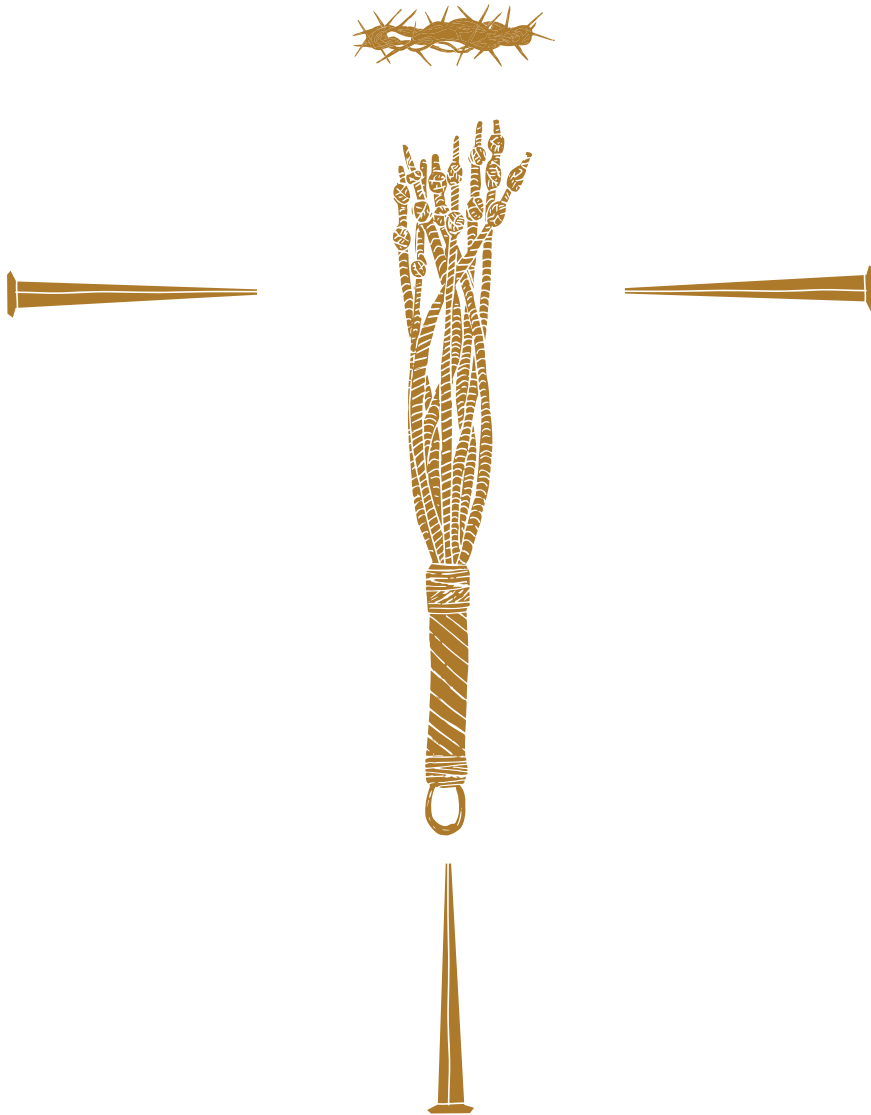


✠ FRONTLINE



A LENTEN JOURNEY

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Welcome to the Journey

Welcome, my friends!

We're so excited to begin this journey to the cross with you. When the people of a city take a season to be unified in prayer, turning from our dependencies, and looking on Jesus and the cross, shock waves are bound to happen. Let's stand in this season both individually and together. Let's throw our crutches to the side and let Jesus be better than anything else in our lives.

We worship so many things outside of the perfect Father Creator. I love to lift up "certainty" over God. I love to lift up the applaudable things I have done in life over God. I love to create a god from my imagination that will lead me through life as I see fit. My list goes deep, my friends. As we journey through this space called Lent, we look on Jesus Christ who makes all things new. He tramples on rebel lusts and lays our handmade gods to dust. He is the one who can break the grips and powers that these little gods or idols have on us.

Lent is a season in the Church that is kept to assist the heart in preparing and posturing to remember the passion of Jesus Christ and the Cross. We will take a purposeful journey to expose our idols, the things we set up higher than God, and find our righteousness only in Christ and His work on the cross. Lent is a forty-day journey, much like Jesus' walk in the wilderness. During Lent, we purposefully allow ourselves to become vulnerable to the power of God over our little gods. The fruits of setting ourselves in this season will produce contrition and repentance—not just simply sorrow, but a humble turning away from the things that keep us from the affectionate, open-hearted, scripture-filled love for Jesus. Furthermore, we hope that by joining together for this season, the Church in the City is impacted by experiencing renewal, revival, and restoration to the Glory of Jesus!

Jesus, come and help fix our eyes on you! Tear down these idols, gods, and strongholds in our lives and set Yourself high above everything as the most beautiful thing we could ever behold. Thank You for what You have done on the cross, its present power in our lives today, and its perfect impact on the future!

*-Charlie Hall
Worship and Arts Pastor*

How To Use This Journal

Lent moves us from the season of the birth of Jesus, to the life of Jesus, and ultimately to the cross of Jesus. During the weeks of the Lenten season, use this journal as a guided walk through a liturgy of scripture, songs, prayers, and meditations. All of our lives are ordered by the thing or things we worship. We can look at how we spend our time and our money, or where our thoughts turn most often to see what is ultimate in our life. A gospel centered liturgy helps form our lives around Jesus. It is a journey of discipline and intentionality to help shape life around Christ.

In Daniel 6:10, we see a man, who in spite of his circumstances, chooses to daily spend time meeting with God. “...*He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God...*”

We see in the Psalms, David praying to God daily, asking God to help him keep the precepts of scripture on his heart. As we spend our time encountering God we find freedom, love, and salvation.

In this journal, each week of Lent is broken down into a rhythm that contains daily offices, or daily moments to read, pray, and write. Use as much or a little of the included material as you need to make this a rich time of meeting with the Lord. (See Appendix for more information on the Daily Office.)

To accompany this journal, Frontline Music has released an album, The Cross, as a soundtrack to the Lenten season. Each week, specific songs will be highlighted to help you engage in worship and prepare your hearts to receive from God.

Weekly Rhythm

Each Daily Office can be done in the Morning, Midday, or Evening. Each contains one or more of the following elements.

Morning

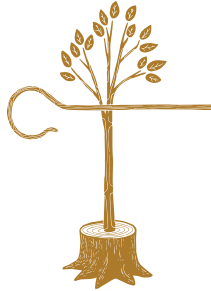
Lyrical Poetry (Song from The Cross Album)
Devotional Readings from the Book of Hosea
Confession and Assurance
Prayer

Midday

Lyrical Poetry (Song from The Cross Album)
Prayer
Devotional Writing/Questions to Reflect
5 min Examen/Journal page (See Appendix for information on the Examen)

We hope that as you set aside time daily to meet with God, you encounter him in all His glory and grace.

-Charlie Hall and Kori Hall



Week of March 6th

Hosea 1:10

Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Wednesday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

None Like Our God

Kristi Hepp, Charlie Hall, Kori Hall

There was no one else coming for us
Who could pay our debt?
No one else was coming

We sold ourselves to darkness
Who could buy us back?
No one else was coming

What God would give His Son?
What God would come to us?
To buy back unworthy ones
Would pour His blood
Crimson love

What King would leave His throne?
Yet, ours stripped off His robe
As one man brought sin
So, one man redeems us
We are free
By Christ our King

The cursed tree that hung His flesh
A rebel's death
There's none like our God

Though fit to wear the Holy Crown
Our servant bowed
There's none like our God

What love would spare no cost, no cross
No price too high
There's none like our God

What God would wear our curse, our
shame
Unto the grave
There's none like our God

There's none like our God
He walked among us
There's none like our God
He wore the same flesh

There's none like our God
You broke our darkness
There's none like our God
You name us righteous

What God would give His Son?
What God would come to us?
To buy back unworthy ones
Would pour His blood
Crimson love

What King would leave His throne?
Yet, ours stripped off His robe
As one man brought sin
So, one man redeems us
We are free
He changes everything

Devotional Reading

Ash Wednesday, Hosea 1:1-7

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God,
My lips are ready to confess, but my
heart is slow to feel and I am
reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in
my thoughts or my affections.

