

FIRST things FIRST

Daily Devotionals

For March 3-9, 2025

These devotions are prepared for you to use in your Quiet Time with the Lord and are designed to prepare you for the sermon next Sunday.

Monday, March 3: Ezekiel 36:22-32

The verse that stands out is God's promise to do heart surgery on His people, replacing hard hearts with hearts of flesh, that is, a heart which loves. But around this encouraging verse are verses of judgment levelled against God's people.

Question: How do these words strike you? Are you hard-hearted about anything?

Prayer Focus: Praise God for Who God is and thank God for what God has done.

Tuesday, March 4: Luke 15:1-32

Notice the context: Jesus is spending time with "bad people," and "good people are criticizing Him for it. He pointedly tells the self-righteous people these parables that have become very familiar to us.

Question: What gets lost in each story? Who finds it?

Prayer Focus: Those who are away from God.

Wednesday, March 5 Luke 15:1-7

7:30 am Imposition of Ashes Worship

Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm at First UM Church

with Otterbein and S. Greensburg & St. Paul's UMCs.

Leaving 99 to find one? Hmmm. Is that a wise shepherd? Maybe not, but it is a caring shepherd! Do you know Jesus as the Great and Loving Shepherd? Are you helping Jesus seek and save the lost?

Question: What can you do to encourage a family member to see their need for Jesus?

Prayer Focus: The outreach & evangelism of our Church.

Thursday, March 6 John 1:9-13

Spend time considering what Christ left behind to come to Earth to seek the lost and how humbling that was.

Question: What makes Jesus Christ unique?

Prayer Focus: Thank the Triune God for bringing salvation to us, to you.

Friday, March 7: Luke 15:5-7

Have you ever lost something valuable and found it again? Of course, the more important it is, the bigger the celebration! We've all misplaced or had wander away many things: small and insignificant to large and much needed.

Question: What is something you have lost and found?

Prayer Focus: We have heard recently of people searching for what remains of their family and possessions after hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, volcanoes and fires. Pray for them.

Saturday, March 8 Luke 15:1-7

The Shepherd carried the lost sheep home. Are you acquainted with the poem, "Footsteps in the Sand?" Look it up and read it.

Question: When has God carried you?

Prayer Focus: Thank God for providing for, & sustaining you.

Sunday, March 9

1st Sunday in Lent - Worship at 10 am

Beginning a Five-Part Sermon Series for Lent:

"Lost: Users, Abusers, Losers, and Choosers"

by Pastor Augie