

FIRST things FIRST...

Daily Devotions

Devotional Guide ~ February 16-22, 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: February 16

Scripture: 1 John 3:1-3 & Matthew 4:1-11

Before any testing comes, God names us. Not because we earn it, but because God chooses it. When life becomes difficult or when doubts creep in, the first thing we often forget is who we are. Scripture reminds us that our identity is rooted in God's love, not in what we do, our circumstances, or our failures. Holding onto that truth gives us strength when we face challenges that try to pull us away from God's purpose.

Prayer: God, remind me today that I am Your beloved child.

Tuesday: February 17

Scripture: Psalm 63:1 & Matthew 4:1-11

Wilderness seasons come to all of us. There will be times when life feels confusing or exhausting. The psalmist knew what it meant to feel spiritually dry, yet he also knew that God does not abandon us in those places. The wilderness is not a sign of God's absence. It is often the place where God becomes more real, where distractions fall away, and where our faith deepens. God uses even the hard places to shape us.

Prayer: Lord, meet me in the wilderness moments of my life.

Wednesday: February 18

Scripture: Psalm 119:105-106 & Matthew 4:1-11

When we feel vulnerable, tired, or tempted to take shortcuts, God's Word becomes the item that can straighten us out. Scripture doesn't magically remove our struggles, but it gives us clarity, grounding, and truth to stand on. A lamp doesn't light up the whole path. It only lights the next step. God's Word works the same way. It guides us moment by moment, helping us choose faithfulness even when the way forward is unsure.

Prayer: God, let Your Word guide my steps today.

Thursday: February 19

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6 & Matthew 4:1-11

One of the greatest temptations in life is the urge to take control. We like to force outcomes or to make things happen on our own terms. Scripture calls us to a different way: trust. Trusting God doesn't mean laying low. It means believing that God's wisdom is greater than ours and that God's timing is better than our shortcuts. When we release our need to control, we make room for God to lead.

Prayer: Faithful God, help me trust You more deeply. Teach me to follow Your path with confidence. Amen.

Friday: February 20

Scripture: Psalm 95:6-7 & Matthew 4:1-11

Worship is more than singing or praying. Worship is the act of placing God at the center of our lives. When we worship, we remember who God is and who we are. Many things compete for our devotion: success, approval, comfort, security. Worship recenters our hearts. It reminds us that only God is worthy of our ultimate trust and honor. When our worship is right, our lives follow.

Prayer: Holy God, center my heart in worship today. Let my devotion belong to You alone. Amen.

Saturday: February 21

Scripture: Isaiah 41:10 & Matthew 4:1-11

After seasons of struggle or testing, God does not leave us worn out. God restores, strengthens, and prepares us for what comes next. Courage comes from God. We can't create it on our own. Whatever we are facing, whether it be new responsibilities, difficult conversations, or decisions, God promises to walk with us. Strength is given as we need it, not all at once.

Prayer: God of strength, renew my spirit today. Give me courage for the next step and confidence that You walk with me. Amen.

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Title: Not Today, Satan

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Worship at 10:00am

Pastor Clint Phillips