I have overlooked all that You are
and I have not regarded my heart's
deep need.

Please help me to not delay in
returning to You, save me from the
evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and
help me see sin clearly, that I may
hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it,
wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved
stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose
me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin
as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Wednesday

Evening

Devotional Writing

Ash Wednesday
Aaron Addison

“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.” Job 42:5–6

There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God. A man named Job was confronted with this reality. He was a righteous man who had heard about God. He heard about who God was and what God was like. But after a season of intense suffering, Job had an encounter with God and saw Him. The Lord spoke with him face to face in the midst of a storm. In that moment, his perspective of God changed. He saw God as He truly was. He was no longer a theory, but a reality. The Lord is a holy God to be feared and a loving Father to be embraced. When Job saw God clearly, his perspective of himself changed as well. Job saw the depths of his sin. He saw the idols, or false gods, that he upheld above God. In light of the holiness and perfection of God, Job saw how impure and unworthy he was. He echoed the cry Isaiah gave when he had a similar experience with God: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!” After such an encounter, Job despised himself, repented,

and covered himself in dust and ashes.

As we enter into a season called Lent, we seek the same heart. Lent is a forty-day journey of repentance where we seek to see God and ourselves rightly. We strive to meet with God and turn from those things we set above him. The season of Lent begins with a day called Ash Wednesday. During this day, many Christians around the world place ashes on their forehead as a symbol of repentance, just as Job covered himself with ashes. It is a recognition of our lowliness before the presence of a holy God. In other words, we acknowledge that we are filthy and in need of the cleansing only Jesus can bring. It is a public confession that we have idols and sins that we place above God, and we are turning from those things back to the living God. Regardless of whether you cover yourself in ashes or not, this is a day to humble yourself and set your heart on repentance. It is a day to echo the cry of Job, who despised his sin and impurity and repented in dust and ashes.

For your meditation:

Think through your relationship with God. Do you know about Him, or do you know Him? In what areas are you seeking repentance? List out specific sins that you are asking God to cleanse you from.

Journal Page

Examen

*Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen
(See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)*

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 1:8-11

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus, Help me open my heart to
receive You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and
Your gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.
But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.
By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.
And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,
I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.
Amen

-Blake Burrough

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Lyrical Poetry

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed
Isaac Watts

Alas and did my Savior bleed
And did my Sovereign die
Would He devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I

Thy body slain sweet Jesus Thine
And bathed in its own blood
While all exposed to wrath divine
The glorious sufferer stood

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree
Amazing pity, grace unknown
And love beyond degree

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut His glories in
When Christ the mighty maker died
For man the creature's sin

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness
And melt my eyes to tears

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe
Here Lord I give myself away
'Tis all that I can do

Journal Page

Examen

*Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen
(See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)*

1. Become aware of God’s presence.

2. Review the day with gratitude.

3. Pay attention to your emotions.

*4. Choose one feature of the day and pray
from it.*

5. Look toward tomorrow.

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 2:1-5

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.

You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters, but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank you, Father.

*-Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall*

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *I Kings 8*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

Servant King
Josh Kouri

“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.” John 13:3

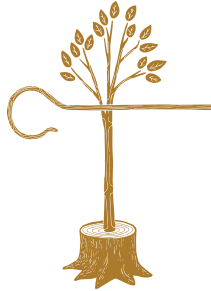
Now is the night. Betrayal is at hand. Jesus must drink the cup of suffering. If ever there was a time for Jesus to expect His friends to meet His needs, now is the moment. He has the right to be pampered and fed before he faces the sorrow. The leader gets up from his cushion and dresses for service. Humbly, He comes to each of His disciples. Jesus kneels before sinful men who will abandon Him. He kneels before Peter who will deny Him. He kneels before Judas who will sell Him. With each drop of water from the basin, the filth of human feet comes into contact with the hands of God. Mud, sweat, and animal dung are washed away. If ever His friends would be truly clean, the washing would be up to him. So, the Servant King, who will wash hearts in blood, is not afraid to wash feet in water.

“Teacher, you will never wash my feet.” This is too much for Peter. This act of humility is not what a leader does. Great men are served; they don’t wash feet. Peter is indignant. But why? Jesus’ breathtaking humility has broken into a heart enslaved by pride. This act is like a spotlight shining into a dirty cave. Jesus’ humble love is exposing Peter’s hopes for greatness and glory as not great or glorious at all. It’s not just sweat and mud being washed away. The Servant King is also washing away pride. He is so complete and secure in the Father’s love that His friends understanding or misunderstanding of Him has no power over Him. His secure servanthood exposes insecure hearts looking for meaning in power and control over others.

You and I are smeared with the filth of our streets. Pride clings to us, demanding a demonstration of control, power, or greatness to justify our existence. The more we look to our good deeds or productivity to tell us who we are, the more we sink into our muddy streets. We try to make ourselves secure in our comparisons with others. Then the Servant King comes to us. He is so secure in the Father’s love that He willingly stoops to meet us in our dirt. He washes us in His blood. He gives us a new identity in His finished work. He sends us so that we too can stoop to serve. This is what it means to be a Christian. We know where we come from and where we are going so we too can take on the clothes of a servant.

For your meditation:

You did nothing good or productive to get the Servant King to come to you. He stooped down to meet you. He laid aside His robes to find you and wash you. As you reflect on your Servant King's love, where is insecurity and pride exposed in your heart? How are you trying to find your identity in control or power? How are you looking to your productivity to justify your life? Tell Jesus about it because he already knows it's there, and He is stooping to wash you.



Week of March 11th

Hosea 3:5

Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the Lord their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the Lord and to his goodness in the latter days.

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

Kiss the Wave

Hilary Burkhardt and Kristi Hepp

My days are marked by hiding
In hopes no one will see
My emptiness, this brokenness
The vastness of my need

Your hand was heavy on me
The weight of all my sin
My nakedness, You came for this
To cover me instead

I must learn to kiss the waves
That throw me against the Rock of Ages

We saw You in the garden
Bearing all our grief
Our emptiness, our brokenness
The vastness of our need

Lifted up before us
Our hope upon a tree
You bore our curse, You loved us first
You drank our suffering

Oh, Christ, You bore the wave
To lead us unto the Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself
Let me hide myself

In Your scars and suffering
Let me hide myself
Let me hide myself

Soon we'll see Your glory
When suffering will cease
Face to face, our sin erased
This song we'll ever sing

Oh Christ, You bore the wave
To lead us unto the Rock of Ages

Rock of ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself in Thee
Let the water and the blood
From Thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure
Save from wrath and make me pure

Devotional Reading

Hosea 2:6-13

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood. I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you. I made a covenant with you. I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you. If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of my All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?

Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s Morning and Evening

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

The Space Between Us
David Adair

“For he is not a man, as I am, that I might answer him, that we should come to trial together.

