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**SERMON AND BIBLE STUDY SERIES**

**EVERYDAY**

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

Hebrews 13:8

**JESUS**



**The Sermon and Bible-study series were we look into Jesus**

**Christ's eternal nature, highlighting His presence and power throughout time - past, present, and future. This unchanging presence strengthens faith, empowers the present, and instills hope for the future.**

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3960 Cane Run Road Louisville, KY 40211

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## **Summary:**

**Introduction for "Everyday Jesus: Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forevermore"**

**Welcome, beloved family of Ekklesia Christian Life Ministries, to the start of our profound journey through the series "Everyday Jesus: Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forevermore." As we delve into the depths of this series, we will explore the eternal presence of Jesus Christ—His unchanging nature across the expanse of time.**

**This sermon series explores the eternal nature of Jesus Christ, emphasizing His presence and power across all time. From eternity past, where the foundation of our faith was laid, to eternity present, where we experience His daily presence, and finally to eternity future, where our hope is securely anchored, we see that Jesus is unchanging and always with us. This understanding strengthens our faith, empowers our present, and fills us with hope for the future.**

**Eternity Past, Present, and Future**

**In our finite understanding, time is divided into yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Yet, Jesus Christ transcends these boundaries. He is the same in eternity past, present, and future. As we read in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."**

**As we reflect on our past, we often wonder, "Have I been here before?" Yes, in many ways, we have. Our past has shaped us, but more importantly, in that past, God has been with us. Jesus, who is God, was there in our past, guiding us and reminding us of His eternal presence. He declared in John 8:58, "Before Abraham was born, I am!" This profound statement signifies that Jesus, being one with God the Father, has always existed.**

### **The Unchanging God in Our Present**

**In our present, we often seek stability and assurance. We find this in the unwavering presence of Jesus Christ. He is the same Jesus who walked the earth, performed miracles, and taught with authority. He is with us now, the same yesterday, today, and forevermore. The Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide, reassures us that God's love and power are ever-present in our lives.**

### **Looking to the Future with Confidence**

**As we look to the future, we can do so with confidence, knowing that Jesus is already there. He has promised to be with us always, to the very end of the age (Matthew 28:20). The God who created us in His image and likeness is the same God who will lead us into our future.**

**In this series, we will uncover the profound truth that our past, present, and future are held together by the unchanging Jesus. He told us yesterday that He would be here today, and He assures us today that He will be there tomorrow. Our journey will be one of rediscovery and renewed faith, as we embrace the eternal presence of Jesus in our everyday lives.**

**So let's look into the Scriptures, reflect on God's eternal nature, and find comfort in the fact that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forevermore. Let us praise Him for being the God of our past, our present, and our future. Amen.**

# EVERYDAY JESUS

## SERMON NOTES

### Part 1: Our God of Eternity Past - The Foundation of Our Faith

**Text: John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-17**

#### **Introduction:**

**We begin our journey by exploring the eternity past, where the foundation of our faith was laid. Understanding who Jesus is from the beginning helps us grasp His eternal nature and unchanging character.**

#### **Main Points:**

##### **Jesus in the Beginning:**

**John 1:1-3 declares that Jesus, the Word, was with God and was God from the very beginning. Everything was made through Him, and without Him, nothing was made.**

**Colossians 1:15-17 emphasizes that Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. By Him, all things were created, and He holds everything together.**

##### **The Unchanging Nature of Jesus:**

**Hebrews 13:8 tells us that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. This consistency provides stability and assurance in our faith.**

**Reflect on the eternal nature of Jesus and how His presence in eternity past assures us of His everlasting love and purpose for our lives.**

## **God's Plan Revealed in Eternity Past:**

**Ephesians 1:4-5 speaks of God choosing us in Christ before the foundation of the world. Our salvation and purpose were planned long before we existed.**

**This eternal plan demonstrates the depth of God's love and the intentionality behind our creation.**

***Jesus Christ Yesterday Uncertain Derivation Not sure who you are - I will still love you***

**In Romans 5:8, we read, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." This verse speaks to the profound, unconditional love God has for us—a love that exists regardless of our response or worthiness.**

