



DEVOTED

Examining Key Men in the Bible

A 31-Day Devotional for Young Men

Russell St. Bernard

What Parents and Leaders Are Saying...

Devoted, Pastor Russell St. Bernard's newest work is more than just a devotional. His insight into the scripture, his gift for application and his authentic personal stories make it difficult to put down. Russell's unique way of writing both challenges and encourages. It's written in such a way that you feel like you've just had a conversation with a good friend. Devoted is one of those rare devotionals for young men that can either inspire you at the start of your day or cause you to reflect at the end of your day. A cup of coffee & Pastor Russell St. Bernard's newest devotional Devoted; it doesn't get any better!

Troy Gramling, Lead Pastor Potential Church

As a Men's Ministry leader and a Chaplain for a professional sports team, I am always searching for material to help men grow spiritually and "Devoted" is a powerful resource to help men do so. "Devoted" is for those men who are serious about learning and applying the Word of God in their lives.

Darrin Smith, Father of a son, NFL Chaplain Miami Dolphins

We all need a positive way to begin our days and weeks. We all need a sense of direction and inspiration. This incredible book, Devoted, provides for us the exact prescription needed for what we face in our lives. Thank you to my friend and brother, Russell St. Bernard, for releasing this timely and powerful daily devotional for our young men and those young at heart!

Jonathan Nelson, National Recording Artist, Stellar Award Winner

I am blessed and very grateful to have Rev. Russell St. Bernard on staff as Youth Minister at Reid Temple AME Church. Rev. Russ always has his ear to the mouth of God listening for direction and instruction. This devotional for men comes at just the right time with the highly publicized incidents involving the increasing number of murders of African American men in general and our young African American men in particular. The question being raised across this nation is, "where do we go from here." Rev. Russ' book, "Devoted" is perhaps not the absolute answer, but certainly part of the solution to this ever growing dilemma. A close examination of the lives and examples of young men in the Bible becomes an excellent way to challenge all men to live creatively and with purpose. This is a must read for every Youth and Men's ministry. Clearly, we need more of our young men living devoted lives for

the Kingdom. My prayer is as you read "Devoted" your life will be transformed and devoted to the greater cause of Christ.

Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington, Senior Pastor Reid Temple AME Church

I'm devoted to "Devoted!" As a mom of two boys and a leader in ministry, I see this book's benefit from two vantage points. As a mom, I don't want something I want my boys to read, I want something THEY want to read. Rev. Russ wrote this in a way that speaks to the latter. As a leader in ministry, I know that what students get at weekly youth groups might not be what sticks with them all week. This book is a great companion to walk beside our future world-changers in a daily way.

Heather Palacios, Mother of two sons, Staff-Pastor at Church by the Glades

I give the new volume written by Youth Minister Russell St. Bernard the highest possible recommendation. This is a 31-Day Devotional written for and to young men, but the truths and life lessons are good for old men like myself. This work is written in every day language, rooted in scripture, and it lifts up relevant and helpful life lessons. Each of the devotions ends with a prayer. When one considers the challenges that face our young Black men, this is truly a timely book to give and or receive.

Bishop John Richard Bryant, Senior Bishop of The African Methodist Episcopal Church

When I think about the blessings God has gifted me with, my children immediately come to mind; but as a Christian parent, I also think about the great responsibility those blessings come with, "to train a child in the way he should go, so when he's old he will not stray from it." As the mom of a teenage boy trying to become the young man God desires him to be, I am grateful for Rev. Russ' mentorship and leadership in writing this awesome devotional "DEVOTED" which provides godly examples of males devoted to God, their triumphs and their challenges...just the truth my son needs! I'm confident that this tool will assist him (and me) in living out his faith on a daily basis and provide the spiritual food to allow him to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. #whatawonderfulblessing #mentorsrock #devoted

Todra, Mother of teenage son

Every man prides himself on having the right tool in his toolbox when its time to fix what's broken or time to build up his home. Russell St Bernard has masterfully equipped us with our latest tool, DEVOTED. Every father raising a son needs this book in his collection as well as every young man aspiring to greatness.

Christopher Brown, Proud Father, Director of Congregational Care, Empowerment Temple AME Church

One of the most important (and sometimes difficult) things can be getting young people into the word. Rev. Russ has done it again, giving daily doses of the Word that explain God's word in an understandable way and breaks down the stereotype that the Bible is boring or outdated. "Devoted" hits young men where they need it, in the heart.

