



07 | Mon – The Elephant in the Room | Read Psalms 139:15-16

No one wants to talk about death. It is a fact of life we try to avoid thinking about and have difficulty acknowledging it will someday happen to us. Psalm 139 says that the length of our life was recorded before we were even born and Psalm 90:12 asks God... “teach us to number our days so we may gain a heart of wisdom.” What is one thing you can do today that could last beyond your lifetime?

08 | Tue – It wasn’t supposed to be this way. | Read Gen. 3:16-17

Death was not part of the original creation. The perfect man and woman in perfect fellowship with God, living in a perfect home, surrounded by all they needed to be happy, were nevertheless given a boundary, the free choice to cross it, and foreknowledge of the consequences. Why would anyone make such a foolish choice? And why are we still doing it today? Ask God to help you make wise choices that lead to life.

09 | Wed – Contrast | Read Romans 6:23

Easy to read, but with deep implications. The earned result of sin (doing life my own self-centered way) is death, always spiritual and eventually physical. Contrast this with doing life Jesus’ way. He offers the “already-paid-for” gift of a life that does not end with your last breath. His gift opens the door to a relationship with God. Have you accepted this Christmas gift or are you still trying to earn it?

10 | Thu – A Light in the Dark | Read Psalms 23:4

These familiar words are often read or prayed at the end of a person’s physical life. They remind us in our deepest, darkest moments - whether facing death or experiencing a deep, wounding loss - that we are not alone. Maybe today is the day you need to tell yourself out loud, “Dear self, you do not need to be afraid in this dark place, for you are NOT alone; JESUS is with you.” Or maybe someone else needs these words?

11 | Fri – Her friend Jesus | Read John 14:1-3

Several years ago, in the last weeks of her battle with cancer, my friend was asked how her faith had stood the test. She replied, “I do have peace, except whenever I think about the actual moment I pass. Then I feel a little anxious ...until recently. I was reading this verse when I suddenly understood something which took the anxiousness away. Jesus is saying that, when everything is ready, HE will come to get me.”

12 | Sat – Someday | Read Revelation 21:1-5

John is describing the beautiful Someday promised to us. Not just what this place looks like but, more importantly, what happens there. No more death, no more crying or mourning, no more pain. God himself will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Make sure you get there. No sacrifice is too great for that kind of forever life!

September 13 | Sun – Great Themes of the Bible: Discipleship | Read 1 Corinthians 3:9

