

## The Ultimate Gift: A 3-Day Devotional

Life has a way of teaching us what truly matters—but often, those lessons come through challenges, loss, and unexpected moments of grace. *The Ultimate Gift* tells the story of Jason Stevens, a man who thought wealth and success were his greatest treasures, only to discover that true riches come from living with purpose, loving deeply, and giving freely. His journey mirrors the one we are all on—a journey of discovering what really lasts.

Over the next three days, we will explore the biblical truths reflected in this powerful story. We'll examine what Jesus teaches about true wealth, how God refines us through trials, and why generosity and love are central to a life well-lived. My prayer is that this devotional leads you into deeper reflection and transformation, opening your heart to *God's* ultimate gift—Himself. Let's begin this journey together, with open hearts and expectant faith.

## Day 1: The Gift of True Wealth

**Luke 12:15** – “*Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.*”

### My Heart to Yours

Have you ever chased after something, thinking it would finally make you happy, only to feel empty once you had it? Jason thought money was the key to life—until he lost it all. The world tells us that success is measured by wealth, possessions, and comfort, but Jesus teaches us something radically different. True wealth isn't about what we have; it's about *who we are becoming in Christ*. The riches of this world fade, but the treasures we store up in heaven will last forever. Today, let's take a step back and ask: What am I really pursuing? Is it something temporary or something eternal?

### Reflection:

- What stood out to you in *The Ultimate Gift* about the difference between material wealth and true wealth?
- When you think about your own life, what are you pursuing most? Is it something temporary or eternal?
- How does Jesus' teaching challenge or encourage you in this area?

### Application:

Spend a few minutes asking God to realign your heart with His definition of true wealth. Write out one way you can store up *eternal* treasures this week.

### Closing Word of Encouragement:

Wealth isn't measured in dollars or possessions—it's found in a heart fully surrendered to God. When we seek His kingdom first, everything else falls into place. Let's choose today to invest in what truly matters.

## Day 1: The Gift of True Wealth

### Prayer:

Father, You know my heart better than I do. Reveal to me the things I am holding onto that are temporary and distract me from what truly matters. Forgive me for the times I have pursued worldly success over Your kingdom. Open my eyes to see true riches—the kind that cannot be taken away. Change my desires, Lord. Help me to seek You above all else and trust that when I do, You will provide all that I need. Teach me to invest in things of eternal value—loving You, serving others, and living for Your glory. In Jesus' name, amen.

## Day 2: The Refining Process of Trials

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**James 1:2-4** – *“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”*

### My Heart to Yours

Trials are never easy, are they? If we had our way, we'd avoid struggles altogether. But looking back, I see that the hardest seasons in my life were also the ones where God was working the most. Jason's life didn't change when things were easy—it changed when he faced challenges. In the same way, God allows trials to shape us, refine us, and make us more like Him. We may not always understand *why*, but we can trust *who* is leading us through them. What if, instead of resisting the struggles, we allowed God to use them to deepen our faith?

### Reflection:

- Jason didn't grow until he faced challenges. How has God used trials in your life to shape and refine you?
- What is your usual response to struggles—frustration, surrender, trust? How does this passage encourage you to view trials differently?
- Think of a difficult time in your life. Looking back, can you see God's hand at work?

### Application:

Write a short prayer asking God to help you embrace trials as opportunities for growth. If you're currently in a challenging season, surrender that trial to Him today.

### Closing Word of Encouragement:

God is not wasting your pain. He is using it to make you stronger, wiser, and more like Jesus. Keep pressing on—He is with you in the fire, refining you for something greater.

## Day 2: The Refining Process of Trials

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### Prayer:

Lord, I confess that I don't always see trials as a gift. Sometimes I resist, complain, or even doubt You in the middle of hard seasons. Forgive me for the times I have wanted an easy life more than I have wanted a transformed heart. Help me trust that You are working in my pain and shaping me for something greater. Teach me to persevere and to lean on You instead of my own understanding. Give me faith to believe that even in the fire, You are good. I surrender my struggles to You today. In Jesus' name, amen.

## Day 3: The Power of Giving & Love

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**Acts 20:35** – “*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*”

### My Heart to Yours

I don't know about you, but I've never regretted an act of generosity. There's something about giving—whether it's time, encouragement, or resources—that fills the soul in a way nothing else can. Jason started his journey focused on what he could *get*, but he found joy when he started focusing on what he could *give*. Jesus, our ultimate example, *gave everything* for us. A life poured out in love is a life truly lived. Today, let's ask: How can I shift my focus from *getting* to *giving*? Who needs my encouragement, kindness, or generosity?

### Reflection:

- Jason only found joy when he stopped focusing on himself and started serving others. Where is God calling you to shift your focus from *getting* to *giving*?
- What are some ways—big or small—you can bless others with your time, resources, or encouragement?
- Jesus gave everything for us. How does His example challenge your own generosity?

### Application:

Choose one way to give today—whether through an act of kindness, a note of encouragement, or an intentional moment of serving someone else.

### Closing Word of Encouragement:

A generous heart reflects the love of Christ. When we give, we mirror His heart and bring joy not only to others but to ourselves. Let's go and give freely today, knowing that in giving, we are blessed beyond measure.

## Day 3: The Power of Giving & Love

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### Prayer:

Father, You have given me so much—more than I deserve. Yet, so often, I cling tightly to what I have instead of freely giving as You did. Forgive me for the times I've been selfish or fearful in my generosity. Soften my heart and help me to see giving as an act of worship, a way to reflect Your love to the world. Show me today where I can serve, encourage, and give without expectation. Fill me with joy as I follow Your example. In Jesus' name, amen.

## Final Word of Encouragement

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As we come to the end of this devotional, my hope is that these past few days have stirred something in your heart—a longing for something deeper, richer, and more lasting than anything this world can offer. The ultimate gift is not wealth, success, or even the good things we experience in this life. The ultimate gift is *Jesus Himself*.

As you move forward, I encourage you to keep seeking true riches in Him. When trials come, remember they are not obstacles—they are opportunities for growth. When the world tells you to look out for yourself, choose instead to pour out love. And when you feel empty, know that giving of yourself will fill you in ways you never imagined.

May you walk in the abundance of God's love, the strength of His refining work, and the joy of a generous heart. You are deeply loved, and your life has *eternal* value. Keep seeking Him.



*Jennifer*