Richard Villanueva, Youth Pastor, The Rock Church and World Outreach Center

Rev Russ has given us a devotional that will speak to our daily situations. Written in everyday language and everyday experience he challenges us to look at our relationship with God and strengthen it. Young and old alike will find this to be "just what they were looking for." Let it guide your days and see a new you begin to develop.

Bishop Walter Thomas, Sr., Senior Pastor New Psalmist Baptist Church

Russell St. Bernard has hit the nail on the head with "Devoted". I've been looking for a fresh, insightful, and to-the-point devotional to recommend to the youth in my church. Rev. Russ, as he is affectionately called, knows youth and has "IT" when it comes to communicating biblical truth to them.

Rod Hairston, Pastor, Author, Speaker & 2-Time Super Bowl Winning Chaplain Emeritus

One of the greatest gifts in life is to connect with people who are pursuing their purpose with passion. For the last 5 years I have been blessed to personally witness Rev. Russ' passion for empowering young people with Christ. DEVOTED is simply the latest example of his commitment and his uncanny ability to share the timeless truths of the gospel with young leaders of today. Rev. Russ' own story is an example of what God will do in the life of a young man, who is willing to submit himself to God's word. It is from his personal experi-

ence of transformation, and his expertise in ministry that DEVOTED speaks to young men in a language that they can understand - and will result in them becoming true men of God.

Rev. Matthew L. Watley, Executive Minister of Reid Temple AME Church

Real stories! Real talk! Real action! As a community leader and mother of a young Black man, this devotional plants seeds of empowerment in a simple yet powerful manner. Every young man and parent of a young man should live out this devotional. These 31 days will change your life!!!

Tawana, Mother of teenage son

This is a must read for all men, especially youth and young adults! Devoted is a devotional focused around what it takes to be a man sold out for God. Rev Russ breaks down the scripture in such a way that in 31 days you will understand not only how the men of the Bible were devoted to God but also how you can live and be a witness for him.

Rev. Walter Thomas, Jr., Senior Pastor (Elect) First Baptist Church of Steelton

As a father of one and a coach of many, my entire purpose is to instruct, lead, and be an exemplary model of what a man should be. Devoted gives me a powerful instrument to tap into the mental and spiritual aspect of creating a consistent young man. These 31 days will provide them with daily structure and purpose that will become forever habit forming.

Cato June, Father of a son, Professional NFL Linebacker and Super Bowl Champion

This book hits home for me. My life transformed because a man took me under his wing and got me to do devotions with him three times a week. Russell's passion for mentorship is undeniable. He has an incredible knack for taking Gods word and making it relevant and applicable. I love how Russell utilizes real life experiences to bring scripture to life. The key to this book is the "Live It Out" section of each daily devotional. Here Russell uses simple exercises to challenge students to put Gods word into practice. I am personally very excited to see how God uses this devotional to transform the lives of many.

Ben Coplin, Pastor of Spiritual Formation, The Crossing Church



Devoted: Examining Key Men in the Bible, 31-Day Devotional for Young Men

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to every man serving as a mentor in the life of a young man. I also dedicate this book all of the men that mentored me when I was a young man, and to those who are mentoring me in my life and ministry.

I thank you.

DEDICATION

About the Author



Rev. Russell St. Bernard is an anointed, gifted and passionate preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He has been equipped with a challenging and insightful Word for the people, both young and old. Affectionately known as “Rev. Russ”, his focus is to help God’s people realize and obtain their God-given purpose and call.

Rev. Russ was born in Brooklyn, New York, and was raised on the rough streets of Brooklyn’s Bedford Stuyvesant (Bed-Stuy) borough. After graduating from high school, Rev. Russ wanted a change, and found it when he was accepted to Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Before accepting Christ and his call to Ministry, Rev. Russ was a well-known party promoter on Morgan’s campus, as well as in the greater Baltimore area. However, after receiving Christ and acknowledging the call on his life, he chose to promote Christ to everyone with which he came in contact. Rev. Russ received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 2003. After he accepted his call to Ministry, he went on to receive his Masters of Divinity from the Howard University School of Divinity in 2010, where he graduated with honors.

