

# Sierra's Weekly Message Action Plan



## **Sierra's Weekly Action Plan:**

Ever lose control in a car you are driving? It is a terrifying experience. In fact, losing control of any area of our lives is a terrifying experience. *Honestly, who better to run your life than YOU?* If that statement rings at all true with you, then you may begin to understand the depths of the problem of sin. ***Consider this, if God really does know you and life better than you'll ever hope to, how insane is it not to allow Him to be your guide?*** In fact God loves us so much that although we often insist on setting our own course in life, He came to rescue us from the disaster we are headed for and to guide us through life as he always intended it be lived. What does it look like to give God control in our lives? I used the illustration of a car and putting Him in the driver seat. This week would you consider what it looks like for you to allow God to **DRIVE** your life?

**D**ive into His word each day! The Bible is the key to knowing who God is, what He has done for you, and what it means to live well for Him each day.

**R**e-commit time to evaluate your priorities. Ask yourself honestly to see where God has shaped your life in some of these areas: The people I choose to spend the most time with, do they encourage my journey with God or not? Do my finances demonstrate a commitment to live in a way that allows me to give generously? If not, how could I reshape my budget to reflect that commitment? Do I use some of my free time to serve other people that God has put in my life? Healthy changes usually take time. These questions are not meant to make you feel overwhelmed.

God is patient with us as we learn to follow Him. I'd encourage you to take one area of your life that you can begin to allow God's purposes to reshape you. Write it out or share the idea with someone so it becomes concrete. Make a list of some small ways that you can implement these changes and commit them to God by asking Him to help you work them out.

**I**nvite someone whom you respect to help disciple (mentor) you. Many adults believe that this kind of thing is only for kids, but Jesus was invested in a very small group (12 friends and 3 from that 12) of friends that literally lived with him 24 hours a day 7 days a week. They learned how to do life by spending rich time with Him. Find someone who you respect and talk with them each week about your challenges. Keeping your focus on God is an invaluable part of learning to let God have more of your attention each day. We were not meant to walk alone.

**V**isit with God at the beginning and end of each day. Learning to be aware of God's presence and talking to Him throughout the day takes years of practice for most people I know (1 Thessalonians 5:7). A good way to start working on this is beginning each day with a few minutes of prayer and making time at the end of the day to spend a few minutes in prayer reviewing your day.

**E**njoy His grace! Hebrews 4:15 says, "*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.*" What a great reminder that God is not unsympathetic to our struggle! It's good to be reminded that we didn't earn God's forgiveness in the first place and even after we begin to follow Him, His love for us isn't based on our moral performance.

*I thought this quote from Pastor Ray Stedman summed up the sermon really well: "You are not your own, you are bought with a price," (1Cor. 19-20). This is the beginning of true life: To recognize that fact, to surrender your claim to yourself, to give up your right to run your own affairs, and to surrender to the Lordship of Jesus, to do what he says, and to stop what he says to stop."*

*Have a great week everyone. If you have any questions I'd love to meet with you and spend some time talking.*

*Noah*