There is no arbiter between us, who might lay his hand on us both. Let him take his rod away from me, and let not dread of him terrify me. Then I would speak without fear of him, for I am not so in myself. Job 9:32–35

These words of Job are rooted in an awareness of two things. The first is the overwhelming greatness of God. The second is the reality of his own indescribable lowliness in comparison. Evidence of Job’s awe is found in thoughts of God like, “one could not answer him once in a thousand times,” “he removes mountains,” “who alone stretched out the heavens,” and “who does great things beyond searching out, and marvelous things beyond number.” In his suffering, Job wanted an audience with God. He wanted to meet with his Creator. As much as he longed to speak with God, he knew it was impossible, essentially asking “How can someone as small as me deal with someone as big as God?” King David similarly thought, “How could someone as big as God deal with someone as small as me?” when he wrote,

“When I look at your heavens, the work

of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”

Psalms 8:3–4, ESV

Job’s awareness of God’s greatness and his own lowliness broke his heart. He was aware of the space between—a space torn into a place when man rebelled against God. The need to cross the space between drove Job’s need for an “arbiter”—a person who has the power to reconcile, a person of authority, a person who can stand in the gap between Job and God. Thousands of years have come and gone since Job spoke of this need, but the need abides today. To truly live, not just exist, man needs direct communion with our Creator. It is what we were created for. “There is no arbiter between us” was Job’s bad news. The Apostle Paul answers this bad news in one verse in his letter to Timothy writing:

“For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” 1 Timothy 2:5, ESV

That is the Gospel in one sentence. It is fundamental Christianity. There is a God whose greatness is unimaginable. Next to His greatness, humanity is beyond lowly. We cannot get to Him on our own because of our sin. However, “there is one mediator between God and men”! This mediator is the man Jesus Christ, and when anyone surrenders to Jesus, they find that the space between God and man is no longer a chasm. In place of the space is now a Rock. One can have surefooted access to God through Jesus.

For your meditation: Think today on the greatness of God. In light of that greatness, join with men like Job, Isaiah, and Paul and consider "I am of small account." With the greatness of God and your own lowliness in mind, pray that the Holy Spirit stirs your affections for Jesus as the one Mediator. The greatest act in the history of the universe was accomplished by Christ when He made a way to cover the space between.

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 2:14-17

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday

Evening

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 2:18-23

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

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“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

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“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 3:1-5

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and Your
gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.

But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.

By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.

And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,

I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.

Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Lyrical Poetry

Until I See You Face to Face
Written by: Brandon Laib

Oh Lord, I've forgotten who You are
That by Your mighty hand
You delivered me from death
And all my righteousness

Oh Lord, I've forgotten who I am
Your blood is on my hands
But You've taken this old man
And hung him on that tree

Remind me of Your gospel
Remind me of my worth
That You poured out every drop of blood
And covered every damning work

And I'll write it on the doorposts
Of the house and on my gate
And fight against forgetfulness
Until I see You face to face

Oh Lord, I've forgotten what You've done
You created and You loved
And You took the place of dust
The guilty for the good

Oh Lord, I forgot who I can trust
So I'll try to grind it out
But the want is just too loud
And I'm slowly caving in

Remind me of Your gospel
Remind me of my worth
That You poured out every drop of blood
And covered every damning work

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 4:1-6

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.
You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

ACTS –
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Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
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Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

A Lesson from Creation
David Adair

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to Him who has no might He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”
Isaiah 40:28–31

Nothing in all of creation continues in its own strength; all things eventually die without renewal. Look outside and consider a tree. When drought comes, the tree dies without water. Likewise, life withers away from an uprooted cut off from nutrients from the soil.. Humanity is the same in relation to God. Just as a weakened body is strengthened by a healthy meal, the soul of a person is fueled by God.

Taking in God’s Word fuels our hearts. Gospel Community gives us life. Corporate worship feeds our soul, or as pastor Charles Spurgeon said, “the soul-fattening table” of communion is life giving to our

hearts. As believers, we must wait upon God like a flower waits on rain. As lowly people dependent upon a great God, we must bloom in His light to grow and not close away in darkness. Without constant restoration from the Holy Spirit, we cannot hope to battle our own flesh, attacks from the enemy, or even hope to mature as disciples.

Every woman and man has no escape from weariness, growing faint, and exhaustion apart from the Gospel. The Son of God, who was eternally strong, became weak so those who trust in Him may find strength. Some of Jesus’ last words on the cross were, “I thirst!” Remember those words today. Jesus knew thirst so those who trust in Him may never be thirsty again. So often when we are tired, we search for rest in all the wrong places. True rest is not found in a place nor a time. True rest is found in the person and presence of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

For your meditation: Where are you looking for ultimate rest that will not satisfy? A place, a hobby, a relationship? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you places you’re going that will never satisfy. Ask Him to renew your strength in Christ.

Journal Page

Examen

*Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen
(See Appendix for information on the Daily
Examen)*

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray
from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*



Week of March 18th

Hosea 5:15

*I will return again to my place,
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face,
and in their distress earnestly seek me.*

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

Isaiah 53

Kara Zimmerman

Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief
As one from whom men hide, men hide

Pierced for our transgressions, our iniquities
Chastisement that brought us peace, us
peace

And we like sheep have gone astray,
we've turned away
Every one to his own way

Despised, rejected yet He opened not His
mouth
And with His wounds we are healed, are
healed

The cross, the cross - my sin it sent Him
there
The cross, the cross - His love it took Him
there

Devotional Reading

Hosea 4:7-14

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood, I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?”

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you.
I made a covenant with you.
I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you.
If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of My All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?
Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father
or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s Morning and Evening

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

Arrogance and Embarrassment: None of us can offer anything
Charlie Hall

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”
Ephesians 2:8–9

There’s a beautiful story in the book of John about a woman caught in the act of adultery. I’m struck with the shame and embarrassment that this woman would feel.

She was brought in by the “perfect” white-robed, religious, moral men to the feet of Jesus. There publicly, Jesus was being pushed to agree that she should be stoned for her overt wrongs—sin. So Jesus stands inside the crowd and looks to His left, where the put together, “clean,” men stand. Then Jesus looks to His right where the naked, embarrassed woman lies weeping. Most of you know the story, but in that moment that woman would have needed to receive more grace, mercy, and forgiveness than the arrogant, religious men who were accusing her could ever know or experience. Finally, Jesus turns and opposes the proud group of men and then stoops to wrap this woman in His righteousness, not because she did anything to deserve it but because of who He is. Furthermore, Jesus would have loved the religious men to disrobe their religious

clothing and allow Him to clothe them in His righteousness as well.

In my early years of faith, I thought I was the gift and that God had really chosen wisely when He chose me. I was growing and learning about God. I was telling people about all He was doing with me, and I had story after story about all that I was accomplishing.

As time and life went on, I grew to realize, through exhaustion, that I was more like the man on the stretcher that was lowered to Jesus through a hole cut in the roof. I am more like the naked woman that lays embarrassed before Jesus’s compassion. I am more like the dirty, smelly, strung-out prodigal son that is doing my best to humbly walk home. I am more like Lazarus who had laid dead for days when Jesus wept and raised him back to life. I am the guy that has to be lifted up to the waters by Jesus to become healed. When I look back at my journey, I’m so grateful that God slowly caused me to realize that I brought nothing to our relationship. That I had no righteousness of my own and that nothing saves me but Christ. There’s literally no reason for me to boast. I didn’t earn His love. He pursued me and clothes me in His rightness as I set myself in the power of the cross. Arrogance and embarrassment are both rooted in me! Today I ask Jesus to cover my nakedness and strip the arrogance off of me to clothe me with His righteousness.

For your meditation: Take time to list your places of self-righteous arrogance. These are ways that you feel like you are earning God’s love because of how well you are doing or the amount of boxes you can check off, or the gold stars you’ve attained for good behavior. These are places you might be boasting in your heart or to the people around you. Now derobe yourself from these things and simply find yourself in the compassion of Jesus, not how good you are but how good He is.

