



JOYCE MEYER
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HOW TO GET YOUR DAY STARTED RIGHT

Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

Joyce Meyer Ministries

Nanakramguda

Hyderabad - 500 008

Andhra Pradesh

INDIA

91-40-2300 6777

www.jmmindia.org

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Joyce Meyer Ministries
P.O. Box 655 • Fenton, MO 63026
636-349-0303 • 1-800-727-WORD (9673)
www.joycemeyer.org

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HOW TO GET YOUR DAY STARTED RIGHT

I. Every Day Begins With A Morning.

A. Many people have miserable days because they don't get started right.

B. What does the Scripture say about morning?

1. **Psalm 5:3** – David started his day with God. He **prayed** and he **listened**.
2. **Exodus 35:5** – They brought **freewill** offerings every morning.
 - a. They brought **freewill** offerings of various things as sacrifices, but we are instructed to bring “the sacrifice of praise.”
 - b. **Hebrews 13:15** – Constantly and at all times – don't leave out the morning – praise gets your day started off right.
 - c. **Psalm 100:4** – Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.
 - d. We cannot come into God's awesome presence without praise.
3. **Lamentations 3:19-23** – His mercy is new every morning.
 - a. Before repentance, we feel terrible inside.

- b. When we feel terrible inside, it makes us feel terrible in our physical bodies.
- c. Many people feel bad physically most of the time due to not repenting and receiving His mercy.
- d. **Psalm 32:1-6** – We are blessed when there is no deceit in our spirit and our transgressions are forgiven.

“Covering up” our sins or “blaming others” for our wrong actions equals deceit.

C. Great men in the Bible who sought God early in the morning:

1. **Genesis 28:10-22** – Jacob rose up early in the morning, worshiped, dedicated himself to God, and made a vow to serve God and to tithe.
 - a. Each morning is a good time to dedicate yourself and all that you have to God afresh.
 - b. **Romans 12:1-2** – Make a decisive dedication of your bodies and be determined not to be conformed to this world.
2. **Exodus 24:4-7** – Moses rose up early in the morning and built an altar. He offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and he also read the Book of the Covenant.

Thank God we don't have to build an altar and slay animals to offer on it. We have Jesus living in us, and we can offer the sacrifice of praise.

3. **Mark 1:35-42** – Jesus got up very early and prayed, and then He ministered to others.
 - a. **John 8:1-11**
 - b. People probably went to bed much earlier than we do.

- D. Excessive sleep is the downfall of many.
1. **Proverbs 6:4** – *Give not [unnecessary] sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids . . .*
 2. **Proverbs 20:13** – *Love not sleep, lest you come to poverty . . .*
- E. **Luke 22:39-46** – We see that it was Jesus’ **habit** to go to the Mount of Olives to pray.
1. He encouraged the disciples to pray so they would not come into temptation, but they slept and experienced defeat.
 2. **How many more victories would we experience if we would get up early and pray – being unwilling to attempt anything without first seeking God?**
- F. **Acts 5:19-21** – The Apostles also got an early start.

**SOME NEVER FINISH THE RACE
BECAUSE THEY START TOO LATE!!**

II. Get Difficult Tasks Over With Early.

- A. **Genesis 21:14** – Abraham dealt with Hagar and Ishmael early in the morning.
- B. **Genesis 22:1-3** – Abraham got up early in order to sacrifice his son as God had instructed.
1. When we put off an unpleasant task, it torments us all day long.
- C. **I Samuel 17:20-51** – David rose up early the day he killed Goliath.
1. **You cannot defeat the giants in your life lying in bed.**

- D. **Exodus 8:20; 9:13** – God instructed Moses to rise up early and confront Pharaoh.
- E. **Exodus 16:21** – The Israelites gathered the manna every morning. **They could not get enough each morning to last for several days.** They had to collect it every morning.
 - 1. **John 6:48-51** – Jesus is our “Bread” come down from above.

III. Set Your Mind.

- A. **Colossians 3:1-3** – Set your mind and keep it set.
 - 1. **Get your mind going in the right direction, or your life will not go in the right direction.**
- B. **Proverbs 4:23** – Guard your heart (mind) with all diligence for out of it flows the issues of life.
 - 1. Be very careful what kind of thoughts you start your day with.
 - 2. **II Corinthians 10:4-5** – Cast down wrong imaginations, theories, and reasonings.
- C. **I Peter 4:1** – Arm yourselves with right attitudes and thinking
 - 1. I will do whatever I need to do in order to obey God.
- D. **Galatians 6:10** – Be mindful to be a blessing.
 - 1. Lie in bed and think of ways you can be a blessing that day.
 - 2. Look for a need and meet it.
 - 3. Set your mind to compliment people, edify them, and make them feel good about themselves.

