

Saturday

God Is Worth It

“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.” (Revelation 4:11 NIV)

God is worth it. He is worth taking the time to practice sharing our testimony. He is worth praying about having spiritual conversations. He is worth the stress and anxiety of sharing our faith. He is worth it. Stay focused on God as you navigate preparing yourself and praying for others. When you hit obstacles or difficulties, remember that you are doing it for Him.

Sunday

Jesus Saves

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12 NIV)

Praise God in heaven for His Son, Jesus the Messiah. Through His sacrifice and resurrection from the dead we are saved. We are rescued from our sins and made new creations. It is in the name of Jesus that we are made – Jesus and only Jesus. Praise and worship Jesus today for His salvation that He has brought you today.

A ONE WEEK DEVOTIONAL

WEEK OF 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

This devotional was created to coincide with the message heard this past Sunday at Summit Trace Church. It is meant for people who are pressed for time to do a daily devotional. Each daily reading is intentionally short, so that you can read it, think about, and pray in five minutes.

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Monday

God Uses People's Stories

This is the account of the family line of Abraham's son Isaac. (Genesis 25:19 NIV)

The Bible is full of peoples' stories. The above verse helps reinforce the point. People matter to God. Their story matters to God. God shares His truths with us through His word – the Bible. Much of that book is the telling of real stories of real people. The people are real, not perfect. Their stories reveal how a loving God works in the lives of real people. God is also working a story in you. Your story matters to God, and just like the people we read about in the Bible, He wants you to be able to share your story with others, that they may see God's greatness through your story. Pray today about recognizing how God has worked in you and how you might share that story with others.

Tuesday

God Uses Narratives

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. (Luke 1:1-4 NIV)

The four gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – tell the story of the life of Jesus Christ. The four gospels tell Jesus' story from four points of view. If you have never read Jesus' story, invest some time with these four books. Thank God that we have Jesus' story recorded for us in the Bible.

Wednesday

Grace And Salt

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Colossians 4:6 NIV)

As you prayerfully pursue having a spiritual conversation with someone, be mindful of the above verse. Our conversations should be full of grace – not argumentative or judgmental. And they should be seasoned with salt – be edifying to the listener. Take some time and focus on the two words – grace and salt. Talk to God about your past conversations. Did they model grace? Were they edifying to the listener? Be honest with yourself. Be willing to listen to God's thoughts on the matter. Ask God to help you bring those qualities into your (spiritual) conversations.

Thursday

Understanding Others

Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions. (Proverbs 18:2 NIV)

The verse above says something that should raise an alarm about our culture. Social media is creating fools. Via the tools of social media, people more delighted in sharing their opinions than understanding others. Real conversations (and real relationships) are two-way streets. They involve understanding the other person, and the other person understanding you. Real relationships involve getting to know people and experience their presence. Do not trivialize conversations or relationships. Do not be a fool. Pray for your wisdom and discernment in how you to relate with other people. As you get to know them, and they you, they will see God working in you and you will have the opportunity to share your story – your testimony. Pray for discernment in sharing your story.

Friday

Glory God

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31 NIV)

As you prayerfully look for opportunities to share your faith story with others, remember that the desired goal is that God would be glorified. You are not looking for another notch in your belt. You want to glorify God - your Rock and Redeemer. While we are motivated with the hope that the other person would come to faith in Christ, be sure to do it in such a way that no matter how the conversation turns out, God is glorified. Pray that your witness to the gospel of Christ would honor God.