

FIRST things FIRST...

Daily Devotions

Devotional Guide ~ Jan. 12-18, 2026

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: January 12 "Called on Purpose"

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-8 and 1 Corinthians 13

Before Jeremiah ever spoke a word, God named his calling. Jeremiah tried to argue. He thought he was too young and too inexperienced, but God's call did not depend on Jeremiah's confidence. It depended on God's purpose. Paul opens 1 Corinthians by reminding the church that they are *called*. We are not self-made, not accidental, but chosen by God. God does not wait for us to feel ready. God calls us where we are and promises to be with us as we grow. When we struggle with doubt or feel unqualified, we can remember this: God's call always comes with God's presence.

Prayer: Faithful God, thank You for calling me even when I feel unsure. Amen.

Tuesday: January 13 "Grace That Comes First"

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-10 and 1 Corinthians 13

Grace is not a reward for good behavior; it is a gift that comes before we ever get it right. Paul tells the Corinthians they have been given grace in Christ Jesus, even though he knows they are far from perfect. Ephesians reminds us that we are saved by grace, not by effort. We are God's handiwork, shaped by grace and sent into good works that God has already prepared. Grace is where faith begins and where it keeps returning. We don't outgrow our need for it.

Prayer: Gracious God, thank You for loving me before I could earn it. Amen.

Wednesday: January 14 "Growing Together in Christ"

Scripture: Colossians 2:6-7 and 1 Corinthians 13

Paul thanks God that the Corinthians are being solidified in Christ. It isn't an instant thing. It happens over time. Faith is not stagnant; it grows deeper as we stay rooted in Jesus. Colossians speaks

this same idea: rooted, built up, strengthened. Growth happens when we remain connected to Christ and to one another. Storms may come, but roots hold firm. We don't grow alone.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, root my life more deeply in You. Amen.

Thursday: January 15 Lacking Nothing

Scripture: Psalm 23:1-3 and 1 Corinthians 13

Paul tells the Corinthians that they do not lack any spiritual gift as they wait for Christ. Even in seasons of waiting or uncertainty, God is providing what is needed. Psalm 23 speaks the same promise: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." God knows what we need and supplies it in the right time. We may not have everything we want, but in Christ, we are never without what truly matters.

Prayer: God, help me trust that You are providing what I need today. Amen.

Friday: January 16 Held Until the End

Scripture: Philippians 1:3-6 and 1 Corinthians 13

Paul is confident that God will lift the Corinthians until the end. Not because they are strong, but because God is faithful. That same confidence is shown through Philippians: God finishes what God begins. Faith is not about holding on tightly enough; it is about being held securely. When our strength fades, God's faithfulness remains. This promise gives us courage to keep going, even when the road feels long.

Prayer: Faithful God, thank You for holding my life in Your hands. Amen.

Saturday: January 17 Living in Hope

Scripture: Romans 8:18-25 and 1 Corinthians 13

Romans describes a time between what God has already done and what God will fully reveal. God is at work in the waiting. Hope is not wishful thinking; it is confidence in God's future. We wait, not with despair, but with trust that God is bringing renewal. Even now, God is shaping us for what is to come. There is no time or age limit. God keeps working.

Prayer: God of hope, help me wait with trust and patience. Amen.

Sunday, January 18, 2026 Worship at 10:00am

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13

Pastor Clint Phillips

Title: Necessities