

FEEDBACK

DEVOTIONAL



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

DAY 1: WHO HE IS – THE FEEDBACK THAT MATTERS MOST

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 12:15–21

DEVOTIONAL

Jesus didn't let public opinion define His mission. In a world full of noise, He prioritized the feedback of the Father over the praises or criticisms of the crowd. His life is a picture of humble obedience and divine confidence. When people misunderstood or rejected Him, He withdrew, healed quietly, and stayed focused on His calling. Who Jesus is doesn't change based on what people say about Him—He is the fulfillment of prophecy, the servant chosen by God, full of justice and compassion.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Whose feedback shapes your life? Are you living for applause, or for God's approval?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Move from the noise of the crowd to the stillness with God. Focus on the feedback that truly matters—His.

PRAYER

Lord, help me tune out the noise and tune into Your voice. May I live for Your approval and walk confidently in who You say I am. Amen.



DAY 2: WHO WE SHOULD BE – THE HEART SPEAKS

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 12:33–37

DEVOTIONAL

Jesus taught that our words reveal our hearts. Just like a tree is known by its fruit, our speech uncovers the condition of our soul. It's not about being perfect with our words, but being real about our roots. Are we storing up good things in our hearts, or letting bitterness, pride, or fear take root? What comes out of our mouths often reflects what we haven't yet surrendered.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What have your recent words revealed about the condition of your heart?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Root your heart in truth and grace, so that your words reflect the Spirit's work in you.

PRAYER

God, transform my heart so that my words bring life. Let me be rooted in Your truth, producing the fruit of the Spirit in all I say and do. Amen.



DAY 3: WHEN JESUS SAYS “NO” OR “MAYBE”

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 11:1–24

DEVOTIONAL

Even John the Baptist doubted when things didn’t go as expected. Jesus didn’t condemn him, but gently pointed back to the truth of who He was and what He was doing. Some in the crowd remained unresponsive despite seeing miracles—they missed the invitation. Jesus says “no” and “maybe” not out of cruelty, but to deepen trust, shape purpose, or give time for repentance.

REFLECTION QUESTION

How do you typically respond when God doesn’t answer your prayers right away?

KEY TAKEAWAY

God’s delays are not His denials. He often uses “no” or “maybe” to draw us into deeper trust and purpose.

PRAYER

Jesus, help me trust You even when the answer is unclear. I believe You are working, even when I don’t understand the outcome. Amen.



DAY 4: WHEN JESUS SAYS "YES" – THE WEARY ARE WELCOME

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 11:28–30

DEVOTIONAL

Jesus' invitation is simple and profound: Come to Me. When we are tired, burdened, and broken, He doesn't turn us away. He offers rest—not necessarily relief from circumstances, but rest for our souls. His yoke is easy because He carries it with us. His heart is gentle and lowly, welcoming us in our weakness.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What burdens are you carrying that you need to release to Jesus?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Jesus welcomes the weary. When you come to Him, He offers true rest for your soul.

PRAYER

Lord, I come to You weary and needing rest. Thank You for welcoming me just as I am. Help me to walk with You and find peace for my soul. Amen.



FEEDBACK

DISCUSSION GUIDE



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

THEME

Tuning In to the Voice of Jesus

OPENING PRAYER

Father, open our hearts and ears to Your voice. Help us hear Your feedback and respond with faith and obedience. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

What is the most helpful feedback you've ever received, and why did it stick with you?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Matthew 11–12 (selected verses)

SUMMARY

The Feedback message series takes us through a journey of discovering who Jesus is, who we are called to be, and how we respond to His voice. We begin by seeing Jesus' unwavering confidence in His identity as God's chosen servant, despite public criticism or praise. He models how to tune out the noise and prioritize the feedback of the Father. We then shift to our hearts and how our words reveal our spiritual condition. Jesus challenges us to examine the fruit of our lives and to cultivate hearts rooted in Truth. In seasons of doubt or delay, Jesus doesn't shame us; instead, He invites us to trust deeper. And finally, to the weary and burdened, He offers rest and hope, calling us into His gentle presence. Throughout each message, we're invited to reflect, repent, and rest in the assurance that Jesus hears, sees, and welcomes us.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does Jesus' response to criticism or praise teach us about identity and purpose?
2. How can we cultivate hearts that produce life-giving words?
3. In what ways has God said "no" or "maybe" in your life? How did that impact your trust in Him?
4. How can we practice spiritual listening in a noisy world?
5. What does it look like to come to Jesus with our weariness today?

LIFE APPLICATION

Consider how the feedback of God—through His Word and Spirit — is calling you to respond. Choose one area from the series and take a practical step to apply it this week. Share your intention with someone who can pray for you and support you.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Spend 10 minutes a day this week in quiet prayer, listening for God's voice.
- Examine your recent speech: write down what you say most and ask God to show you what it reveals.
- Choose a burden you're carrying and intentionally give it to God in prayer.
- Fast from social media or a noisy distraction for a day to focus on God's voice.
- Memorize Matthew 11:28–30 and reflect on it each morning.

ENDING PRAYER

Jesus, thank You for calling us to something deeper and richer than surface faith. Help us to live with transformed hearts, to embrace Your values, and to shine Your light. May our lives be a reflection of Your Kingdom. Amen.