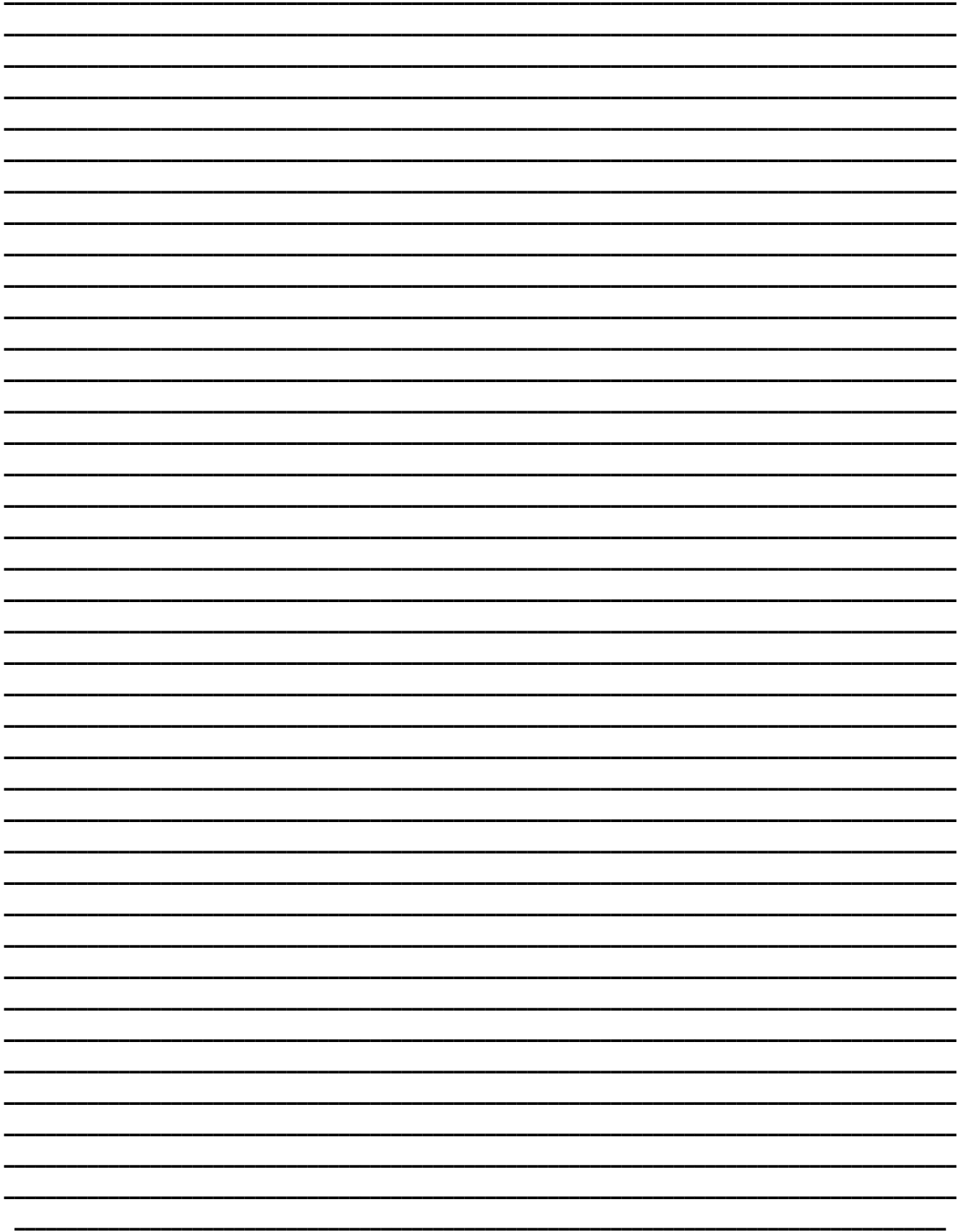
### **Application:**

**Trust in the unchanging nature of Jesus. Knowing that He was there at the beginning assures us that He is in control of our lives. See that God's love is proactive and sacrificial. Even when humanity was indifferent or hostile, God's love reached out through Christ's sacrifice. This divine love is not dependent on our reciprocation; it is steadfast and eternal.**

