

Week 13 Daily Devotional

I. Prayer to enter the Lord's presence:

Be still for a moment. "Lord, I give the day that is now past to you. It is yours. I give the day that is to come to you; help me to see where you are working and to join you there. Speak to me during these moments. I commit them and myself to you."

II. Prayer of Confession:

"Lord, you are faithful to forgive me and cleanse me of my sin when I confess it to you. I confess my sin(s) of _____. Thank you for forgiveness." (1 John 1:9)

III. Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Choose to be thankful, speak out loud of what God has done.

"Thank you, Father, for _____. Fill my heart and my mouth with gratitude throughout this day."

IV. Scripture Reflection

Day 1

Read

2 Timothy 3:14-17

But as for you (Timothy), continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is God breathed and is **useful** for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

James 1:22-25

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

Reflect

Scripture is useful and should be applied to life. Paul wrote the letter 2 Timothy to remind and encourage Timothy that the Scriptures are true. If the scriptures are true, put them to use. Some in Timothy's community were engaged in godless chatter and had a form of godliness but no power. They talked a good game but were not applying the scriptures to life.

Respond

Are you committed to applying the scriptures to your life? Will you grow in your commitment to apply the scriptures to life? As we look deeper as a church at the issues of life will you continue to trust God? There is freedom in trusting Him. If you will continue to trust Him, tell Him that right now.

Day 2

Read

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!

34 “Who has known the mind of the Lord?

Or who has been his counselor?”

35 “Who has ever given to God,

that God should repay them?”

36 For from him and through him and for him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 12:1,2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Reflect

This is Paul’s doxology. A hymn of praise that he recorded after he gave his synopsis of the biblical story. In Romans 1-11, Paul told the story of reality from Creation (Romans 1:19,20) to Abraham (Romans 4) to Jesus (Romans 5). Once Paul finishes his discourse he is moved to praise and then calls his readers to offer their lives to God. According to Paul offering your life as worship is the only reasonable thing to do.

Respond

Take a survey of your life right now. Think about how you spend your time, your money, and your talents? Are you offering yourself, your life, to God or are you offering yourself to someone or something else? Do you look for fulfillment and meaning apart from following God? If so, repent and offer yourself to God.

Day 3

Read

Psalm 96

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
- 6 Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.
- 10 Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
- 12 Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
- 13 Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reflect

Scripture instructs us to sing. The instruction is found often in the Psalms. Why do we need to sing? Does God need us to sing to remind him of how great he is? Certainly not. We sing to God for ourselves so that

the reality of who God is and the wonder of what He has done would be burned into our minds. Music is a means to connect beauty and truth. The beauty and truth are packaged with harmony, melody, and rhythm to make the truth memorable. God created music and he enjoys hearing his children sing.

Respond

One way to respond right now is to sing. It could be a simple song, Jesus loves me this I know for the bible tells me so... Thank God for the gift of music and for the reality that you have something to sing about. If you can, [listen to a song](#) and let it remind you of God's great faithfulness and give thanks.

Day 4

Read

Genesis 3:21

The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Exodus 12:7-13 (The First Passover)

7 Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. 8 That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. 9 Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. 10 Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. 11 This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.

12 "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. 13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

Matthew 26:26-29 (Passover & Communion)

26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the [b] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Reflect

Communion is connected to the Passover feast of the Jewish people. Passover is connected to the promise made in the garden when God sacrificed an animal to cover Adam and Eve's sin. God also promised in the Garden that the serpent, Satan, who tempted Eve would be crushed. Communion is a reminder to us that God has kept his promises. There is a song that says, "Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth." Pardon from sin and peace with God is his greatest gift. God is faithful.

Respond

If you can remember, think back to the time when you turned to Christ and trusted his death to pay for your sins. Imagine how your life may look now if you had not trusted Him. Give thanks to God for His pardon and peace. Pray for those who have not experienced pardon and peace.

Day 5

Read:

Isaiah 26:8 - Yes Lord walking in the way of your truth, we wait eagerly for you. Your name and Your renown are the desire of our souls.

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reflect:

Do you remember the many times of waiting that were written about in scripture as we surveyed the Bible the last few months? Abraham waiting for the child of promise to be born. Joseph waiting in prison. The nation of Israel waiting for rescue in Egypt. The period of silence between the Old and New Testament. Those were long periods of waiting from a human perspective. What about waiting on Saturday after Jesus died? Saturday was only one full day but it must have felt like a grueling day for the disciples. They had given their life to Jesus and now he was gone. We are waiting. We do not wait without hope or without purpose. As we wait we experience God as we live in obedience to scripture. As we wait we live as the church, the people of God, to make God's love known to those around us.

Respond:

Have you been idle in your waiting? Are you bored waiting on God? He is here. He wants to show himself to you and work through you. Say yes to God right now. Open up your hands to Him and commit to following Him as He leads.

V. Prayer for others:

Pray specifically for the concerns of your life and the lives of others.

VI. Prayer of commitment:

“Lord God, I commit to love you with all my heart and with all my soul and with all my strength and with all my mind and to love my neighbor as myself. Empower me today to love you and others with everything that I am.” (Luke 10:27)

This Month's Scripture Memory:

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.