

DAY 19

FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 17

"I have felt the impact of your prayer in these past weeks. I am certain now that nothing has had a more powerful influence on this life of mine than your prayers." —Jim Elliot

"Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."" Luke 9:60

TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

Excuses. We all have them. Sometimes they're even "good."

After being invited to follow Jesus, the man in Luke 9 explains that he must first "go and bury [his] father." Jesus' response is to "let the dead bury the dead." While Jesus' response may seem harsh on first glance, it becomes clear that the man is really just saying, "tomorrow." Tomorrow will be the day I go all in with you Jesus. Tomorrow will be the day I put you first. Yet, tomorrow never comes.

How many of us have done the same? How many of us have said "I will follow you wherever you go," (Luke 9:57) yet responded to Jesus' leading with an excuse. That opportunity was just too crazy, that season was just too busy, it didn't make sense financially, or we simply said "tomorrow." Jesus' call to follow Him is an invitation to release our wants, desires, and even our dreams to Him. God's kingdom has been built through the lives of those who are willing to trust Jesus in this way. Every time, it is a powerful reminder that Jesus' people live in light of eternity, not just the present. Would we be people who are willing to trust Jesus' leading today, not tomorrow.

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE:

Lord, would you help us to be followers who are willing to trust your leading today, not tomorrow. Lead us to put your desires and plans above our own, and to trust you with all of our lives. Lord, would your name be spread, and would your kingdom grow through our sacrifices.

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ON YOUR LIST:

Lord, I pray for one. Would you give me one interaction, one conversation, or one opportunity to connect with someone far from you today. Give me eyes to see the opportunities in front of me.

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Contributed by Joseph Castillo, Small Groups Pastor | Brazos Pointe Fellowship
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