have to work or have a commitment elsewhere that you cannot change, make the effort to invite some believers out to dinner or have them over for dessert. Do something to gather with God and His people today.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Ps. 122:1 NIV

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Heb. 10:24-25 NIV

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, this morning I commit myself to you and your people. By faith I will gather. I will trust You. Help me to be the part in The Body of Christ that you made me to be. Help me to commit myself to you and your people. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 9: Step of Faith

Body Build

Day 9 Step of Faith:

Pray and think of someone in your church family that you can build up today.

Ask God to bring to mind something good they did that you can recall, or something about them you genuinely appreciate. Call or write them a note via text or email expressing that to them.

1 Thess. 5:10-11 NIV: "He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for the opportunity to have a church family. For 2000 years people have been meeting on Sunday's pledging their lives to you, and making commitments to be good citizens. I'm grateful to be a part of that. Help me to build someone in my church family up today. Give me the words to say, who to say it to, and the timing to say it. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 10: Step of Faith

Pay it Backward

Day 10 Step of Faith: Pay for the persons order behind you in a drive through.

Pray and ask God where and when you should go, trusting that the right person who needs His encouragement and interaction today will be there. Leave the results up to Him.

Jesus said in Matthew 25:25, 40: *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, today my step of faith is going to take Your timing. Please help me to be where You want me to be and when You want me there. I ask that you will coordinate with someone who needs to sense Your love and the knowledge that You haven't forgotten them. Use me as I take a step of faith today. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 11: Step of Faith

Be Pleasing

Day 11 Step of Faith: Be pleasing to somebody.

God isn't looking for people to appease Him, but to please Him. To seek to please Him means you know who He is, what He likes, and what He does. To appease Him means you don't know Him at all. He's a good God, loving God, and loves to be well pleased by those who will love Him. One of the greatest ways to please God is found in how well we please others. If I seek and find ways to please my spouse, my boss, my church family, I'm practicing ways to please God. Is there something your boss has been communicating you can do to step your job performance up? What about your spouse? Is there something they have been asking for and it's not that you don't have it to give, but you just haven't wanted to please him/her? Here's a big question: Do you think God is pleased when we humble ourselves and do something their way--in love? Discipline yourself today, take a step of faith to do something pleasing.

Hebrews 11:6, "*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*"

1 John 4:21, "*And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.*"

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I ask you to help me to be humble and do something pleasing today. I want to be known as a God pleaser. I believe what Jesus said, that when I do something for the least among us, I've done it for you. Help me to find opportunity to do something that really matters to these I respect/love in my life today. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 12: Step of Faith

Random Encouragement

Day 12 Step of Faith: Print this page ([Print Scripture](#)), or a Scripture you like and give it randomly to someone.

Choose a car and put it under the wiper, lay it on someone's desk at work, or find someone in the store to hand it to, or create your own way of giving it. Pray all the way and afterwards for the person receiving it.

I love missionary stories of how God uses their printed materials to reach so many people. There are stories of windblown paper with Scriptures finding their way into peoples hands at just the right moment for them to hear about Christ and find hope. Trust God to take your paper where He can use it the most.

Romans 10:14-15, "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I trust you today to lead this paper to where it needs to go, for who needs to read it. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 13: Step of Faith

Trust that God is right

Day 13 Step of Faith: Trust God to be my moral standard. Is there something God has said He doesn't like that you don't understand? God doesn't like deviant behavior of any sort because it hurts people and relationships. Declaring our sexual preferences and social freedoms to be our rights will never exonerate us for the pain and dysfunction we cause in our family and community. All of us have sin we enjoy, and that's why the Scripture says that all of us need Jesus. The challenge today is to commit this one day, 24 hours, to not defend what you believe are your rights to God. Today, just decide to trust Him and see if He fills you with peace and contentment for doing so. Who knows, maybe you will make the same commitment tomorrow....

James 4:7-8, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Isaiah 53:6-7, "

We all, like sheep, have gone astray,

each of us has turned to our own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and afflicted,

yet he did not open his mouth;

he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,

and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,

so he did not open his mouth."

Romans 3:23-24, "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, today I decide to agree with you and what you say. I will say the same thing about my sin that you say about it. And today, I commit to you that I will live your way not mine because I choose to love you. Help me to accommodate for your presence in my life. I ask you to fill me with your peace and contentment. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Day 14: Step of Faith

Prepare my Offering

Day 14 Step of Faith: Prepare My Offering

All throughout the Bible we see people bringing offerings to God and God responds. God was pleased with Abel's offering (Gen. 4:4). The Grain Offerings made with the sacrifices provided an amazing aroma for God to enjoy. The offering is our opportunity to participate in our relationship with God. It's a tangible way to show our love, respect, and trust. Why is God so interested in your money? Because you are.

So today, prepare in your heart what you will offer to God...in love to Him. Make that offering in worship tomorrow. Somehow, supernaturally, an aroma of worship rises to the throne room when you do.

Perhaps you are one of those who consistently prepares your offering and tomorrow isn't your day to give. In that case, throughout today simply think about the next offering you plan to present to Him, and commit yourself in every way.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (1 Cor. 9:6-8 NIV).

"Just then he looked up and saw the rich people dropping offerings in the collection plate. Then he saw a poor widow put in two pennies. He said, "The plain truth is that this widow has given by far the largest offering today. All these others made offerings that they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford-she gave her all" (Luke 21:1-4 NIV)!

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, today in worship to you I will decide in my heart what offering I will give to You. I will not give reluctantly or under compulsion because of the smooth words of a man taking an offering, instead I will cheerfully give to You what I decide in advance. You are my God. I love you, respect you, and trust you. Fill me with faith today that I may present an offering tomorrow. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

EXTRA ON THE TOPIC

Whatever means a lot to you, means a lot to Him. When we are willing to let go of anything that stands between us and Him, He is well pleased. One day a wealthy man came to Jesus and asked what he must do to be saved. Jesus said to sell everything, and give it all to the poor (Matt. 19:21). He didn't say, ask me to come into your heart and believe in Me. Instead, He addressed the false god--his money. He wasn't saying the "work" would save him; He was saying the relationship without another god would save him.