4. Be determined not to be selfish or self-centered that day. Decide that no matter what happens, you will not wallow in self-pity.
- E. **Romans 12:16** – Make a decision to be adaptable.
1. Everything may not go as you had planned, so decide ahead of time that you will not get upset about it.
 2. Decide to live in peace – to get along with whomever God places in your path.
- F. Make a decision to be patient.
1. Tell yourself that everyone may not move as fast as you would like, but it is all right because you are patient.
 2. Tell yourself the truth – waiting is part of life!
- G. Think about the Fruit of the Spirit – especially love!

IV. Confess The Word.

- A. Spend some time each morning confessing the Word.
1. Not as a law, but because it is wisdom.
- B. **Psalms 103:20** – Angels hearken to the voice of His Word.
1. They don't hearken to complaining.
- C. **Declare who you are in Christ and what belongs to you through inheritance.**
1. I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
 2. I am a new creature in Christ. Old things have passed away, and all things become new.

3. I am blessed. Everything I lay my hand to prospers and succeeds.
4. I am anointed.
5. I have righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.
6. I have favor everywhere I go. I have favor with God and man.
7. There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.
8. Etc., etc.

V. Prophecy Your Future.

- A. **Romans 4:17** – Call those things that be not as though they are.
 1. Stop calling negative things that are as if they will always be that way.
- B. Apply the Word to things that need to change in your life – just as we apply salve to a wound.
- C. Example: If you have difficulty sleeping, don't repeat ten times each day, "I have trouble sleeping." Instead say, "The sleep of the righteous shall be sweet – I declare that I sleep *good* at night."
- D. Twenty years ago, I began to confess that each of my children are married to a born again, Spirit-filled believer. Today it is a reality.
- E. **Ezekiel 37:1-10** – Dead bones can live again if we are willing to prophesy as God commands.
 1. **John 6:63** – Jesus said, "My Words, they are Spirit and life."

VI. Guard Against Evil Forebodings.

- A. **Proverbs 15:15** – Any day that is soured is done so through evil forebodings.
- B. **Psalm 30:5** (KJV) – . . . *weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*
 - 1. Each day brings joy, a fresh start, and an opportunity to let go of what lies behind and press on.
- C. **Isaiah 43:18-19** – **You may have had a bad day yesterday, but this is a new day!!**
 - 1. Even though “joy cometh,” we can negate it by being negative through hopelessness and wrong expectations.
 - 2. If you have had a rough time – are you expecting more of the same, or are you expecting things to change for the better?
- D. **Get into agreement with God and out of agreement with Satan!**
 - 1. **Amos 3:3** – How can two walk together unless they be agreed?
 - 2. God has a good plan for your life, but you must get into agreement with Him.
 - a. **Jeremiah 29:11**
 - b. **Ephesians 2:10**

VII. Keep The Morning Watch.

- A. **Proverbs 8:17** – . . . *those who seek me early and diligently shall find me.*
 - 1. God is wisdom.

2. I believe seeking Him early can refer to early in the morning or early in a difficult situation.
- B. **Jeremiah 29:11-13** – God has a good plan for us. **Many seek His good plan without seeking Him.**
1. “You will find Me when you seek for Me with your whole heart.”
- C. **I Chronicles 28:9** – Seek Him as your first and vital necessity, and you will find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.
- D. By seeking God first, you are “sowing a seed” that will produce a harvest of a day filled with blessings.
- E. **Isaiah 40:31** (KJV) – *But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles . . .*
- F. **Isaiah 50:4** – Learn to listen as well as talk.
1. Every morning when God wakes us up, He wants to talk to us.
 2. **We don’t just wake up – God wakes us up!!**
- G. **Psalms 17:15** – . . . *I shall be fully satisfied when I awake [to find myself] beholding Your form [and having sweet communion with You].*
1. When you and I have formed such a habit of seeking God early so that we wake up having communion with Him, we are guaranteed to have a great day.
 2. It may not be problem free, but it will nonetheless be awesome!