**Reflect on God's eternal plan and purpose for you. Recognize that you are part of a divine story that started in eternity past.**

### **Conclusion:**

**Understanding Jesus in eternity past deepens our faith and trust in Him. He is the same yesterday, and this foundation helps us move confidently into the present and future.**





# EVERYDAY JESUS

**Bible Study Lesson: Everyday Jesus - Don't Forget to Remember**

**Sermon 1: Don't Be Afraid of What They Call You**

**Scripture References:**

**-Matthew 5:11-12 (NIV): "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."**

**- 1 Peter 4:14 (NLT): "If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you."**

**Exegesis:**

**1. Matthew 5:11-12:**

**- Context: This passage is part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, specifically the Beatitudes, which outline the blessings associated with Kingdom living.**

**- Key Points:**

**- Blessed: Jesus redefines what it means to be blessed, associating it with being persecuted for righteousness and for His sake.**

**-Rejoice and Be Glad: Despite the persecution and insults, believers are encouraged to find joy, knowing their reward is in heaven.**

**- Prophetic Connection: The reference to the prophets indicates that persecution for righteousness aligns believers with the faithful who came before them.**

## **2. 1 Peter 4:14:**

**- Context: Peter writes to encourage Christians facing persecution and suffering.**

**- Key Points: Suffering insults for bearing Christ's name is seen as a mark of honor.**

**- Blessed with God's Spirit: The passage reassures believers that the Spirit of God is with them during their trials, providing comfort and strength.**

## **Practical Life Application:**

### **1. Embrace Your Identity in Christ:**

**- Affirmation of Worth: Understand that your worth and identity are rooted in being a child of God, not in the names or labels others place on you.**

**- Scriptural Affirmations: Use verses such as John 1:12, Romans 8:16-17, and 1 John 3:1 to remind yourself of your true identity.**

### **2. Responding to Insults:**

**- Rejoice and Be Glad: Adopt a mindset of joy, knowing that enduring insults and persecution for Christ places you in esteemed company with the prophets and early Christians.**

**- Community Support: Engage with your church community for encouragement and support. Share experiences and build each other up in faith.**

### **3. Biblical Examples:**

**- Joseph: Despite being called a dreamer and falsely accused, he rose to prominence (Genesis 37-50).**

**-David: Labeled as just a shepherd boy, he became a king (1 Samuel 16-17).**

**- Jesus: Called a blasphemer and ultimately crucified, yet He rose again and reigns as King of Kings.**

### **4. Practical Steps:**

**- Daily Affirmations: Start your day with affirmations from Scripture, reminding yourself of God's truths about you.**

**- Prayer Life: Maintain a robust personal prayer life, seeking God's strength and reassurance in the face of adversity.**

