

Breakfast with Jesus.

The risen Jesus wants to spend time with you. He has made you breakfast and beckons you to sit, and eat, as you are hungry.

He longs to speak to you, knowing you need to hear his voice.

He has things to say. He has wisdom to share with your teachable spirit, and will direct your path.

His arms will hold you, and comfort you, healing your wounded spirit with his love.

Jesus knows you.

You need rest. He offers a place to be still and recover. He simply says "Come," yet, He says so much more in this invitation.

1. Come and be free.
2. Come and leave your burdens with me.
3. Come and be saved.
4. Come and be fed.
5. Come and be taught.
6. Come and listen.
7. Come and rest.
8. Come to me and I will come to you.

Just come!

Day 1: Come and be free.

Have you noticed how easy it is to get caught up in something that isn't good for you? It may be a conversation that you are drawn into. It might be a news topic that has the world in turmoil. What ever it is, you know that you should leave well alone, Praise God and not get drawn into it. It leads you to a place of unrest where anxiety and stress invite you out for a meal that can easily become a feast. You've been there, right! I know I have. Before you know it, you are held captive by a conversation that is full of judgement and not love, it tastes bitter, not sweet and you are no longer walking in blessing or peace.

Galatians 5 1 & 2 says this; Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Thank God for his endless patience and Grace. We come and repent, receive forgiveness and are set back on the right path again.

Ephesians 4:8 says this; Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led **captivity captive**, and gave gifts to men."

This text is key to our peace. Jesus led captivity itself captive. He took all our binds and bound them up, led them away and gave us freedom in place of captivity.

This needs to become the default setting in your mind. Re-wire your brain. If Christ has done it for you, then why undo it.

What do I mean re-wire your brain? Well, your thought cycle is a set pattern, your reactions are pretty much always the same. It's how your brain works. It becomes natural to do something if you have done so several times. For example, if you always say the wrong thing, you might think, "well that's just who I am." Yet the bible tells us we have been made new. In fact 2 Corinthians 5 v 17 says have been created new, the old has gone and the new has come. So we need to *choose* not to get involved with anything that will undo this beautiful gift.

If you choose to not get involved with something toxic, you will eventually find that it has become your default position.

Jesus invites us to come to him every day. This faith we have involves activity on our part. It is a pro-active faith. Jesus has done it all. We have to accept it. We have to believe it. We are reminded today that Jesus invitation to Come to him means that we need to make time for him. Your growth in this divine relationship you have with the King of Kings involves you interacting with him. He made the way clear; the veil is torn in two, you and I can enter in. So what are you waiting for? Jesus is waiting for you. Stay a while. He is the best company you will ever have.

Ephesians 4 v 8

2 Corinthians 5 v 17

Galatians 5 1 – 2

John 21 v 12

Day 2: Come and Leave your burdens with me.

Life is hard. That one thing we can all agree on. No-one ever said that life in Christ would be a bed of roses. If they did, they forgot to mention that roses have thorns...

Seriously though, we all come to Jesus the same way. We are all sinners saved by his bountiful Grace. Any suffering that we have here is temporary. The apostle Peter puts it like this in 1 Peter 5 v 10

“But may the God of all grace, who called ^lus to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*.”

Life is hard. Yet what Blessing we have. Ransomed, healed restored and forgiven. This eternal promise outweighs all else.

Jesus said this in Matthew 11 v 28:

“Come to Me, all *you* who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. “

Those who labour are you and I, the heavy load are burdens. I know this seems basic but oh how easily we forget. We try to carry the load ourselves. This leads to frustration, anxiety and eventually depression.

1 Peter 5 v 7 puts it this way, “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”

When you here Jesus invitation to “Come,” do so as you are. Take all your burdens with you, he won’t put his hand over his eyes and shake his head. He won’t say, “Oh no, what have you done this time.” Jesus will meet you and relieve you of your heavy load, saying, “Come, leave that here with me, sit down with me and leave you cares here.”

So, what are you waiting for? Jesus is waiting. He is calling your name. Spend time with him, he’s the best company you’ll ever have.

1 Peter 5 v 10

1 Peter 5 v 7

Matthew 11 v 28

John 21 v 12

Day 3: Come and be saved.

Earlier in John chapter 21 we find the disciples return to being fishermen. They set out in the night and came back tired with nothing to show for their effort.