Journal Page

Examen

Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen (See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)

- 1. Become aware of God’s presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 4:15-19

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday Evening

Lyrical Poetry

Nothing but the Blood
Robert Lowry

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

For my pardon, this I see
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
For my cleansing, this my plea
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow
No other fount I know
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Nothing can for sin atone
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

This is all my hope and peace
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
This is all my righteousness
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow
No other fount I know
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Now by this I'll overcome

Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Now by this I'll reach my home
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow
There's no other fount I know
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 5:1-7

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Evening

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 5:8-12

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and
Your gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.

But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.

By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.

And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,

I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.

Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *I Kings 8*

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 5:13-15

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.
You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

Addictions, Additions, and True Shalom
Charlie Hall

*“For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”
Romans 10:3–4*

There’s a craving that is built into all of us, a longing and hunger to be right with the world around us, right with ourselves and ultimately right with God. The Hebrew word Shalom encompasses all of those hungers—its simplest definition is “completeness.” While I was a kid, I searched for completeness in my performances.

As a younger man, I tried to find my completeness in attachments, like what I did, or whom I was connected to. And even today I find myself worshiping the false god we call “certainty.” Many of us just can’t find the peace that we are clawing for, so we find ways to physically circumvent the interior struggle and pain with momentary pauses that come from drugs, alcohol, sex, relationships, hobbies—the list goes on and on. When we use the most beautiful, applauded, cheered things that we do or attain to gain a sense of rightness, we simply replace the peace that Jesus can bring to our barren hearts. Our accolades are great gifts but when we lean on them as crutches, these “beautiful” gods have

a sneaky way of climbing up into a place they don’t belong.

All of the above is very normal. It’s human. It’s how we are born. When I sit with my friends who are heavily addicted to (fill in the blank), I don’t shake my head in disgust. I think to myself, “Well yeah! This is normal.” But to be clear, the norm kills us, confuses us, and creates false and momentary shalom. Our only hope for full peace is putting our faith in Christ. We can’t be bad enough or good enough to attain rightness. The completeness and peace we seek with the world, ourselves, and God Himself are found in Jesus. We can’t do it! We can’t get to God no matter how wise or intelligent we become. There is no amount of money or even poverty, no amount of relationships, no amount of sex that can get us peace with God.

It’s not who you know or who you have avoided, it’s not where you’ve been, or where you’re headed, it’s not the depth of how you hurt others or how merciful you can be to your offenders that removes that canyon between us and the Father. There is no accolade or loss, there’s no amount of religion or rebellious acts, it’s not where you live or where you go to church, it’s not what you’ve done or haven’t done that brings the completeness we search for. Jesus is the only thing that makes us right, complete, and whole! We cannot establish our own righteousness. Weary friend come and let your exhaustion fall to the side, quit climbing that invisible ladder, rest and let Jesus be the one to make you righteous and bring true shalom.

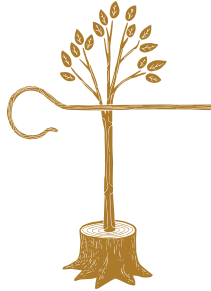
For your meditation: List some ways you're attempting to find shalom, rightness, and completion with God apart from Christ and the cross. Many times, these things are exhausting you. Spend time laying these things to the side, moving them out of your patterns of life, or re-appropriating them to the right places. Don't just stop there; put Jesus, Prince of Shalom and Peace, as the center, the most beautiful, powerful thing in your life, and rest in His finished work on the cross.

Journal Page

Examen

Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen (See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*



Week of March 25th

Hosea 6:1-3

*Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.
After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.*

*Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.*

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

Nearer the Cross
Will Gaines

Nearer the cross my heart can say
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer
Nearer the cross from day to day
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer

Nearer the cross where Jesus died
Nearer the fountain's crimson tide
Nearer my Savior's wounded side
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer
I am coming nearer

Nearer the Christian's mercy seat
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer
Feasting my soul on manna sweet
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer

Stronger in faith more clear I see
Jesus who gave Himself for me
Nearer to Him I still would be
Still I'm coming nearer, I am coming nearer
I am coming nearer

Nearer in prayer my hope aspires
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer
Deeper in love, my soul desires
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer

Nearer the end of toil and care
Nearer the joy I long to share
Nearer the crown I soon shall wear
I am coming nearer, I am coming nearer
I am coming nearer

To the cross is where I find my refuge and strength
To the cross is where I find my refuge and strength

I am coming nearer
I am coming nearer
I am coming nearer

Devotional Reading

Hosea 6:1-3

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood, I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?”

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you.
I made a covenant with you.
I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you.
If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of My All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?
Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father
or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s Morning and Evening

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

His Righteousness Is Ours
Aaron Addison

*“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 5:20*

When we see the standard of holiness that God lays on us, it is frightening. Even Jesus Himself told us that our righteousness must exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees to enter into heaven. The scribes and Pharisees were the religious elite of the day. These guys were pastors and spiritual leaders. They had scripture memorized and followed it as best as they could. A normal person would see these men and say, “There is a righteous man. God is surely pleased with him.” But when Jesus comes on the scene, He blows all that up. He tells us that our righteousness must exceed that of those who had everything together. Find the most righteous man in your city, and your righteousness must exceed His, or you won’t be welcomed into heaven. This is terrifying, because if we are honest with ourselves, we are not even close to being that righteous.

When Jesus came to earth, He didn’t sweep sin under the rug. He held the same standard that His Father did. Only the righteous will enter into heaven, and none of us is righteous. But Jesus came to save us. Jesus is the only one who ever

lived a completely righteous life. He is the only one whose righteousness exceeded every other man’s righteousness. He faithfully and perfectly followed God. And today, Jesus is offering that righteousness to us. We don’t have to earn it. We don’t have to do it ourselves. We simply receive it. When we look to Jesus, His righteousness becomes ours. Truly, all those who trust in Christ have a righteousness that far exceeds those of the scribes and Pharisees. Our righteousness is perfect and unblemished because it is not our own. It is Christ’s, and He has freely and willingly given it to us.

For your meditation: In what ways do you fall short of God’s standard of holiness? Do you feel righteous enough to earn God’s love? Are you resting in your righteousness, or in Christ’s righteousness? What does it mean to say that Christ is our righteousness?

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 6:4-10

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday

Evening

Prayer

Listening to God through the Word

Open your Bible to Psalm 16 (any Psalm will do).

Read the chapter through out loud twice and, as you're reading, notice what words or phrases stand out to you. It may be that a unique thought or a picture or even a person comes to mind.

Assume this is God speaking to you, and turn those "highlighted" words or thoughts or pictures into your own prayers to God.

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 6:11-7:7

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Evening

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 7:8-10

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and Your
gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.
But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.
By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.
And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,
I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.
Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Lyrical Poetry

Cursed Tree
Written by: Aaron Mowery

Oh, in my sin I hated Your name
I filled my heart with the vilest of things
I made my bed in the shadow of hell
The weight of my shame grew heavier still

Even so, You came for me
When I was Your enemy
The perfect love of the Trinity
You showed it there on that cursed tree

Your heart stopped beating
And mine began
The breath escaped You
My lungs took it in

Even so, You came for me
When I was Your enemy
The perfect love of the Trinity
You showed it there on that cursed tree

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Your blood has set me free!

Your heart stopped beating
And mine began
The breath escaped You
My lungs took it in

Even so, You came for me
When I was Your enemy
The perfect love of the Trinity
You showed it there on that cursed tree

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Your blood has set me free!

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 7:11-16

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.
You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

Overturing Tables
Tim Kimberly

“And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, ‘It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’ but you make it a den of robbers.”
Matthew 21:12–13

As Jesus walked into the temple on this day, He was filled with righteous anger. Jesus was furious with the messed-up religious nonsense happening at the temple. People were not allowed to bring their own animals for temple sacrifice. Animals could only be purchased at the temple. The animals at the temple were much more expensive. In addition to the animal prices being super high, the temple only allowed you to buy the animals with temple money. How did you get temple money? Well, you had to exchange your perfectly good regular money for temple money. Converting the money, of course, came with additional transaction fees. People had to pay extra money to then buy the extra-expensive animals. The poorest of people are robbed as they simply desire to worship God. This didn't sit well with Jesus.