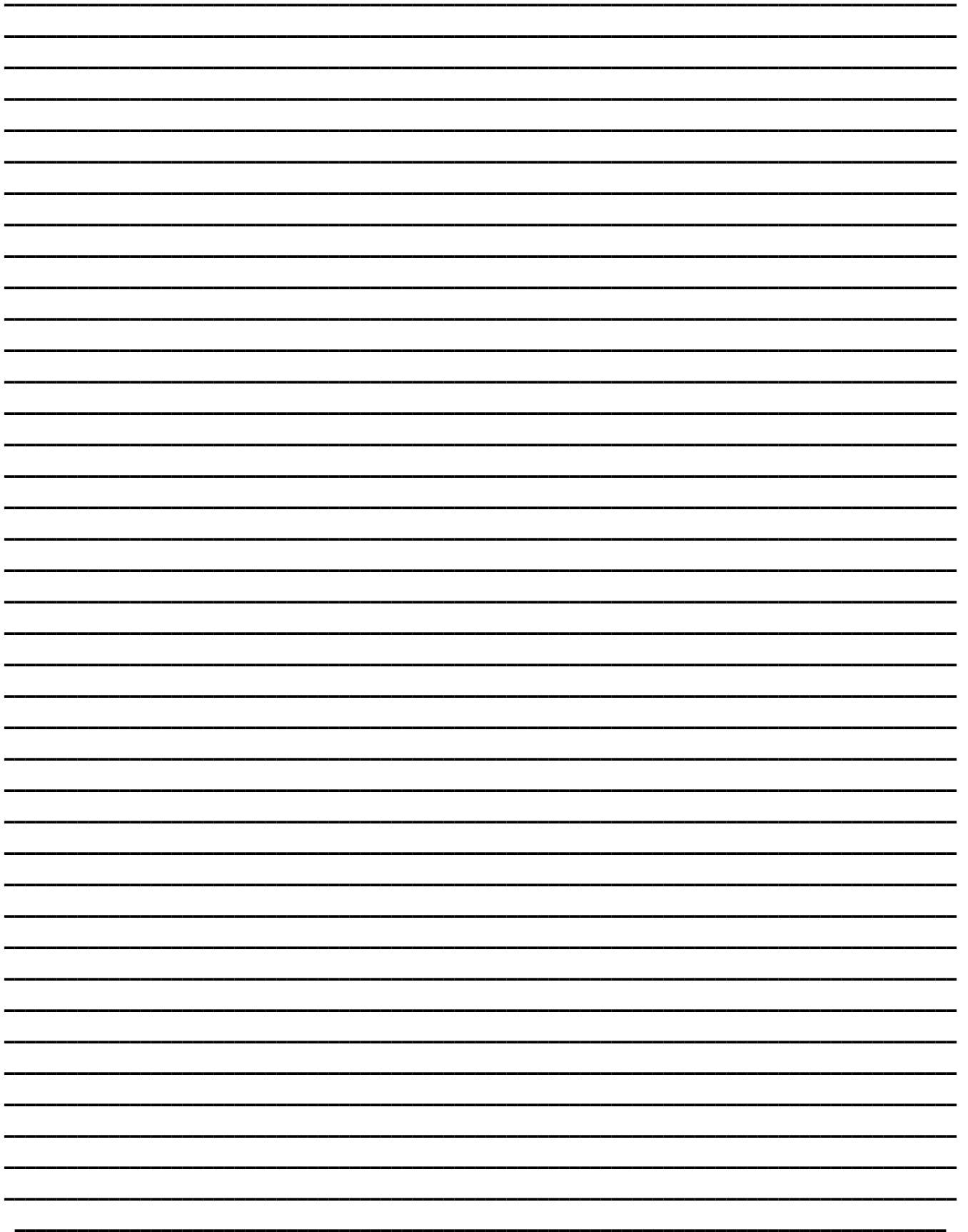
**- Community Engagement: Actively participate in Ekklesia's community activities, fostering a supportive environment where everyone is reminded of their true identity in Christ.**

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. How have you experienced being labeled or insulted for your faith?**
- 2. What steps can you take to remind yourself daily of your identity in Christ?**
- 3. How can our church community support each other in standing firm against negative labels and persecution?**

## **Closing Prayer:**

**Heavenly Father, we thank You for the assurance that our identity is found in You. Help us to stand firm against any negative labels or insults we may face for Your sake. May we rejoice in the knowledge that our reward is great in heaven and that Your Spirit rests upon us. Strengthen our community at Ekklesia Christian Life Ministries to support one another and to remember our worth in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**



# EVERYDAY JESUS

**Sermon: Time Past, Present, and Future in Christ:**

**The Power of Suffering**

**Series: #EverydayJesus**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 4:1-6 NLT**

## **Introduction**

**In our #EverydayJesus series, we've been exploring how our faith impacts every part of our lives. Today, we turn to 1 Peter 4:1-6, where Peter reminds us that our past, present, and future are deeply connected to Christ's suffering and our own. As we reflect on this passage, we'll also explore a profound truth: our suffering for Christ not only aligns us with His will but also repays the debt of sin, allowing us to walk in newness of life.**