In 1999, Rev. Russ began serving as the Minister to Teens at Empowerment Temple A.M.E Church in Baltimore, Maryland, under the awesome pastoral leadership of Rev. Dr. Jamal-Harrison Bryant. He led bi-weekly youth services, called “Teen Temple”, where more than one hundred young people used their gifts and talents to worship God. Many of those teens participated in youth dance and drama teams, and many other activities during “Teen Temple” worship.

Under Rev. Russ’ leadership at Empowerment Temple, youth traveled to Jamaica on Missions trips, participated in weekend conferences that featured special guests and artists. He also held youth services at youth detention centers and ministered to those who were “locked up” but not “locked out” of the Kingdom.

After he left Empowerment Temple A.M.E. Church in 2007, Rev. Russ became the Pastor of Student and Young Professional Ministries at The Fountain Ministries in South Florida, under the pastoral leadership of Pastor Wayne Lomax. Here, Rev. Russ equipped young people for all areas of service in order for them to change their lives and the lives of those in their communities. Under Rev. Russ’ leadership, he created the HYDRO (Youth) Ministry, and many other ministries, to include the students in the life of the Church. Rev. Russ became the Minister to Youth at Reid Temple A.M.E. Church in Maryland in 2010.

Under Rev. Russ’ leadership the youth ministry (Eleven 22 Youth Ministry) has grown to serve hundreds of students weekly, and it has also created a Saturday night youth service entitled “The Saturday Night Remix”. During this service, hundreds of students come to worship God with reverence. Over 250 students made decisions for Christ in the first year.

Rev. Russ’ works have been published under The American Bible Society’s student magazine “Elementz of Life”, as well as by The Urban Youth Workers Institute’s National Youth Ministry Training “Reload”, which develops trainings for students and adult leaders. Recently, Outreach Magazine named Rev. Russ as the Youth Ministry Expert for 2012, and he was asked to rate the youth ministry resource(s) of the year. Rev. Russ is the founder of After The Music Stops LLC, which is a full service youth ministry resource company. After The Music Stops LLC has several resources and tools to help youth ministries and youth ministry leaders grow!

Rev. Russell is the proud husband of Mrs. Erica St. Bernard, and father of Karis Olivia St. Bernard. Together they reside in Laurel, Maryland.

WHY DEVOTED?

Why Devoted?

Message to Student and Parent

This devotional is designed to help you grow closer to Christ, but it is not magic. Devoted will not read itself, the “Live it Out” section will not practice itself and the journal/notes section will not write itself either. The more time and energy you put into growing, reading and praying, the better results you will have. Simply put, if you want the full benefit from this devotional, then you will need to put in the work. Spiritual growth is a great thing and I believe this devotional will get you one step closer to achieving that goal .

I hope you are ready because the next 31 days will be the start of something great in your life!

Overview of Format

- **SCRIPTURE** – Daily Bible readings will come from the NIV translation. Each will be shortened to 1 to 4 Bible verses in order to help you get through your readings.
- **SAY WHAT?** – Translations of the scripture into simple sentences to help you focus on the key point(s).
- **BREAKDOWN** – The devotion for the day that relates the scripture to everyday life to foster growth for you as a student.
- **LIVE IT OUT** – Practical instruction of what you can do today to fulfill the scripture and purpose covered in each individual devotional.
- **PRAYER** – Short prayer for you to ask for God’s help with the instruction of the day.
- **REFLECTION** – Journaling space to write down what the day’s passage means to you, and/or how it has impacted you.

DEVOTED

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DAY 1

SCRIPTURE:

“David asked the men standing near him, ‘What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?’”

— 1 Samuel 17:26

SAY WHAT? David spoke up on behalf of God to fight the giant.

BREAKDOWN: When I was in junior high school, there was a bully by the name of Kenny that everyone was afraid of. He was taller than everyone else, he “looked” stronger than everyone else, and no one wanted to fight him. One day Kenny finally did enough to make me want to stop avoiding him. This is the same place we find David in our scripture. He is traveling to the battlefield not to fight, but to bring lunch, when he hears about this bully named Goliath, a Philistine, talking some serious smack. David gets tired of hearing Goliath speak negatively about his God and he decides to do something about it.