Going back to their calling in Matthew 4 v 19 Jesus said, "Follow Me, and I will make you **fishers of men.**" Their lives were never the same after answering the call.

Now, saddened by Jesus death they were hurt and lost. Approaching the shore, the man they don't yet recognise as Jesus tells them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. They do so willingly, and you can imagine them shrugging their shoulders as they cast the nets over the side. We know how the story ends, but can you imagine their surprise. The net was full to bursting. We understand this as tying in with their calling. As fishers of men, Jesus was telling them that the gentiles, (you and I), would be a greater catch. We are those on the other side, caught up and tangled in the net of his salvation, fish of every kind and size, called to swim into Jesus and be captured by his love that will never let go.

Jesus is saying, Come and be saved. **Acts 4 v 12 says**, "for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Each day we are afforded opportunities of salvation. We need to make the most of them and grasp tightly with both hands the same Jesus who seeks to save the one who is lost.

Come and be saved. If you don't know Jesus, today is the day of your salvation. All you have to do is bow your head and heart. Let's pray.

Dear Lord Jesus, I am lost and see that I need you,

Forgive me of my Sin and lead me in your new life.

I believe that you are Gods only Son and the only

Way that I can be saved.

Come into my life now I ask and show me how to

Live for you. Thank you for your great love for me Jesus.

I Love you Lord.

Amen.

If you have prayed this on your own for the first time call a friend who is saved and they will tell you what to do next. Welcome to the family. God Bless.

Acts 4 v 12

John 3 v 16

Matthew 4 v 19

John 21 6 – 8

John 21 v 12

Day 4: Come and be fed.

I was a teenager in the 1980's, (I'm now giving my age away). There was a British Pop band with international fame, who had many hits. During a live recording of a show, as an introduction to the next song the lead singer asked the audience, "Is anybody hungry?"

This has stuck with me throughout the years. Is anybody hungry? In Matthew 5 v 6 Jesus said that you are blessed if you hunger and thirst for righteousness. In John 7 v 37 Jesus said, if anyone is thirsty let him come. Hunger and thirst are natural to both physical and spiritual growth.

If we are thirsty, we drink and are re-hydrated, if we are hungry and eat, we are well fed. This study is looking at Jesus invitation to Come. When do you eat? How often do you drink?

Each day we start with breakfast, we eat and drink on average 3 times a day. Yet the time we spend with Jesus, if we are honest is less. The more time we spend with Jesus, the better fed we are with the meat of the word of God, the longer we spend with Jesus, the more hydrated we are with springs of living water. Jesus promised us that we would never hunger or thirst again. This is still true today. We must however partake in the feast. "Peter 1 v 4 tells us we are partaker through the divine nature. Through the resurrection power of Christ we are free to take part in the fullness of God in Christ Jesus. His Love, his joy, his peace and his mercy. His kindness, his goodness, his self-control, his gentleness and his faithfulness. These are all purchased for us, Jesus has paid the cost!

Come and feast daily. All that he has done for you is waiting at the table.

Matthew 5 v 6

John 7 v 37

2 Peter 1 v 4

John 21 v 12

Day 5: Come and be taught.

The heart of discipleship is spending time with Jesus. At the very beginning of the Gospel of John we read about Jesus calling the first disciples. Chapter 1 v 39 records that the disciples stayed with Jesus that day, they remained with him. In the previous verse they refer to him as Rabbi, (teacher). Right from the start they recognised Jesus anointing, his divinity and his ability.

His anointing was clear as he was the Son of God. His Divinity is tied up in this close family relationship, his sonship to the Father merged in his own manifestation as part of the Trinity. Jesus was God in the form of man, (Phil 2 v 7). His ability to communicate the Father's heart supreme, as he only spoke what the Father gave him to say, (John 12 v 49).

The new testament Greek word for disciple is **Mathétés**, it translates as Pupil and learner.

It doesn't take many steps to figure out the connection then. The Pupil learns from the teacher. The more classes the pupil takes, the more he/she learns. We cannot spend time parked outside our scholastic teachers houses or follow them around on their days off, this would be seen as stalking, lol. But we can spend time with Jesus as disciples and learn from him at anytime of any day or night. His door is never closed and he never goes on vacation.

The invitation is clear. When the disciples asked where Jesus was staying, he answered, in v 39, "Come and see."