## **Exegesis of 1 Peter 4:1-6**

### **\*\*Verse 1:\*\***

**"So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin."\***

**Peter begins by drawing a direct connection between Christ's suffering and ours. Christ's suffering was purposeful—it was for our salvation. When we suffer for Christ, we share in His suffering, and it has a purifying effect on us. Peter suggests that suffering helps us break away from sin, indicating that it has a redemptive purpose in our lives. By enduring suffering for Christ's sake, we repay the debt of sin by refusing to return to our old ways, thus finishing with sin.**

**\*\*Verse 2:\*\***

**\*"You won't spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God."\***

**Our present is transformed by our decision to follow Christ. In the past, we chased after our desires, but now, after coming to faith, we are called to pursue God's will. This verse highlights the transition from a life dominated by sin to one driven by the desire to please God. Our suffering for Christ keeps us focused on what truly matters—God's will rather than our own desires.**

**\*\*Verses 3-4:\*\***

**\*"You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols. Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild and destructive things they do. So they slander you."\***

**Peter reminds us of the futility of our past sins. We've had enough of that life; it's time to move forward. Our transformation in Christ leads to a break from our past, and this often results in misunderstandings and slander from those who continue in sin. This is where suffering for Christ comes into play. When we endure slander and rejection for Christ, we are, in a way, repaying the debt of sin by choosing to stay faithful to Him rather than returning to our past life.**

## **\*\*Verses 5-6:\*\***

**"But remember that they will have to face God, who stands ready to judge everyone, both the living and the dead. That is why the Good News was preached to those who are now dead—so although they were destined to die like all people, they now live forever with God in the Spirit."**

Peter concludes by pointing us toward the future. God's judgment is inevitable, and everyone will face it. But for those who have accepted the Gospel, even death is not the end; they live forever with God in the Spirit. This eternal perspective should guide how we live now. Our suffering is temporary, but it prepares us for an eternity with God. By enduring suffering and turning away from sin, we acknowledge that the debt has been paid in full by Christ, and we now live for Him.

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## **### Practical Life Application**

### **1. \*\*Embrace Suffering as a Means to End Sin (Past):\*\***

Recognize that suffering for Christ has a purpose. It helps to sever ties with past sins. Reflect on how Christ's suffering paid the ultimate debt of sin, and view your suffering as a way to turn away from sin and align more closely with God's will.

### **2. \*\*Live in the Present with a New Purpose:\*\***

Shift your focus from your desires to God's will. Your past life of sin is over, and now you live to please God. Engage in practices that keep you in step with God's will, such as prayer, Scripture reading, and serving others, knowing that your present sufferings are shaping you into Christ's image.



### **3. \*\*Look to the Future with Confidence:\*\***

The future holds the promise of eternal life with God. Let this assurance strengthen you in times of suffering. Every challenge you endure for Christ is preparing you for an eternity with Him. The debt of sin is fully paid, and your suffering only confirms your commitment to live for Christ now and forever.

### **4. \*\*Respond to Persecution with Grace:\*\***

When people slander or persecute you for your faith, remember that this suffering is part of your journey with Christ. Rather than retaliating, respond with grace, knowing that God is the ultimate judge and that your suffering has eternal significance.

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### **### Closing**

In Christ, our past sins are forgiven, our present is filled with purpose, and our future is secure. Suffering for Christ is not in vain—it is a powerful way of repaying the debt of sin by choosing to live righteously in the present. Let us embrace suffering, not as a burden, but as a privilege, knowing that it aligns us with Christ and prepares us for eternity. This is what it means to live out **#EverydayJesus**.

### **### Bible Study Lesson: \*Suffering, Sin, and Eternal Life\***

**\*\*Scripture Focus:\*\* 1 Peter 4:1-6 NLT**

#### **#### Objectives:**

- Understand the redemptive power of suffering in breaking free from past sins.
- Explore how our present life should be dedicated to doing God's will.
- Reflect on the future promise of eternal life and how it shapes our present actions.

#### **### Discussion Questions:**

##### **1. \*\*Reflecting on Suffering and Sin (Past):\*\***

- How has suffering for Christ helped you turn away from past sins?
- In what ways can you see Christ's suffering reflected in your own life, and how does it encourage you to live differently?