At the beginning of this Holy Week, it is very clear Jesus is not here to keep business as usual. Jesus is communicating a

strong message. He will not stand by as religious systems are set up to make it nearly impossible to come to God. At the end of this week, Jesus will purchase our souls for God. On this day, Jesus overturns the tables because He is a jealous lover. He is a relentless pursuer. We witness an incredible height of love as we see Jesus driving away anything keeping us from Him.

For your meditation: What is keeping you from drawing nearer to your God today? Pray. If your life were laid out on several tables, would Jesus come and overturn any of them? If so, repent. He is in control. He is good. He loves you. He really loves you. He refuses to let you stay apart from Him. Let the words of Psalm 139:23 consume your thoughts today, “Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!”

Journal Page

Examen

*Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen
(See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)*

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*



Week of April 1st

Hosea 9:10

*Like grapes in the wilderness,
I found Israel.
Like the first fruit on the fig tree
in its first season,
I saw your fathers.
But they came to Baal-peor
and consecrated themselves to the thing of shame,
and became detestable like the thing they loved.*

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

Jesus, My Victory

*Blake Burrough, Abby Leonard, Will
Gaines, Molly Devine, Aaron Mowery, Me-
gan Haley, Marcy Priest*

Sweet exchange, marvelous mystery
The Perfect one became the sins of many

So we'd return, back to the Father
Adopted as His sons and daughters

At the cross You gave Yourself for me
May I give myself to Thee
Never losing sight of the beauty of Your
name
Jesus, my victory

My curse on Him, my death to taste
His precious blood, He did not waste
Cause it is finished, we're dead to sin
He has raised us up to be with Him

At the cross You gave Yourself for me
May I give myself to Thee
Never losing sight of the beauty of Your
name
Jesus, my victory

Who is like the Lord?
Who bent low to save us.

Where is our hope?
It's only Jesus, only Jesus.

At the cross You gave Yourself for me
May I give myself to Thee
Never losing sight of the beauty of Your
name
Jesus, my victory

Devotional Reading

Hosea 8:1-6

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood, I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you.
I made a covenant with you.
I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you.
If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of My All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?
Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father
or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

*Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s
Morning and Evening*

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

Mightier Than I
Ernest Odunze

“John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Mark 1:4-8

John the Baptist was a spectacle to see. John roamed the wilderness fashioned in his own camel hair attire held together by a tattered leather strip of cord. As the world consumed choice foods for enjoyment John preferred a diet consisting of fresh locust and organic honey. As the city clamored for new sights and sounds, John lived to please God. John was a rebel to many and a revolutionary to others. Some mimicked John while others mocked John. No matter what you thought about John, the entire city of Jerusalem traversed the wilderness just to see him. They were not prepared for what they experienced.

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight’”. Awaiting the travelers was no superhero with a cape flapping in the wind, no silver tongued orator proclaiming new methods to maximize your potential. Awaiting was a voice, A voice saying “get ready because someone is coming worth your emulation”. John says there is someone coming mightier than I who will do more than wash your external filth with water but will cleanse your internal sin and corruption by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit! Man can only provide man sized solutions to God sized problems But God (I feel like preaching!) and God alone has the ability to cure the sin virus beyond man’s reach with a Holy Ghost inoculation. Prepare the way.

For your meditation: Where are you hoping for man to provide what only God can?

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 8:7-14

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday

Evening

Prayer

“Fixing your eyes on Jesus”

Imagine Jesus sitting in front of you. The Scriptures are clear that He is “for us, not against us.” Confident in His love for you and like you would talk to a friend ... **what would you say to Him?**

Take at least 2 minutes and say those things to Him out loud

Now, like you would with a friend ... **Listen for what He has to say back to you.**

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 9:1-9

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Evening

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 9:10-17

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and Your
gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.
But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.
By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.
And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,
I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.
Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

ACTS –
Pray through Scriptures of Adoration,
Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – *Psalms 145-150*
Confession – *Psalms 51, Nehemiah 9*
Thanksgiving – *Psalms 136*
Supplication – *1 Kings 8*

Lyrical Poetry

Out of the Ashes
Written by: Will Gaines

Out of the ashes, from the depths of the
dust
My soul will rise because of Your love
It's fueled by a fire of the Spirit to come
Resurrected in Christ and covered in blood

Cloaked and righteous, washed white and
clean
My heart made new in the life that You
bring
Once left in chains, now no longer a slave
The life I once had is no longer my name

We are sons, we are daughters
He's our King, Christ our brother
God, our great Father

Named as a sinner, born into the fall
My heart gives way to the Lover I call
Dirty, unworthy, I lay myself down
To the worthiness of this King and His

crown

No longer in darkness does this soul lay
But my hope clings to Christ
On this glorious day
So throw up your hands and lift up your
eyes
A part of a family adopted in Christ

We are sons, we are daughters
He's our King, Christ our brother
God, our great Father

Rise and sing of this love He brings
Lift your eyes, behold your King

We are sons, we are daughters
He's our King, Christ our brother
God, our great Father

Oh the blood of Jesus
Oh the blood of Jesus
Oh the blood of Jesus
It washes white as snow

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 10:1-8

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.

You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

What Do You Need?
Sean Evans

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But he answered, ‘It is written, ‘‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’’’ - Matthew 4:1-4 ESV

When I was a kid I read a book about a boy who became lost in the wilderness and had to survive alone for several weeks until being rescued. What a story! As a 3rd grader, I fantasized about being in the position of having to provide everything I'd ever need on my own with just a pocket knife and a handmade fishing line. I knew I could do it. I could disappear from home for a few weeks, returning only with a healthy body and a journal of stories about surviving the dangers of the wilderness in my own cunning and strength. I needed nothing else. Never mind that I hardly felt comfortable staying overnight at a friend's house, I had what it took should the need arise.

In Matthew 4, Jesus really is alone in the wilderness. He has no shelter, no food, no backpack of tools or resources like all the

great television survivalists carry. When the enemy comes to tempt Him, it's with all of the things that we're convinced we need.

The voice whispers:

“Aren't you hungry? Why not just make bread?”

“Want everyone to know how great you are? Just show them.”

“You deserve to have way more than you have, take what is rightfully yours!”

This voice sounds familiar to me. I can only imagine what Jesus must have felt in those 40 days. Every temptation laid before Him seems to appeal to His humanity. Physical hunger. Loneliness and isolation. Longing for God the Father to meet Him in His fasting. The tempter's voice says, “Wouldn't it just be easier to set this aside and take hold of what you need?”

And unlike my childhood fantasy of showing that I could provide everything I needed for myself, Jesus has a different response. He says His greatest need is the very Word of God. The voice of the Father speaks life to Him and is what meets His needs, and it's much different than the tempter's voice. This is the voice He heard at His baptism. The voice that says, “Before you set foot in this wilderness, you were my Son, with You I'm well pleased”. Take a second and think about what you need today.

As real as those needs feel or may actually be, there's something else you need first. The very word that proceeds from the mouth of the Father. And His word to you is, “In Jesus you are sons and daughters! I'm well pleased.”

For Your Meditation:

In what ways is the Father inviting you to hear His voice and feel your need for Him above everything else as you continue this season of Lent?

