

MONDAY 07.13.26 - John 14: 23

Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

We recently received a relative into our home to live with us. As we did this, we tried to think about what they needed to feel at home in this new environment. We needed to think about their needs as well as our own. We needed to invite them into our lives and include them in our activities. Having them be a part of our lives changed things. This is how it needs to be with Christ. When we accept Him as our savior, we are also inviting Him into our lives and things need to change. He has become a part of our life, and we need to include Him in all aspects of our life. Is Christ truly Lord of all your life or are there areas where you have not truly let Him in. Perhaps it is time to clean the house of our lives and let the sweet smell of Christ permeate every room.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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TUESDAY 07.14.26 - Hebrews 13:5

*Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”*

I’m reminded of the story of the little boy in art class that was given his first box of sixteen Crayola Crayons. He was ecstatic and couldn’t wait to tell his parents what he’d been given. His excitement and happiness lasted until the next day, when he looked at the girl next to him who’d come to school with a box of thirty-two. Suddenly he wanted; NO, **he needed** a box of thirty-two crayons. Then he would be happy again. He didn’t yet realize crayons also came in boxes of sixty-four.

Peace is not found in possessions, status, or financial security. Contentment doesn’t mean denying need or pretending life is easy. It means trusting that God is enough, even when your situation feels uncertain. As we wrestle with health issues, loneliness, and instability;

God promises, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” God provides, God stays, and his presence is our greatest treasure.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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WEDNESDAY 07.15.26 - 2 Peter 1:1-4

Knowledge was a common word in the thought of ancient Greek religions at the time of the Apostle Peter in the first century. Individuals sought human and divine knowledge in two ways—by philosophical speculation and mystical experience, and this knowledge was attained by only a few privileged people. By way of contrast, every believer in Jesus has a knowledge of God. However, this knowledge does not come through philosophy or mysticism. Rather, in the New Testament, knowledge is characteristically *personal* knowledge. Paul does not say, “I know what I have believed.” Instead, he says, “I know whom I have believed” (2 Timothy 1:12). Christian knowledge of Christ is a personal acquaintance with Jesus. It is knowing Him as a person and entering day by day into a more intimate fellowship with Him. This fellowship should lead to a godly lifestyle for followers of Jesus Christ.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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THURSDAY 07.16.26 - Micah 6:8

This is such a familiar verse—and for good reason. Micah was speaking to people who had drifted from obeying God. When confronted, their response was essentially, “What do You want from us?” They, like so many people today, believed offerings and religious acts could make things right.

But God’s answer was surprisingly clear: He wasn’t looking for bigger and better sacrifices. He wanted hearts shaped by Him.

“He has told you... what is good: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.”

These commands were countercultural in Micah’s day and still are today. God desires people whose lives reflect His character—people who pursue what is right, extend mercy, and depend on Him rather than themselves.

From the beginning, humanity was created in God’s image. Micah’s words remind us that faithful living isn’t about impressing God—it’s about becoming people who look more like Him.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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FRIDAY 07.17.26 - Psalm 15

It is infrequent that a meditation covers an entire Psalm. This one is short but chock full of truth. It asks who may dwell with God on His holy hill? We initially conclude that we can do that. But then, was there ever a time that we found a neighbor to be wrong and we wanted victory? Did we ever steal time or products from our employer however slight or small? When the neighborhood news was too good not to share, could we but share it, even in a prayer request form but make sure it got out there?

Did we always consider the evil schemers as bad? And did we always hold our Christian mentors in the highest view? It takes only a short review to see we cannot dwell with God. But Jesus can, and His life is the life we endeavor to live, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Imperfectly to be sure, but only by the Spirit do we live with God.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNING LADIES’ BIBLE STUDY

Began June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9:40am in Room 2

Ecclesiastes: “Finding Meaning When Life Feel Meaningless”

By Lydia Brownback.

This 10-week study helps women understand the themes of sin, vanity, enjoyment, and death, ultimately encouraging believers to follow the will of God for their lives, no matter their current circumstances.

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

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| Kids   | CHILDREN’S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)<br>LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level<br>NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY<br>LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Youth  | E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade)<br>LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Adults | SUMMER QUARTER – Sunday Mornings<br><br>LOCATION: B8-10 – June 7 <sup>th</sup> – August 30 <sup>th</sup><br>EXPLORE THE BIBLE: Joshua; Judges; Ruth<br>By studying these books, we see that God is still at work, raising leaders from the most unlikely places. We are challenged to reserve our loyalty for our ultimate Leader. Teachers: Joel Day & Lane Kemler |

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

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| Youth  | ON SUMMER BREAK |
| Adults | Worship Center  |

WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Began June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm - Room B8-10 - with Barry Wills

“The Power of God’s Names” by Tony Evans (6 Sessions)

Get to know the names of God because it is in knowing His character and His capacity that you will rest and discover both peace and power in His covenant care.

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES, USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

PSALM 84

1. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ for God’s presence?

2. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ on God’s strength?

3. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ God above everything else?

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



July 13 – July 17

INTRODUCTION:  
Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:  
Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, we will hear a message from Psalm 84; “God’s Presence”. Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, our message will be from 2 Peter 1:1-4; “Everything You Need”.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:  
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power  
Ephesians 6:10