##### **2. \*\*Living with Purpose (Present):\*\***

- What specific desires have you had to surrender in order to follow God's will?
- How do you stay motivated to live for God, especially when facing challenges or persecution?

##### **3. \*\*Looking to the Future with Hope:\*\***

- How does the knowledge of God's final judgment and the promise of eternal life influence your daily decisions?
- What can you do to keep an eternal perspective in the midst of present suffering?

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### **### Application Activity:**

- **\*\*Daily Suffering Reflection:\*\*** Each day this week, reflect on any challenges or suffering you face, and consider how it is helping you break free from sin and align with God's will. Write down your thoughts and pray for strength to endure with grace.

- **\*\*Eternal Perspective Journal:\*\*** Start a journal where you write about how your present actions are influenced by your hope of eternal life. Include prayers, Scripture references, and personal reflections on how God is shaping you through your current experiences.

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### **### Closing Prayer:**

"Lord, we thank You for the example of Christ, who suffered for our sake and paid the debt of sin in full. Help us to see our own suffering as a means to grow closer to You and to break free from the chains of past sins. May we live each day with a renewed purpose, seeking to do Your will, and looking forward to the promise of eternal life. Strengthen us to endure, knowing that our suffering is not in vain but is part of our journey with You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

# EVERYDAY JESUS

**PART 3: ETERNITY FUTURE - THE ASSURANCE OF OUR HOPE\*\***

**\*TEXT: REVELATION 21:1-4, HEBREWS 13:8\***

**\*\*INTRODUCTION:\*\***

**IN THE FINAL PART OF OUR SERIES, WE LOOK AHEAD TO ETERNITY FUTURE. UNDERSTANDING JESUS' ROLE IN THE FUTURE GIVES US HOPE AND ASSURANCE, KNOWING THAT HE HOLDS OUR FUTURE SECURELY IN HIS HANDS.**

**\*\*MAIN POINTS:\*\***

**1. \*\*THE PROMISE OF A GLORIOUS FUTURE:\*\***

**- REVELATION 21:1-4 PAINTS A PICTURE OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH, WHERE GOD WILL DWELL WITH HIS PEOPLE. THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH, SORROW, OR PAIN.**

**- THIS VISION OF THE FUTURE FILLS US WITH HOPE AND ANTICIPATION OF WHAT IS TO COME.**

**2. \*\*JESUS – THE ANCHOR OF OUR HOPE:\*\***

**- HEBREWS 6:19 DESCRIBES HOPE AS AN ANCHOR FOR THE SOUL, FIRM AND SECURE. OUR HOPE IS ANCHORED IN JESUS, WHO IS UNCHANGING AND ETERNAL.**

**- REFLECT ON HOW THIS HOPE SUSTAINS US THROUGH TRIALS AND CHALLENGES, KNOWING THAT OUR FUTURE IS SECURE IN CHRIST.**

**3. \*\*LIVING IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY:\*\***

**- 1 JOHN 3:2-3 ENCOURAGES US TO LIVE PURE AND HOLY LIVES AS WE ANTICIPATE JESUS' RETURN. OUR FUTURE HOPE MOTIVATES US TO LIVE RIGHTEOUSLY IN THE PRESENT.**

**- CONSIDER HOW THE ASSURANCE OF ETERNITY WITH JESUS SHAPES OUR VALUES, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIONS TODAY.**

**\*\*APPLICATION:\*\***

**- HOLD ON TO THE HOPE OF ETERNITY WITH JESUS. LET THIS HOPE ANCHOR YOUR SOUL AND GIVE YOU STRENGTH TO PERSEVERE.**

**- LIVE WITH AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE, MAKING CHOICES THAT REFLECT YOUR FUTURE WITH CHRIST.**

**\*\*CONCLUSION:\*\***

**OUR JOURNEY THROUGH ETERNITY PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE REVEALS THE UNCHANGING NATURE OF JESUS. HE IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER. THIS TRUTH FILLS US WITH FAITH, HOPE, AND ASSURANCE AS WE NAVIGATE LIFE'S JOURNEY, KNOWING THAT OUR ETERNAL GOD IS WITH US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.**