David was the smallest and most inexperienced person on the battlefield, but he was also the most devoted and faithful. God intends for you to be like David with your peers, for you to speak up on behalf of Him while everyone else remains silent, in fear of the giant. What is the giant in your life or community today? What keeps you from what God has planned or what God wants to do? Today might be the day God wants you to step up and speak out against your friends that aren’t doing the right thing.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to see how, where and to whom I can speak up for You. Lord, today don’t allow me to be silent in moments when I should speak up for you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Today, look for areas in your life where you can speak up for God. Maybe it’s your next tweet or post on Instagram or Vine. It could be the next text message you send to a friend. Whatever it is, look for a way to speak on behalf of God to answer the challenge.

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

SCRIPTURE:

“Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defiled the armies of the living God.”

— 1 Samuel 17:36

SAY WHAT? David was confident that God would fight with and for him.

BREAKDOWN: As a young man, you are confident about tons of things, or at least I was at your age. I was confident that my mother would be upset if I didn't get the right grades in school. I was also confident that she wouldn't allow me to do some of things I wanted to do when she came home if I didn't do my chores (In case you don't know, a chore is work you do to help your parents out. As a young man you should start asking for some chores to do today...#Justsayin). During basketball season, I was also confident that our team would win if I did my part by following the plays designed by our coach. There are many things in life I am sure you are confident about , as well. However, in today's scripture, David proclaims his confidence in God to help him win a battle that many thought he would lose. He was confident in God for the same reason many of us are confident in other people and things: because they have a proven track record.

David was a shepherd boy, and as a shepherd his job was to protect the sheep. From time to time animals like lions and bears would try to eat David's sheep, but God enabled David to defeat them. David gave the credit for each victory to God. Tye Tribett (@TyeTribbett) has a song entitled "Same God", where he says, "If He did it before, He can do it again". This is the feeling David had when facing the giant Goliath. Even though Goliath was taller and seemed to be stronger than David, he believed that the same God that helped him

kill lions and bears would help him defeat Goliath. As a devoted young man you need to have this same confidence in God and know that whatever God did in the past, he can and will do again.

No matter how large or difficult the issue, God will give you the victory if you trust and believe He will. God wants you to have confidence in Him and what He has for your life, despite what it looks like now and despite what other people say can and should happen. A devoted young man believes God passed what he can see, and trusts God beyond what he hears.

PRAYER: Lord, today help me to have confidence in You. Help me not to have more confidence in myself or others than I have in You to move and work in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Be devoted today in your confidence in God by doing something that shows your confidence in Him. Take a leap of faith by inviting someone to church or even talking with a friend about getting to know Jesus. Have confidence in the fact that God will help you defeat your giants.

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

SCRIPTURE:

“He said to his men, ‘The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.’”

— 1 Samuel 24:6

SAY WHAT? David honored God’s command, even those that involved his enemies.

BREAKDOWN: I am not sure if you have “true” enemies today, but we do have people that we don’t like and who don’t like us. Our country has enemies that include other countries that want to do us harm and see us fall. This is where David found himself in 1 Samuel Chapter 24. His enemy, Saul, wanted to see him dead, and he spent a large amount of time chasing David to kill him. Then one day Saul made a mistake. He walked right into the place where David and his men were without realizing David was there. Imagine how you might have felt if your worst enemy, who had tried to kill you, was in front of you and didn’t know you were there. Would you attack that person? Most of us would not think twice about killing that person, especially since doing so would mean we would no longer have to run and hide from them. However, David was different. While he wanted to stop running and hiding, he wanted to honor God more. Saul was a King that God anointed, and David knew that he could not just kill him. Understanding this, he denied his initial thought to kill Saul.

As a young man, you, too, will have opportunities to choose between what you want to do and what is right. As a young man devoted to God, you will have to deny yourself in order to do what God has called and/or required you to do. What does this mean? Well, sometimes your friends might try to talk you into doing things that might be fun for the moment,

but don’t honor God. There might be something online or on TV that everyone is watching, but you know participating won’t honor God. Devoted young men choose to honor God in every situation and at all times, no matter what. David didn’t kill Saul when he had the chance and God counted it as honor. Later in David’s life God honored him.

