IDENTITY LOCKED IN Week 3 Devotional

Weekly Challenge - Take Your Next Step
Being locked in means more than agreeing with what God says. It means trusting Him enough to act on it. This week, prayerfully complete these three statements:

1. **Remember Who I Am:** Because I belong to Jesus, one truth I need to believe about my identity is…
2. **Surrender What Holds Me Back:** One fear, habit, or area of disobedience I need to surrender is…
3. **Take My Next Step:** One specific step of obedience I will take this week is…

Reflection: Bring these statements before the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you recognize a step that agrees with Scripture and put it into practice. Make it specific enough that you can follow through this week.
Weekly Declaration: I am a child of the Most High King! Through Jesus Christ, I belong to God's family. My Father loves me, my Savior has redeemed me, and the Holy Spirit lives in me. I do not have to understand every detail to obey His Word. I will trust His character, follow His direction, and take my next step in faith. My circumstances may change, but my identity is secure in Christ. I belong to Him. I am locking in!

Monday - Know Whose You Are: Romans 8:14–17; John 1:12–13
Reflection: Before we talk about what God wants us to do, we need to remember who we are in Him. Through faith in Jesus, we are welcomed into God's family. We are sons and daughters of the Most High King! That means we do not have to spend our lives trying to earn a place at the table. In Christ, we belong. Our obedience grows out of that relationship. We follow our Father because we know He loves us and we are learning to trust Him. Confidence begins here: the God who calls you to follow Him has welcomed you as His child. You can take your next step knowing whose you are.
Journaling Questions:

1. What label have I allowed to speak louder than my identity as God's child?
2. How would knowing I belong to the Father change the way I approach today?

Lock In Today: Write, "Through Jesus, I am a loved child of God." Put it somewhere you will see it and read Romans 8:14–17 again when doubt comes.
Prayer Prompt: *Father, help me believe that I belong to You. Teach me to live as Your child, secure in Your love and willing to follow Your direction. Amen.*

Tuesday - Take the Step While You are Still Afraid: Judges 7:9–14; Psalm 56:3–4
Reflection: God knew Gideon was afraid. He told him to go down to the enemy's camp with Purah and listen. Gideon still had to move, but God provided encouragement along the way. Sometimes we expect faith to feel fearless. We think we will obey once every question is answered and every nervous feeling disappears. But faith often looks like taking the next step while we are still afraid. You may not know how the whole situation will unfold. Start with what God has already made clear in His Word. Tell the truth. Ask forgiveness. Serve someone. Ask for help. Fear can be present without being in charge.
Journaling Questions:

1. Where am I allowing fear to delay obedience?
2. What clear step can I take today while trusting God with what I cannot see?

Lock In Today: Take one step you have been putting off. If you need support, ask a trusted believer to pray with you and encourage you.
Prayer Prompt: *Lord, You know what scares me. Help me trust You in the middle of it. Give me courage to follow You before I feel completely ready. Amen.*

Wednesday - Worship Before You See the Outcome: Judges 7:13–15; Philippians 4:4–7
Reflection: When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he bowed down and worshiped. The enemy was still in the valley. The battle had not happened yet. But Gideon responded to God with worship before he saw the victory. We can bring that same posture into the situations we face. We can pray honestly about what hurts and still thank God for His faithfulness. We can acknowledge the size of the struggle and remember the greatness of our Father. Living with

expectation means bringing our needs to God believing He hears us and is able to work. We trust Him with the timing and the outcome as we continue to follow Him.

Journaling Questions:

1. What situation has occupied more of my attention than God's faithfulness?
2. What can I thank Him for today, even while I am waiting?

Lock In Today: Spend five minutes in prayer and worship. Name your concern, thank God for His character, and surrender the outcome to Him.

Prayer Prompt: *Father, I bring You what I cannot control. You are faithful while I wait. Help me worship You today and remain expectant as I trust You with tomorrow. Amen.*

Thursday - Let Your Yes Become Action: Judges 7:16–20; John 14:15–17

Reflection: Gideon gave the men their instructions. Then the moment came to carry them out. They had to pick up the trumpets, carry the jars, and move into position. Listening mattered. Following through mattered too. Jesus connects our love for Him with obedience to His commands. He also promises the Holy Spirit, our Helper. God calls us to respond, and He provides His presence as we do. Locking in becomes practical when our yes becomes action. It reaches our conversations, our schedules, our relationships, and the choices we make when nobody is watching. What has Jesus already made clear that you need to put into practice?

Journaling Questions:

1. Where have I said yes to God without following through?
2. What would obedience to Jesus look like in that area today?

Lock In Today: Finish this sentence: "Today, I will obey Jesus by…" Then follow through before the day ends.

Prayer Prompt: *Jesus, I love You. Help my choices reflect that love. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to follow through on what Your Word has made clear. Amen.*

Friday - Hold Your Position: Judges 7:19–22; Galatians 6:9–10

Reflection: Judges tells us that each man held his position around the camp while the Lord caused confusion among the enemy. Their part was to follow the instructions they had received and remain where they had been placed. Some days, obedience looks like a bold first step. Other days, it looks like continuing the good you already know to do. Keep praying. Keep telling the truth. Keep showing kindness. Keep showing up faithfully. When change comes slowly, we can be tempted to quit. God sees the quiet choices that others may never notice. Ask the Holy Spirit for strength to remain faithful today and wisdom to recognize where you need support.

Journaling Questions:

1. Where am I growing tired of doing what is right?
2. What would faithfulness look like in that situation today?

Lock In Today: Repeat one faithful action you have been tempted to abandon. Ask someone you trust to encourage you as you continue.

Prayer Prompt: *Holy Spirit, strengthen me where I am tired. Help me keep doing good, receive support, and remain faithful in what God has given me to do. Amen.*

Saturday - Keep Walking in Your Identity: Romans 8:31–39; James 1:22–25

Reflection: This week was an opportunity to put faith into practice. The next step is to keep walking.

Your identity in Christ reaches beyond a Sunday message or a week of devotions. It shapes how you respond when life is uncertain, when obedience costs something, and when you need to begin again after falling short. Romans 8 reminds us that hardship cannot separate us from God's love in Christ. That gives us confidence to keep trusting Him through unanswered questions. We belong to the Father, we follow the Son, and we depend on the Holy Spirit. Each day brings another opportunity to live from that truth.

Journaling Questions:

1. What did I learn about God and my response to Him this week?
2. What step of obedience will I continue practicing next week?

Lock In Today: Return to your three weekly challenge statements. Record the step you took, what remains difficult, and how you will continue. Share one encouragement with someone.

Prayer Prompt: *Father, thank You that I belong to You. Jesus, help me follow Your example. Holy Spirit, help me put Your truth into practice. Keep growing my faith as I walk with You, one step at a time. Amen.*