Prayer

Psalm 25:4-5

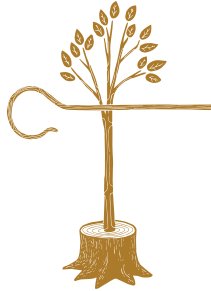
*Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.*

Journal Page

Examen

Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen (See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.*
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.*
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.*
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.*
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.*



Week of April 8th

Hosea 10:12

*Sow for yourselves righteousness;
reap steadfast love;
break up your fallow ground,
for it is the time to seek the Lord,
that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.*

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

I Need Jesus

Hilary Burkhart

I need the One who made me
Who gives life to my bones
I need the One who is Holy
The only One who's good

I need the One who came for me
Who lived perfect in my place
The One that bled and died for me
The only One who saves

Jesus, Jesus

I need the perfect Son of God
Who is Holy, true, and good
I need the One who bore the wrath
So that I never would

I need the One who tasted death
And was buried in the grave
I need the sacrificial Lamb
My pleasing righteousness

I need the One who rose again
Who has conquered all my sin
The One who reigns in Heaven now
The One who'll come again

Jesus, Jesus
You're all I need
So be all I want
Jesus

Devotional Reading

Hosea 10:9-15

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood, I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you.
I made a covenant with you.
I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you.
If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of My All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?
Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father
or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

*Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s
Morning and Evening*

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

In Christ Alone
Employee vs. Beggar
Aaron Addison

“Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. But to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.”

Romans 4:4–5

There are two different ways that people approach God. We can either come to God as an employee or as a beggar. When we come as an employee, we work hard for God. As long as we do what we are told, God will give us our check at the end of the day. As an employee, as long as we don't quit or get fired, we still get paid for our work. The biggest problem with this is that none of us have ever lived up to our job description. If we got what we earned, we would get the pink slip and not a paycheck. We have earned punishment for failing to live a righteous life. The truth is that there is only one man who ever lived rightly as God would have him. He did not sin or turn from God. He did not place other things above God. He followed the Lord in every way that was commanded. He never hated or lusted. He never lied or stole. He didn't falter one time. Truly, He was the only righteous man who has ever lived since the beginning of creation. His name is Jesus. When Jesus died, He substituted His life for ours. He lived His

perfect life in our place.

Because of Jesus, there is another way to approach God. We can come to Him as a beggar. We don't come bringing our works, but we come empty-handed. Our hope is not based on how righteous we are but how righteous Jesus is. God wants all of us to come to Him as ungodly beggars rather than righteous employees. When we approach Him empty-handed, trusting only in His goodness and grace to save us, the righteous life of Christ is counted as if we had done it. He credits it to our accounts. God looks at us as if we had performed everything just as He said. We must lay aside trying to work to earn God's love. Instead, we must stop working and trust in the God who gives us righteousness by faith alone. In Christ, we can rest assured that God will never leave us or forsake us because of our sin.

For your meditation: Do you approach God as an employee or as a beggar? Are you working so that God will love you, or are you working because God has already given you His love? How does it look to rest in Christ for righteousness? Think through specific situations and how you would have responded differently if you had meditated on this truth.

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 11:1-4

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday

Evening

Prayer

Listening to God through the Word

Open your Bible to Psalm 16 (any Psalm will do).

Read the chapter through out loud twice and, as you're reading, notice what words or phrases stand out to you. It may be that a unique thought or a picture or even a person comes to mind.

Assume this is God speaking to you, and turn those "highlighted" words or thoughts or pictures into your own prayers to God.

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 9:1-9

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Evening

Devotional Writing

Spy Wednesday
Tim Kimberly

*"Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him."
Matthew 26:14–16*

John the Baptist was a spectacle to see. John roamed the wilderness fashioned in his own camel hair attire held together by a tattered leather strip of cord. As the world consumed choice foods for enjoyment John preferred a diet consisting of fresh locust and organic honey. As the city clamored for new sights and sounds, John lived to please God. John was a rebel to many and a revolutionary to others. Some mimicked John while others mocked John. No matter what you thought about John, the entire city of Jerusalem traversed the wilderness just to see him. They were not prepared for what they experienced.

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight'". Awaiting the travelers was no superhero with a cape flapping in the wind, no silver tongued orator proclaiming new methods to maximize your potential. Awaiting was a voice, A voice saying "get ready because someone is coming

worth your emulation". John says there is someone coming mightier than I who will do more than wash your external filth with water but will cleanse your internal sin and corruption by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit! Man can only provide man sized solutions to God sized problems But God (I feel like preaching!) and God alone has the ability to cure the sin virus beyond man's reach with a Holy Ghost inoculation. Prepare the way.

For your meditation: Allow yourself to enter into the emotions of this day. Would you be somber today as you continually ponder the treachery of Judas? Our Savior was sold out by one of His closest friends for virtually nothing. This should upset those of us who love Jesus. Wednesday is a sad, disappointing day.

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 11:8-12

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and Your
gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.

But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.

By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.

And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,

I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.

Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

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Lyrical Poetry

Keep me Near the Cross
Fanny Jane Crosby

Jesus keep me near the cross
There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever
Until my restless soul would find
Rest within my Savior

Near the cross, oh Lamb of God
Bring its scenes before me
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadows over me

Jesus keep me near the cross
Where I find my healing
Let this restless soul find its rest in Thee
Christ be my glory

Look no further, oh my soul, for your fill
His mercy, His justice, His love
Oh how they beckon me still
So look no further my soul than Calvary's
hill

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever
Until my restless soul would find
Rest within my Savior

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 12:1-6

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.

You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

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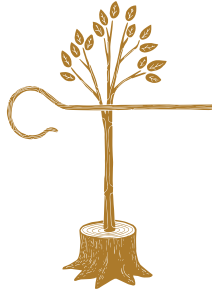
Friday
Evening

Journal Page

Examen

Pray through the prayer of Daily Examen
(See Appendix for information on the Daily Examen)

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2. Review the day with gratitude.
3. Pay attention to your emotions.
4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.
5. Look toward tomorrow.



Week of April 15th

Hosea 12:6

*So you, by the help of your God, return,
hold fast to love and justice,
and wait continually for your God.*

Monday

Morning

Lyrical Poetry

What Wondrous Love Is This
Anonymous

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O
my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the
Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for
my soul
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down,
sinking down
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down beneath God's
righteous frown
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for
my soul
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

Devotional Reading

Hosea 12:7-14

Confession/Assurance

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

“It’s a small thing for Me to do in helping you today.
I bought you with blood, I died for you! And if I have done the greater will I not do the less?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US:

I have done more and WILL do more. Before the world began I chose you.
I made a covenant with you.
I laid aside My glory to become A man and gave My life for you.
If I’ve done all of this wouldn’t I help you now?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

In helping you, I am giving you what I’ve already done.
You require little compared with what I’m ready to give.
Your need is small at the door of My All-Sufficiency.

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Do you need more strength than the omnipotence of the United Trinity?
Do you need more wisdom than what exists in the Father
or more love than the Son displayed?

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

THE WORDS OF OUR FATHER TO US

Hurry! Gather up your wants, your emptiness, your woes & needs and run to Me. Behold the river of God is full for your supply! I will help you!

CONFESS

I stand at the door of the All-Sufficient

*Adapted from Charles Spurgeon’s
Morning and Evening*

Monday

Evening

Devotional Writing

The Supper
Andrew Burkhart

“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.’”
Matthew 26:26–29

It was the night before His death. Jesus and His twelve disciples were huddled together in an upper room somewhere in the city of Jerusalem. They had gathered together to eat the Passover, an age-old meal rich with the history of God’s redeeming love for His people. The Passover was put in place to serve as a reminder of how God had rescued the people of Israel out of slavery from Pharaoh in Egypt. You remember the story: Pharaoh refused to let God’s people go, so God sent plague after plague to loosen Pharaoh’s grip and break him of his pride. For Pharaoh, all of the plagues were horrible, but the last one was the worst of them all. God made a solemn and holy decision to take the life of every first-born male in all of the land of Egypt—Israeli and Egyptian alike. But to the Israelites, God provided a way of es-

cape. Moses, speaking on behalf of God, told the people to slaughter a pure and spotless lamb and wipe the blood over the doorposts of their houses. In addition, God’s people were to go inside of their houses, roast the slaughtered lamb, and eat it. That fateful night, God swiftly and silently swept through Egypt and took the life of every first-born son in every house in Egypt; but in an act of undeserved grace and love, He passed over those houses covered with the blood of the lamb. This became known as “the Passover,” and for centuries, God’s people would huddle together in houses all across Jerusalem and eat this sacred meal. But for Jesus’s twelve disciples, this would be an unforgettable Passover meal.

