

# A WINNING FAITH: URGENT FAITH

Use this guide for personal or small group study.

## REFLECT >>>

1. Describe a normal day for you.
2. When was a time that you remember feeling a sense of urgency over something? Describe what happened.
3. What comes to mind when you hear the phrase “urgent faith”? Does it sound like a good thing?

## READ YOUR BIBLE >>>

- Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-16 (MSG)
- Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

## **APPLY** GOD'S WORD TO YOUR LIFE >>>

1. How would you describe the events in Mark 1:1-8? What was urgent for people?
2. Paul says Christians choose to leave darkness behind and walk in love as “children of light” (Ephesians 5:2, 8). What might God be urging you to leave behind right now?
3. What might it look like for you to have an “urgent faith”? How might it change the way you see others? Might it change the way you see yourself?
4. Urgency calls for action. Write the name of someone you can begin to pray for with urgency:\_\_\_\_\_.  
If you are willing, share only the first name with the group, so they can pray for that person with you.

Crowds had been coming out to John, confessing their sins. But, when Jesus arrived on the scene, things got real. God the Father spoke directly from heaven and said, “This is My Son; listen to Him.” Every day since, people have been doing just that: repenting of sin and getting on their feet to follow Jesus. If you’re reading this devotional, God’s rescue mission has probably touched your soul, too! But, you may have found that as we live this life day after day, our edges can become dull. Our commitments slip and our vision dims. It is God Himself who urges every Christian: “Awake, O sleeper!” Your life is meant to be spent in purposeful pursuit of the One who has called you to “arise from the dead.” He gives us a promise when we step forward, “Christ will shine on you.” Are you willing to ask Christ to turn His gaze upon you? What darkness in you does His light uncover? When He shines through you to others, what wounds and brokenness do you see? Are you willing to be used in the ultimate rescue mission?

## **PRAY >>>**

God of my heart, You alone are worthy of praise. You stand by me every day and raise me up every time I fall. You are never in a hurry. But, You see the darkness of our world and the plight of our hearts. Give me humility to confess my sins, honestly. Then, give me compassion to see people as You see them. Give me courage to care for souls and speak with the fire of love. Give me an urgent faith that overflows in prayers for others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.