



24/7 Prayer

May 12 – May 19, 2024

Based on **“Pursuing God’s Presence”**

written by

Pastor, author, seminary professor, and prayer ambassador **Roger Helland**



Devotional for Monday, May 13, 2024

“The sobering truth is that the greatest hindrance to the growth of Christianity in today’s world is the absence of the manifest presence of God from the church.”

Richard Owen Roberts

1. After thanking God for a new day and taking a few slow, deep breaths, close your eyes for a few moments and reflect on the following questions:
 - What is my center?
 - What are my priorities?
 - How do my priorities reflect my center?
 - What do I think about a lot?
 - What do I continually seek?
2. Read: **Psalm 105:4** and then consider:
 - “Seek the LORD and his strength...” Did you notice the sequence?
 - Seek the LORD and His strength – in that order.
 - Which do you seek first? The person, or the power?
 - What does continually seeking God’s face look like?
3. The Hebrew word often translated as *presence* is *paneh*, which means “face”. In the Bible, God’s face refers to His entire being as one who eyes us with full attention, in proximity with His personal and relational presence. To seek God’s face is to come before Him into full view.
 - When you consider God eyeing you with full attention... or to come before Him into full view, how does that make you feel? What thoughts come to mind?
4. **Prayer**
 - Ask God to show you His priorities and to help you align (or realign) your priorities with His.
 - Ask the LORD to help you seek and cultivate *relationship with Him* before *what you can get from Him*.
 - Ask God to make His presence known to you.



Devotional for Tuesday, May 14, 2024

“What is it that inevitably happens when one is baptized by the Lord Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit? A sense of the glory of God, an unusual sense of the presence of God.”

Martin Lloyd-Jones

Begin by asking God, by his Spirit, to guide you in your prayer. Read over the two scripture passages below and select one that touches your heart.

Allow for times of silence where the Holy Spirit can give you understanding of what God is saying in the passage. Ask God for that truth to be done in your life. Please feel free to use the paper provided if there are any insights you want to write down or prayers you want to record.

1. A question to dwell on today is whether you sense the presence of God in your life. The Greek term for the Holy Spirit is *pneuma* which means wind or breath – wind in motion!
 - Have you prayed for the Holy Spirit to be the motion in your life?
2. Read **John 16:13-14**.
 - How does the Holy Spirit guide you?
 - How does the Holy Spirit glorify Jesus Christ?
3. As we look forward to Pentecost and the account of the Holy Spirit being released over God’s people, how do we come alongside that request to be filled as they were?
4. Read **Ephesians 3:14-19**.
 - How do we become strengthened?
 - What knowledge does the Holy Spirit provide?
5. **Prayer**
 - Thank God for sending his Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth.
 - Ask that God would fill you daily with his Holy Spirit
 - Think of those you could pray for that also need to be filled with the Holy Spirit

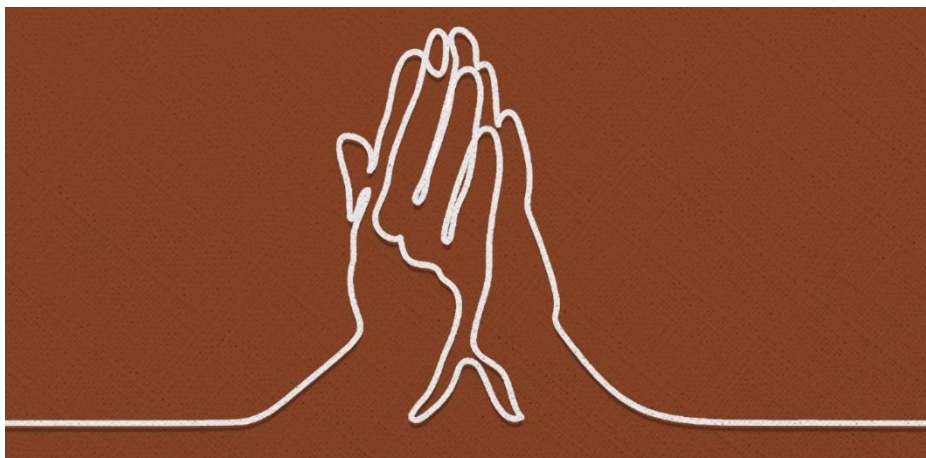


Devotional for Wednesday, May 15, 2024

“The branch of the vine does not worry, and toil, and rush here to seek for sunshine, and there to find rain. No; it rests in union and communion with the vine; and at the right time, and in the right way, is the right fruit found on it. Let us so abide in the Lord Jesus.”