PRAYER: Lord, today help me to honor you with my life. Help me to make decisions that will honor you as my Heavenly Father. Help me to deny the things I want to do that are against Your will. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Today, think about how you can honor God. What have you been doing that does not honor God and how can you change that? Make a list of the things you are doing that honor God and those that do not. Work today to do more to honor God.

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

SCRIPTURE:

“Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might. While he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets. As the ark of the Lord was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, she despised him in her heart.”

— 2 Samuel 6:14-16

SAY WHAT? David praised God regardless to how it made him look.

BREAKDOWN: Dancing has always been a way for people to express themselves, as well as a way to celebrate, but if you are anything like most teenage boys, you don't really dance much. You just bob your head and move your feet to the music. You're still dancing, but it is a little more laid back. When I was growing up, "real" dancing was the kind where you moved the living room furniture so you would have plenty of room to get your Kid N Play (yeah, Google them, LOL) moves right. Back then, dancing was so much a part of the culture that every song had a moment designed for you to stop and do a certain dance like the Running Man or the Wop (Google it). Well, you guys don't dance like this anymore but you know some of the dances you do participate in aren't right...but I won't talk about that here.

In this scripture, David is dancing almost out of his clothes because he is excited to bring the ark of the Lord back to its rightful place. David danced so hard that others around him became ashamed of him because they believed his dancing

was too much and that he "didn't need to do all of that" for God. However, those that judged him and his dancing didn't understand how much it meant to David to have the ark of the Lord back with him.

As a young man devoted to God, you should be like David. You don't have to dance out of your clothes, but when you are in a place of being thankful to God you should feel free to express your thankfulness without worrying about how others perceive you. David praised God because of what was happening in his life, and that meant more to him than anything or anyone else. You should operate with the same focus and will to praise God for being great in your life, regardless of what others might say or how it might make you look.

PRAYER: Lord, today help me to be free in my praise of and for You. Today, allow me to have a true moment of praise for all that You have already done and for what I am trusting You to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Right now, take some time to praise God for what you currently have. Praise Him for your body, for your mind, your house, your parents/guardians, for everything you have. Praise Him in a way that is different from how you normally give Him praise.

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

SCRIPTURE:

“Create in me a pure heart, O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

— Psalm 51:10

SAY WHAT? David repented for his mistake with Bathsheba.

BREAKDOWN: Have you ever made a BIG mistake? I mean a *really* BIG mistake, one that you thought you would never make? One that when you saw others make it, you said to yourself, “*How could they do something so silly*”? Even as I write these words, I can tell you that I have made those kinds of mistakes. This is where we find David as he writes this 51st Psalm. He had just made a huge mistake with a woman named Bathsheba (read 2 Samuel 11), a woman who was not his wife, but with whom he had a relationship that produced a child. God confronted David about his mistake, which drove David to ask God to forgive him.

All sin is wrong in the eyes of the Lord, and one of the keys to being a devoted young man is to know when it’s time to repent. But, what does it mean to repent? Great question. Imagine that you are walking down the street, when half-way down, you realize you’re walking the wrong way. Do you keep going? No, you turn around and walk back so you can head in the right direction. This is what you are doing when you repent to the Lord. You are admitting that you are heading down the wrong path, and then you turn back to go the right way.

David made his BIG mistake, but he also made his BIG change by repenting, asking God to make his heart pure and to renew his spirit. In short, David asked God to change his heart so he would not make this mistake again. He also asked God to renew his spirit, which is the part of you that should help

you stay out of trouble. Your spirit is your conviction, and it lets you know when things are wrong and that you need to change. None of us will ever be perfect, but when we know that we are on the wrong street/path/road, we need to make a decision to change, repent and turn in the right direction.

PRAYER: Lord, today I repent for my mistakes, those things that I have done that were wrong and not pleasing in Your sight. Today help me to overcome those mistakes and live new for You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Today, make a list of all the mistakes you have made. After you make the list, pray for God to forgive you for each of the things on the list. Before you throw the list away, look at it to see how you became involved in these actions in the first place. Do this so you can set some rules and boundaries to help you avoid making these mistakes again. You won’t change if you do not have a plan to change.

REFLECTION:

DAY 6

SCRIPTURE:

“When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. I am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, act like a man, and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to Him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses, Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go.”

— 1 Kings 2: 1-3

SAY WHAT? David instructs his son on how to live after he is gone.