Spend time with Jesus in prayer, spend time with Jesus in reading the Bible, spend time with Jesus in singing your worship to God and spend time with Jesus in feeding the poor, clothing the naked and giving a glass of water to the thirsty in his name, for Jesus said, he was there too. Matthew 25 35-36.

John 1 35-39

John 12 v 49

Philippians 2 v 7

Matthew 25 35-36

John 21 v 12

Day 6: Come and Listen.

When young children gather at the feet of the teacher in primary school, they are instructed to put their listening ears on then put their hands in a basket shape by interlocking their fingers. This encourages them to be still and to listen. This is a tested and proven way of getting their attention. How does God get your attention?

Spending time with Jesus as we are learning to do this week is the only way we can grow. Once we find ourselves in the presence of God, we need to then stay a while. Sitting like little children at the feet of the teacher and listening to what he is saying. Posture here is important too. Empty hands are free to receive. It is symbolic of course, yet when you meet with God spirit to spirit, you don't want your phone in your hand, or a wrench, or a spoon. No distractions! Listening ears on and receive.

1 Timothy 2 v 8 says to lift Holy hands in prayer. In Psalm 63 v 4 King David says that he will lift up his hands to praise God. You can sit at home, or in Church, or watch the sun rise and set. The encouragement here is that God will show up, he will speak. From Samuel answering the call of God's voice, (1 Samuel 3 v 10), to God himself saying, listen to Jesus, (Matthew 17 v 5), we know that we need to not only spend time with God, but that we should be listening to his voice as we are still in his presence.

Psalm 46 v 10

Psalm 63 v 4

1 Timothy 2 v 8

1 Samuel 3 v 10

Matthew 17 v 5

John 21 v 12

Day 7: Come and rest.

It's just exhausting, isn't it? This thing called life. Work, ministry, children, housework, social life, social media, down time, sick time, happy times, sad times. Oh I need a rest just writing this list!

So much of what we carry is unnecessary burden. We take so much with us each day that is unneeded!

Psalm 23 gives us the classic picture of rest. The shepherd, Jesus, leading us on to places of refreshing, guiding us in paths familiar and new to lush green pastures and clear clean springs of cooling water along the often dry and barren road of life.

I know that life in Christ is full of Blessing. I'm not denying life in the full through Jesus. I am a realist though. I daily see people struggle with the load they carry. The secret, if I can use such an expression is this; when Jesus says, "come to me," Go! Don't wait, just go. Rest and refreshing are waiting for you, why would you walk around stressed and unrested.

Place all your busy-ness and rushing around at the feet of Jesus and let him give you rest! It is given to us freely, so gratefully and freely I choose to receive.

Lord take all of my stress,
and give me pure rest,
the kind found only in you.

There I will abide,

In you I shall hide,

Resting until I am new.

This is where you and I find our Perfect Peace. **Isaiah 26:3** Says this "You will keep *him* in **perfect peace**, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

Daily we come, daily. Jesus never get tired of seeing us, or runs short of rest to give us, so let's come daily, and fill up on rest and peace, it's the only way to go, really, it is.

Psalm 23

Mark 6: 31-34

Isaiah 26 v 3

John 21 v 12

Day 8: Come to me and I will come to you.

Do you ever doubt Jesus turning up?

The most wonderful thing happens when we respond to Jesus calling to, "Come."

The one who set you, and millions of others free from sin and death is there with arms outstretched waiting to receive you.

He is never too busy with someone else.

He is never so far away that we must wait for ages until he arrives.

He is Faithful in all his promises to us and always shows up.

Never early, never late. Never too busy, or in the huff with you because you failed him.

When you seek him, his promise is this, he will be found.

Perhaps you have been far from God for a long time. The thought of coming back to him is pulling you to your knees, you have run for long enough, it is time to come home. As soon as you set your heart to this divine reunion, Jesus is there waiting for you!

What a glorious God we serve! We are all lavished with his glorious riches of Forgiveness and Grace through his Salvation.

Today, Jesus is saying come. Come to me and I will come to you. Whether you are a faithful child of God or one who struggles. Whether you are a prodigal son/daughter or a non-believer. Jesus is calling you, calling me. My answer is, "Yes Lord, I'm coming."

What's yours?

Jeremiah 29 v 13

James 4 v 8

Luke 15 11-32

John 21 v 12