James Hudson Taylor

1. Today you're invited to find a quiet place where you can be alone with Jesus. Whether you choose to sit, stand, kneel, lay on the ground - it doesn't matter. Just make sure you're comfortable. Close your eyes and try to put away any distracting thoughts or concerns for now. Take a few slow, deep breaths, and thank Jesus for this moment of being together with him. Next, keeping your eyes closed, reflect on the word **abide**.
 - Ask Jesus what it means and more specifically, what it means for your unique relationship with Him.
 - Is there something he is asking of you?
2. Pastor Roger Helland says, “Three simple words contain Olympic gold medal potential for discipleship: **abide in me** – live, lodge, remain in Jesus. Just as we live in our homes, we must live in Christ – in dynamic real time union with Him. Stay attached and receive from Him. Detached branches wither and die.”
 - Imagine there were a continuum or representing spiritual death to life. It starts with 0 which represents feeling spiritually dead and goes to 10 representing full and vibrant life in Jesus. What number best describes you in terms of *how you feel* right now?
 - Ask God what, if anything, needs to change.
3. Read **John 15:1-8** and then consider these questions:
 - What does Jesus mean when he says, “I am the true vine?”
 - What does it mean to remain in Jesus and what does that look like?
 - What does this passage tell us happens when we do?
 - What are some of results of that (the passage mentions several)?
4. **Prayer**
 - Repent for not spending sufficient time with Jesus and ask Him for forgiveness.
 - Ask the Holy Spirit for help as you seek to *abide* in the “true vine” more fully.
 - Ask God who he might have you walk alongside and encourage in the faith.



Devotional for Thursday, May 16, 2024

God living inside us can be a scary thought. If we allowed that truth to influence our lives and actions, it would change everything. Right? God is a little more manageable if we keep him in a building that we visit once a week.

Neil Cole

Today we will be centering our thoughts on God at home and God at work. The Hebrew definition of the word **Bethel** means “house of God”. Our challenge is to make our homes and workplaces a place where God resides; a place where the atmosphere makes others wonder how we are different from those they usually meet.

1. How do we make our homes a house of prayer?
 - Are you praying daily, either by yourself or with others (family)?
 - Are you praying daily for family members?
2. Reflect on **Deuteronomy 6:4-7**.
 - Use evening prayer time as a time for listening to God.
 - Pray that God would help resolve family conflicts.
3. Reflect on **1 Peter 3:15**. A home-based “bethel” will be an atmosphere of peace.
 - How can your home be a place that honors Jesus?
4. Reflect on **Ephesians 4:29-32**, and the statement that all work is sacred.
 - How do practice God’s presence in our workplace?
 - How do make your work “sacred to the Lord”?
5. “*Ora et labora*”, the Latin for “pray and labour” were part of the Benedictine monk’s daily life and routine. How can we turn even mundane tasks into opportunities to pray while we labour?
6. **Prayer**
 - Ask God to help you make your home sacred and a place of worship and prayer.
 - Ask God to help you make your work place sacred and a place of worship and prayer.
 - Ask God to help you see the opportunities you have to refresh yourself as you are in nature or with others outside of your home or work.



Devotional for Friday, May 17, 2024

“The Outpouring of the Spirit affects the reviving of the church, the awakening of the masses, and the movement of uninstructed peoples toward the Christian faith; the revived church, by many or by few, is moved to engage in evangelism, in teaching, and in social action.”

J. Edwin Orr

1. Reflect on Isaiah 43:19.

- In this quiet moment today, take a few deep breaths - in through your nose, and out through your mouth. Thank Jesus for the new things he has already done in your life and the life of the church.
- Ask Him what new thing He still wants to do in your life and how you can participate in that.
- Take a few moments to just sit and listen for what the Spirit may be saying and where He might be leading.

2. Reflect on Luke 11:13.

- Do you hear that? Your Father in Heaven *wants* you to ask Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Have you ever done that before?
- As you sit, pray out loud, and pray expectantly. You can even pray Scripture. For example, “Lord your Word says (insert Luke 11:13), so I am coming before you and asking...”

3. Reflect on Galatians 3:5.

- We aren’t granted the gift of the Holy Spirit because of anything we do. We cannot earn it. It is through faith alone. We must believe in Him.
- Do you believe?

4. Prayer

- Thank the Lord for the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Ask God for a fresh outpouring.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to move unbelievers towards faith.
- Ask for the church to be revived.