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## **Sermon Series: Everyday Jesus - Don't Forget to Remember**

### **Sermon 1: Don't Be Afraid of What They Call You**

#### **Scripture References:**

**Matthew 5:11-12 (NIV): "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."**

**1 Peter 4:14 (NLT): "If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you."**

#### **Exegesis and Practical Life Application:**

**Emphasize that names and labels given by others cannot define our worth or identity in Christ.**

**Encourage the congregation to embrace their identity as children of God, despite any negative labels they may encounter.**

**Share testimonies of biblical figures who were called by God despite what others said about them.**

**Practical steps: Focus on affirmations from Scripture, community support within Ekklesia, and personal prayer life.**

### **Sermon 2: Always Come Back to Ekklesia**

#### **Scripture References:**

**Hebrews 10:25 (NKJV): "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."**

**Acts 2:42 (NIV): "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."**

#### **Exegesis and Practical Life Application:**

**Highlight the importance of community and fellowship in the Christian journey.**

**Discuss the early church's dedication to gathering and how it strengthened their faith.**

**Encourage regular attendance and involvement in Ekklesia's activities to foster spiritual growth and mutual support.**

**Practical steps: Engage in church ministries, attend small groups, and participate in communal worship.**

### **Sermon 3: Don't Forget the Ones You Love**

#### **Scripture References:**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NIV): "Love is patient, love is kind... Love never fails."**

**John 13:34-35 (NLT): "So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."**

#### **Exegesis and Practical Life Application:**

**Examine the qualities of love as outlined in 1 Corinthians 13.**

**Discuss the importance of loving family and church members, even when it is challenging.**

**Share stories from Scripture where love prevailed in difficult circumstances.**

**Practical steps: Daily acts of kindness, intentional family time, and resolving conflicts through love and understanding.**

### **Sermon 4: Don't Forget to Remember**

#### **Scripture References:**

**Deuteronomy 8:2 (NIV): "Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years..."**

**Psalms 77:11-12 (NLT): "But then I recall all you have done, O Lord; I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago. They are constantly in my thoughts. I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works."**

#### **Exegesis and Practical Life Application:**

**Emphasize the importance of remembering God's past faithfulness to build trust for the future.**

**Discuss the concept of "spiritual amnesia" and how it affects our faith journey.**

**Encourage keeping a journal of God's works and blessings as a personal reminder.**

**Practical steps: Regular reflection, sharing testimonies, and celebrating God's past deeds within the community.**

## **Sermon 5: Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forevermore**

### **Scripture References:**

**Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV): "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."**

**Malachi 3:6 (NIV): "I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed."**

### **Exegesis and Practical Life Application:**

**Highlight the consistency and faithfulness of Jesus Christ through all times.**

**Discuss how understanding Jesus' unchanging nature helps us trust Him with our past, present, and future.**

**Encourage the congregation to place their faith in Jesus for all aspects of life, knowing He remains constant.**

**Practical steps: Trust exercises in faith, prayers of surrender, and worship focusing on God's eternal nature.**

### **Reflection and Conclusion**

**Song Inspiration: Incorporate the song that resonates with the theme of love and remembrance, such as "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" or another song meaningful to your congregation.**

**Prophetic Encouragement: Remind the congregation of God's omnipresence and His plans for their future. Share personal testimonies and prophetic words that align with Scripture.**

**Call to Action: Urge the congregation to apply the messages by actively remembering God's deeds, loving others, staying connected to the church, and trusting Jesus' unchanging nature.**

### **Final Thought**

**"What's His Name and my preaching the God of yesterday, the God of tomorrow, and He's the God of right now. Yes, what He did for me yesterday is important. Yes, what He's doing for me tomorrow is important. But what God is doing for you right now, that's important. Can you just praise Him right now for being the God of today? Just the God of this moment, can you just praise Him for being the God of this moment?"**

**This sermon series is designed to inspire, encourage, and draw the congregation closer to Jesus, remembering His faithfulness and loving one another deeply as a reflection of Christ's love.**