BREAKDOWN: Has anyone ever left you a note, a letter instructing you what to do while they’re gone? My mother used to leave notes for me that included a list of things I needed to do before she came home. David was old, and he knew he was about to die, so he left his son Solomon (the wisest and richest man ever to live) instructions that would enable him to be successful in life, and, more importantly, to have a successful relationship with God. A devoted young man will follow the instructions of his father concerning his next steps. And just know that the Bible is clear that even if you’re earthly father isn’t around, your heavenly Father will lead you the way you should go. (Matthew 6:14).

Our heavenly Father wants us to take His instruction as well as give instruction to those who will follow us to help them to grow and be successful in God. As a devoted young man, this

means that you will follow the ways that God has provided, but in order to do that, you must be a “student” of his Word. David was confident that Solomon would follow his instructions because He knew he had invested in Solomon throughout the years. God has also invested in you throughout the years and knows that once you follow His instructions, you will be successful in life and in Him.

PRAYER: Lord, today help me to follow your instructions on how I should live my life. Help me to see what gifts and talents you have already given me to help me grow in you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Today, whether you have your father in your life or not, know that your Heavenly Father has left you instructions to a better life. Look for ways that will allow you to be better than yesterday, seek out a mentor or adult male figure that can assist you on this path.

REFLECTION:

DAY 7

SCRIPTURE:

“No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, So I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.”

— Joshua 1:5-6

SAY WHAT? Joshua needed to have no fear and to trust God to go where he had never been before.

BREAKDOWN: When I was younger, I had a fear of heights. I didn't want to go on anything that went up higher than I could jump (which was not high at all, LOL). As I got older, I realized I had to overcome this fear if I wanted to experience more in life. I didn't want to allow fear to keep me on one level my whole life, and I had to learn to trust God past my current level and believe that He would be with me at the next level(s).

Joshua is a young man just like you. He is given the large task of taking over where his former leader (Moses) had left off. Joshua is told by God not to fear but to trust in Him for the opportunity to take and live in the promise land. God tells Joshua not to fear but to be strong and courageous. After all, Joshua was a young, newly appointed leader that needed courage to take on the arduous task of leading a lot of people into a battle for land they wanted but knew wasn't going to be handed over to them.

God will always give you what you need for the journey ahead. As a devoted young man, God also wants you to be

strong and courageous AND to have no fear as you live for Him. Joshua had a very big task in front of him but God knew that He could trust Joshua with it as long as he had no fear. Similarly, God has given you a large task to represent and live for Him all the days of your life. As a young man, this means a lot because men set the tone for the family and the community. Even if you didn't have an earthly father in your life, you have the opportunity to do better than, and set an example for, your future kids. All of this will be tied to how you trust God now and show no fear. Joshua led his people into the promise land because he had no fear. If he remained afraid, then this new level would never have been experienced by any of them. Your devotion to God as a young man can and will lead others, and yourself, to new levels, if you just trust in God.

PRAYER: Lord, today show me how to overcome my fears, and allow me to trust in You more than I trust in my fears. Lord, guide me in ways to overcome these fears so I can experience new levels in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LIVE IT OUT: Today write down a list of your fears, begin to cross them out on the paper with words of how God will help you to overcome each of them.

REFLECTION:

DEVOTED: A 31-DAY DEVOTIONAL

Today's young men are bombarded with a variety of images of rap artists and professional athletes to look up to, but, unfortunately, many of them do not have have examples of "devoted" Christian men in their lives to show the the ways of God.

This 31-Day devotional is designed to show young men examples of "devoted" men from no other place than God's Word. The Bible is filled with men who were "devoted" to God in almost every situation. During this 31-Day journey, not only will young men learn about great examples of "manhood" from the Bible, they will also be encouraged to "Live It Out", where they will be pushed to put into practice the principle or lesson learned from the "devoted" man of the Bible. It is my prayer that every young man who reads this devotional for the entire 31 days, and puts the lessons into practice, will begin to live a "devoted" life focused on God.

**Are you ready to be "devoted" to God?
Great! Now, turn to the front of this
book and let's get started TODAY!**

AfterTheMusicStops.org



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR | Rev. Russ has been leading in youth ministry for over 10 years and has a passion to equip & train students, as well as leaders after the music stops.