At some point during the supper, Jesus stopped and did something scandalous. He took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying these words: “take, eat; this is My body.” His disciples must have been shocked! Was Jesus trying to say that He was the true Passover meal? What Jesus would say next would leave absolutely no doubt in their minds. Again, He interrupted dinner and passed around of a cup of wine, saying: “drink of it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” It couldn’t have been articulated more clearly.

Jesus was pointing to the Passover meal and saying that it was all about Him. Jesus was trying to show His disciples (and all of us) that the events surrounding the first Passover were simply a shadow of what He was going to do for us. You see, because of our rebellion against God, we

each deserve to be crushed. We are as hard-hearted and disobedient as Pharaoh himself. Like the first-born sons in Egypt, we deserve to die because of our sin. But instead of taking our lives, the Son of God gives His life for us.

Jesus, the True Lamb, would be strung up on a cross, and His blood would be shed for rebels like you and me. And God's wrath would pass over us, but His love and grace would come crashing down upon us.

For your meditation: Today, join Christians from all over the world as we huddle together underneath the cross and find forgiveness through the broken body and shed blood of Jesus. Are you starving for love today? Jesus is turning to you with these words: "Take, eat; this is My body." Jesus lovingly offers His life to you as broken bread for your hungry soul. Do you fear the wrath of God today? Hide yourself in the house of the gospel and He will pass over you.

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Tuesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 13:1-8

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Forgive my faithlessness, O faithful
God!

See beyond my apathy, my
thoughtlessness,
my self-centeredness, and my
wrong choices.

Make Your home in my heart, for
you are my treasure. Amen.

YOUR ASSURANCE

While it is true that I have sinned,
It is a greater truth that I am forgiven
Through God's love in Jesus Christ.
And if I humbly seek the mercy of
God,
My sin is forgiven in Jesus Christ.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father.

-Frontline Liturgy Team

Tuesday
Evening

Who has taken Him away

Lyrical Poetry

Go to Dark Gethsemane
James Montgomery and Kevin Twit

Go to dark Gethsemane
Ye that feel the tempter's power
Your Redeemer's conflict see
Watch with Him one bitter hour

Turn not from His griefs away
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray
Turn not from His griefs away
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray

See Him at the judgment hall
Beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned
O, the wormwood and the gall
O, the pangs His souls sustained

Shun not suffering shame or loss
Learn of Christ to bear the cross
Shun not suffering shame or loss
Learn of Christ to bear the cross

Calvary's mournful mountain climb
There adoring at His feet
Mark that miracle of time
God's own sacrifice complete

"It is finished!" hear Him cry
Learn of Jesus Christ to die
"It is finished!" hear Him cry
Learn of Jesus Christ to die

Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay
All is solitude and gloom

Wednesday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 13:9-16

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Oh God, My lips are ready to confess but my heart is slow to feel and I am reluctant to change.

I confess that You have not been in my thoughts or my affections. I have overlooked all that You are and I have not regarded my heart's deep need.

Please help me to not delay in returning to You, save me from the evil that I love.

Work repentance in my soul and help me see sin clearly, that I may hate it.

I bring my heart to You, break it, wound it, mold it in Your image.

YOUR ASSURANCE

God's compassion yearns over me,
His heart hastens to my rescue.
His love ended my curse.
His mercy bore my deserved stripes.
He Himself came to save me.
Even when I was dead, He chose me for life.
Covered in His atoning blood,
He makes me triumph over my sin as an heir of His salvation.

- *Valley of Vision*

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Wednesday

Evening

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Thursday

Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 14:1-4

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

Holy Spirit, I confess that I have
grieved You
I've ignored You, belittled You,
And tried to live in my own strength
and power.
Forgive me.

Holy Spirit,
Today I say I need You
Soften and awaken my heart to
Jesus,
Help me open my heart to receive
You, Holy Spirit,
Your work, Your power, and Your
gifts

YOUR ASSURANCE

I was dead in sin, blind and deaf, I
could not come to God.

But the Holy Spirit made me alive
and made me a new creature.

By the Spirit my heart is no longer
stone, but flesh, no longer seared,
but softened.

And now, with an uncovered face,
beholding the Glory of God,

I am being transformed into the
image of Christ from one degree of
glory to another.

Amen

- *Blake Burrough*

Thursday

Evening

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

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Lyrical Poetry

Weight of Sorrows

Written By: Kristi Hepp, Matt Polk, Emilie Polk, Will Gaines, Molly Devine

My betrayal

My abandon

My sin moved You towards the cross

*My transgressions
My afflictions
Earned the lashes on Your back*

*My hands did this
I deserved death
But Christ, You hung there in my place*

*Weight of sorrow
I have done this
You were buried in my grave*

*Oh, why this load now
Do I still carry?
Your blood has saved me, You won't forsake me*

*Oh, why this weight now
Do I still carry?
Your blood has saved me, You won't forsake me*

*Teach me to turn my gaze
From all I've done to grace
Your blood has saved me
You won't forsake me*

*Help me to lift my eyes
From who I was to Christ
Your blood has saved me
You won't forsake me*

*God of justice
God of mercy
God in Christ, You pardoned us*

*God of comfort
God of healing
God in Christ, You welcomed us*

Friday Morning

Devotional Reading

Hosea 14:5-9

Confession/Assurance

CONFESS

God, You created the world and everything in it,
I confess that I've taken all You created to show me Your kindness,
And I've worshiped it in place of You.

You created me for friendship with You, but my heart is prone to wander.

You created me for relationship with my brothers and sisters,
but I often hated my neighbors.
I feel my selfishness and my need for You to change my heart.
I'm asking You to help me see You and myself rightly.

YOUR ASSURANCE

This is good news!
God loved the world - me included - so much, that He gave me Jesus, His only son.
If I trust in Him for the forgiveness of my sin I can't be separated from Jesus,
But possess abundant life forever.

CONFESS

Thank You, Father

- Sean Evans and
Charlie Hall

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.” – *Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.*

“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – *Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – *Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.*

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – *Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.*

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – *Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.*

Friday Evening

Devotional Writing

The Garden
Andrew Burkhart

“Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here, while I go over there and pray.’ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, ‘My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.’ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, ‘My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.’ And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, ‘So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, ‘My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.’ And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, ‘Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.’”
Matthew 26:36–45

Jesus had been in this garden before. Whenever life and the pressures of ministry reached a difficult level of intensity, Jesus would slip away to spend time with His Father and be refreshed by the Holy Spirit. This garden called Gethsemane was most likely among Jesus’s favorite places to pray and rest. But this visit to the garden wouldn’t bring any sort of rest, physical or spiritual. Jesus knew that in a matter of hours, He would be arrested, wrongly condemned by the Jews, and executed by the Romans. The Romans had mastered the brutal art of execution, the worst form being crucifixion. Crucifixion was a slow, embarrassing, and horrifically painful way to die. The criminal (for only the worst of the worst were crucified) would be stripped naked, mercilessly beaten, scourged, and nailed to a tree. Worst of all, this would all happen in a very public setting, giving rise to massive crowds of loud and angry mobs mocking the victim. Jesus knew that this terrifying death was fast approaching. But this wasn’t the primary cause of Jesus’s soul being “sorrowful, even to death.” Something worse was coming his way.

Not only was Jesus going to suffer an immense amount of physical pain on the cross, He was also going to suffer in a spiritual way. God the Father was going to take the sins of His people and place them upon His Son. Jesus had never sinned, let alone tasted the shame and guilt that accompanies sin.

