



Devotional Guide for Aug. 26-Sept. 1, 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 26TH “God Himself will provide”

Scripture: Genesis 22:1-19 NRSV

Abraham had been promised that his offspring would be as numerous as the sand on the seashore, but in his later years, he and his wife Sarah would have but one son, Isaac. God then challenges Abraham’s faith by giving him a command to sacrifice Isaac to him. Abraham may have wondered why God would grant him a son only to take him away. Yet Abraham’s faith is apparent in verse 5 (“...then we will come back to you”) and verse 8 (“God Himself will provide the lamb...”). In both cases, Abraham’s faith is based in knowing that God will make a way.

Question: Did God provide a seemingly impossible way in your life?

Tuesday, August 27TH “I am the Way”

Scripture: John 14:1-7 NRSV

Our God loves to reveal His power through miraculous ways. Here in John’s gospel, as Jesus is sharing final thoughts with the disciples before His arrest and crucifixion, Jesus personifies this power when He declares, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” (v.6). Not only will God make a way when there seems to be no way, but God Himself IS the way!

Question: How has Jesus revealed Himself as the Way in your life?

Wednesday, August 28TH “Lead lives worthy of the Lord”

Scripture: Colossians 1:9-14 NRSV

The apostle Paul shares the reason for his constant prayers for the people of God that they “may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding” (v.9). With this knowledge, we are able to “lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him” (v.10) and this walk in the way.

Question: What wisdom do you hope to gain from the Lord today?

Thursday, August 29TH “Teach me Your way, O Lord”

Scripture: Psalm 86:8-12 NRSV

The psalmist praises the attributes of God and all that the Lord has done for His people in their lives. With this knowledge of who and what God does, King David then asks of God, “Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth” (v.11). This should be the prayer of our lives each day, to seek and know the way of the Lord and to walk in it. There should be no other pursuit in our lives, for such a dedicated faith of following God’s way will allow us to know what direction to turn when worldly obstacles come our way. God will indeed make a way, but it is our choice each day to follow Him.

Question: Where do you need to more clearly see God’s way today?

Friday, August 30TH “Hold firmly to the Word of life”

Scripture: Philippians 2:12-16a NIV

As we approach Labor Day weekend, we should remember that the labor of our life is to obey the Lord “in order to fulfill His good purpose” (v.13). I once had a coworker on a township road crew; we patched potholes on country roads, walked in the hot summer sun, and worked with hot tar. When I found myself complaining about the work, he shared with me, “Rather than complain, give thanks that you have a job when so many people do not.” That advice has stuck with me over the years and has even taken root in my spiritual journey. We are privileged to be the children of God, to be the church—and we have work to do to labor for the Kingdom of God. Let’s indeed learn to “do everything without grumbling or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure” (v.14). God has made a way, and we have the honor to walk in that way and to show that way to others.

Question: How could your journey of faith be seen as your life’s actual vocation and work? How is your work going for you?

Saturday and Sunday, August 31 and September 1, 2019

Scriptures: Psalm 86:8-12 NRSV
and Philippians 2:12-16a NIV

Pastor’s message: “God Will Make A Way”

