



Devotional Guide for August 28-Sept.3, 2023

These devotions are prepared for you each week by Pastor Kevin to use for your own personal devotions with the Lord, and are designed to prepare you for the message next weekend.

Monday, August 28TH “Give attention to Your servant’s prayer”

Scripture: II Chronicles 6:14-42 NIV

King Solomon, the son of David who then ascended to the throne after his father, had completed a magnificent temple and dedicated it to the Lord through the prayer offered in these verses. Solomon declares that God steadfastly keeps His Word, particularly with respect to His covenant with Israel and with David. The end of this temple prayer dedication deals with captivity and the reconciliation possible after such drastic judgment. When such humility is shown here from Solomon, God is asked to hear, uphold, and forgive His people.

Question: Have you ever petitioned the Lord in prayer for others?

Tuesday, August 29TH “If My people will humble themselves...”

Scripture: II Chronicles 7:13-16 NIV

This is God’s response to the prayer we read in yesterday’s devotion. This response mirrors the phrases and content of Solomon’s prayer. This statement in verse 14 is situated within particulars related to God’s covenant with Israel and David and to the temple’s sacrificial system. These details, regarding the hope of the restoration of the Davidic dynasty, apply only to the nation of Israel within the specific geographic area of the promised land. Furthermore, the Chronicler is retelling something that had been told to Solomon nearly four centuries earlier. While there is a secondary line of significance to the Chronicler’s time, this verse is not a promissory statement for all countries around the globe. Nevertheless, God may choose to be gracious to people and nations, according to His own sovereign will.

Question: Do you feel verse 14 should apply to our own nation?

Wednesday, August 30TH “Qualified to share in the inheritance”

Scripture: Colossians 1:9-14 NIV

The apostle Paul intercedes in prayer for the Colossians. In this letter, Paul presents his teaching in the context of prayer. Pleasing God is our chief human obligation. You are not saved by being filled with such knowledge, but spiritual crises are worsened by its absence.

Christians are expected to grow beyond fundamentals (Heb 5:12,14) and mastery of basic facts to greater insight in divine truth. Maturing wisdom leads to transformed relationships with God and with others, and provides a safeguard against false teaching.

Question: How have you changed in your relationship with God by learning more from His Word and in times of prayer?

Thursday, August 31ST “Keep His covenant, obey His precepts”

Scripture: Psalm 103:8-19 NIV

David expands the foundational statement about God’s character, (compassionate and gracious) that is originally found in Exodus 34:6. The Lord’s mercy in judgment reveals His grace to us, and the breadth of God’s forgiveness reveals the greatness of His love. Using the analogy of a father and his children, David shares how the Lord relates to His people. By Word and deed, Jesus taught His disciples to approach God in this way—to call Him “Abba, Father.” God reveals both His fatherly care, in both compassion and discipline. King David uses the phrase “from everlasting to everlasting” three other times in the book of Psalms. Here, that phrase contrasts God’s nature with humanity’s brevity of life.

Question: How have you experienced the compassion of God?

Friday, September 1ST “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done”

Scripture: Matthew 6:5-15 NIV

Jesus addresses a couple common Jewish practices of devotion to God: giving to the needy, and praying to our Heavenly Father. His point is to warn against calling attention to one’s good behavior for the sake of earning human praise. When He taught the disciples to pray, He shared that they should ask the Lord, “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done” (v.10). This is not meant in the sense of having something “come into existence,” but rather, it means to “come more completely” until its full and final consummation. Beyond the adoration of the Heavenly Father at the start of the Lord’s Prayer, the next step is to desire and seek the Kingdom of God. The end goal of our earthly lives is to enter and dwell within the fulfilled Kingdom of God.

Question: Do you remember when you first learned the Lord’s Prayer?

Sunday, September 3, 2023

8:30 and 10:45 am (Livestream @10:45 am)

Psalm 103:8-19 NIV and **Matthew 6:5-15** NIV

Pastor’s message: **“Kingdom Membership”**

Theme: **“BASIC TRAINING: EQUIPPED(2)ENGAGE!”**

