



## Devotional Guide for August 19-25, 2019

These devotional thoughts are prepared 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 19<sup>TH</sup> "Rejoicing in repentance"

Scripture: Luke 15:8-10 NRSV

Jesus shared three stories about lostness (sheep, coin, son) in Luke 15; while focusing on the lost coin, Jesus explains the joy that God and the angels have "over one sinner who repents" (v.10). While many churches boast about large memberships, the better factor to measure success is not how many people attend on any given week, but rather, how many lives are transformed and guided by the power of the gospel and God's Holy Spirit.

*Question: Where have you seen God at work lately in your church? Where have you seen God at work lately in your community?*

### Tuesday, August 20<sup>TH</sup> "They did not believe Me"

Scripture: John 16:5-11 NRSV

In this passage, Jesus is sharing words of wisdom with the disciples in the Upper Room before He will be arrested, tortured and crucified. He explains the work of the Holy Spirit, especially how the Holy Spirit "will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment" (v.8). It is vital that God's people engage in sharing their faith in the lives of other people and what God can also do for them.

*Question: With whom did you last share your faith? With whom do you believe God may be calling you to pray or to share again?*

### Wednesday, August 21<sup>ST</sup> "Beautiful feet"

Scripture: Isaiah 52:6-10 NRSV

Through the prophet Isaiah, God's people are told of the beauty of sharing the peace and love of God. The prophet declares "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" (v.7)

First, the messenger announces and speaks. Then, sentinels lift up their voices in a song of joy. Finally, Jerusalem itself joins in the joyous acclamation of God's deeds. The good news of what God has done is too good to just be quietly received. We must give voice in witness, and praise in such a way that the very ends of the earth can see the salvation of God!

*Question: How have your feet been beautiful in sharing and living out the good news of God's salvation?*

### Thursday, August 22<sup>ND</sup> "They will bear you up"

Scripture: Psalm 91:9-12 NRSV

I don't know about you, but the adjective beautiful is not one that I would ordinarily use to describe my feet. Yet, yesterday's passage chose that very word to portray the feet of the messenger of God's peace and the good news of salvation. When you choose to live your life as a witness to the good news of Christ, your feet are called to take you forth. Here in Psalm 91, your footing is secure as you are in the hand of God's angels to "guard you in all your ways" even to the point that "you will not dash your foot against a stone" (v. 12). You see, God protects our spiritual feet!

*Question: How has God 'protected' your spiritual feet in your life?*

### Friday, August 23<sup>RD</sup> "Faith comes from what is heard"

Scripture: Romans 10:13-17 NRSV

The apostle Paul lays out the process of sharing the good news of salvation with others: we come to believe in our own lives because someone first shared with us. Then we are called to proclaim the good news, for "how are they to hear without someone to proclaim Him?" (v.14). We believe, we are sent, we proclaim, and we rejoice with others who receive, and they also share the good news of Christ's salvation for us.

*Question: In what ways do you proclaim the good news of your salvation in the lives of people around you?*

### Saturday and Sunday, August 24 and 25, 2019

Scriptures: Psalm 91:9-12  
and Romans 10:13-17 NRSV

Pastor's message: "Fancy Footwork"