But on the cross, Jesus would identify Himself with sinners so much that He would actually become our sin. And worst of all, Jesus would become the object of God’s holy and just wrath towards our

sin. You see, Jesus wasn't afraid of Judas betraying Him or Peter rejecting Him. He wasn't afraid of the Jews wrongly accusing Him or even the Romans executing Him. But Jesus was absolutely terrified and in a state of shock at the thought of becoming our sin and drinking the cup of God's anger towards our sin. As Jesus contemplates this terrifying reality, He asks His friends to stay awake with Him, while He spends some time alone in prayer. They don't. Sadly, Jesus comes back to find every one of His closest friends sleeping. Jesus wakes them up and asks them to stay awake and pray. Again, they don't. In the hour of His greatest need, Jesus had no friends to turn to. To make matters even more difficult and painful, Jesus asks His Father for an alternative to the cross. But for the first time in Jesus's life, the Father remains silent. Jesus has no one He can turn to. He is all alone. As C.J. Mahaney said, "The Savior's soul was crucified here in the garden of Gethsemane before His body would be crucified on a hill called Calvary."

For your meditation: In one sense, this scene in the garden is tragic. But in another sense, this is one of the most beautiful events that has ever occurred. To enter into this garden is to become deeply aware of our sin. But to enter this garden is also to become deeply aware of the heights and depths of God's love for us, despite our sin. Why would Jesus go through with this? Because of His great and unexplainable love, both for you and for His Father. When Jesus asked for an alternative to the cross, He ended His request with these words: "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Let this sink in. The Father didn't have to send His Son. Jesus could have backed out at the last minute. But the deep love of God drove Him to the cross.

This means that you don't have to suffer for your sins anymore. You don't have to punish yourself because Jesus was punished for you. And you don't have to doubt God's love for you because of the events that unfolded in this garden. And let these words of St. Augustine cause you to hear God's sermon to your heart: "the cross was the pulpit in which Christ preached His love to the world."

Saturday

Devotional Writing

Holy Saturday
Brandon Laib

“So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.” John 19:40–42

Holy Saturday marks the last day of Holy Week and the day Jesus’s body was laid in the tomb. While the Bible is relatively silent about what actually happened on this day, a lot can be inferred from the events leading up to it and the actions of the disciples surrounding it. Take a moment and put yourself in the shoes of the people who loved and followed Jesus.

On Friday, Jesus’s family and friends witnessed His brutal, public execution. They were in shock as they watched Him mocked and beaten, dragged from one false trial to another, and then nailed to a cross to die right in front of them. They watched in disbelief as their world came apart at the seams. The next day, reality set in. As Jesus’s followers woke up on Saturday morning, shock gave way to anguish and despair. Wishing it had all been a bad dream, they came to the same conclusion: It was all real. Jesus is really dead! We watched His burial! He is gone!

While Jesus’s body lay lifeless in a tomb, regret and anxiety were wreaking havoc on His loved ones as they tried to process their grief. But perhaps more than remorse or guilt or missed opportunities or fear of what was to come, the weightiest matter, for them, was that hope was lost. Jesus had claimed to be God, the Messiah, and they had believed Him. Now what would they do? They had given up everything to follow Him, and now He was dead. On the day Jesus’s body was laid in the grave, as the disciples hid themselves in a room, they may have uttered the words that Paul would later write in 1 Corinthians 15:19, “If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.” Because, of course, if Jesus remained in the tomb, all hope of salvation would be lost.

For your meditation: Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–19. What are the implications if Jesus had not been raised from the dead? Before His death, Jesus told His disciples, “take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). What does it look like for you to “take heart” on days of trouble and suffering?

Take a moment to journal about how you have seen God meet you this week.

Journal Page

Appendix

The Daily Office

The daily office is an ancient liturgical practice that uses daily prayers to set rhythm for the day. There are set moments, usually morning and evening, to engage in prayer. In this Lenten journey, there are weekly readings that will help engage your heart and mind as you move toward the cross and encounter Jesus. There are daily scripture readings, through the book of Hosea to remind us to return to faithfulness, kindness and knowing God. There are prayers and meditations that help us repent of sin with the help of the Spirit, reflect on Jesus' sacrifice, and remember the goodness of God our Father.

The Daily Examen

The daily examen is a great way to pray and to look for God's presence in your life. More than 400 years ago St. Ignatius Loyola encouraged prayer-filled mindfulness by proposing what has been called the Daily Examen. The Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and to discern His direction for us. Try this version of St. Ignatius's prayer.

1. Become aware of God's presence. Look back on the events of the day in the company of the Holy Spirit. The day may seem confusing to you—a blur, a jumble, a muddle. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding.

2. Review the day with gratitude. Gratitude is the foundation of our relationship with God. Walk through your day in the presence of God and note its joys and delights. Focus on the day's gifts. Look at the work you did, the people you interacted with. What did you receive from these people? What did you give them? Pay attention to small things—the food you ate, the sights you saw, and other seemingly small pleasures. God is in the details.

3. Pay attention to your emotions. One of St. Ignatius's great insights was that we detect the presence of the Spirit of God in the movements of our emotions. Reflect on the feelings you experienced during the day. Boredom? Elation? Resentment? Compassion? Anger? Confidence? What is God saying through these feelings?

God will most likely show you some ways that you fell short. Make note of these sins and faults. But look deeply for other implications. Does a feeling of frustration perhaps mean that God wants you consider a new direction in some area of your work? Are you concerned about a friend? Perhaps you should reach out to them in some way.

4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it. Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to something during the day that God thinks is particularly important. It may involve a feeling—positive or negative. It may be a significant encounter with another person or a vivid

moment of pleasure or peace. Or it may be something that seems rather insignificant. Look at it. Pray about it. Allow the prayer to arise spontaneously from your heart—whether intercession, praise, repentance, or gratitude.

5. Look toward tomorrow. Ask God to give you light for tomorrow's challenges. Pay attention to the feelings that surface as you survey what's coming up. Are you doubtful? Cheerful? Apprehensive? Full of delighted anticipation? Allow these feelings to turn into prayer. Seek God's guidance. Ask Him for help and understanding. Pray for hope.

St. Ignatius encouraged people to talk to Jesus like a friend. End the Daily Examen with a conversation with Jesus. Ask forgiveness for your sins. Ask for His protection and help. Ask for His wisdom about the questions you have and the problems you face. Do all this in the spirit of gratitude. Your life is a gift, and it is adorned with gifts from God.

Fasting

The Heart of the Fast

Over the years, fasting has come and gone from my life in various seasons and for various reasons. Fasting is a mixture of discipline and desire and it seems if I don't lack one, I lack the other. When you get to the heart of fasting it stokes your desire for Jesus which can help create some discipline. But discipline can also stoke desire and thus the two work hand in hand. The heart of the fast is threefold: to draw deeper into communion with Jesus, to lift your eyes to move toward your city to set it free, and to give the life of Jesus in proclamation and living out the gospel. Below are six reasons of "why" a follower of Jesus would pray with a fast. As you review these read the scriptures slowly and ask the Holy Spirit to wake you up to God's heart.

"Fasting is indeed Feasting" - Dallas Willard

Fasting is for Jesus to awake our heart and raise awareness to its need and thirst for Him.

Returning to your first love

Jesus longs for our whole hearts to be His. He wants us to rejoice and long for Him far more than He wants our sacrifices. Repentance without delighting in Jesus is religion, not love.

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;

Joel 2:12

*“Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.
After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”
Hosea 6:1-3*

2. Feasting on Jesus

Delighting in Jesus, digesting the word of God, the beauty of God, in the presence of God is the food we have that those around us don't see or understand. We don't live on bread alone but in Jesus and His very word.

*But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.
John 4:32-34*

*You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
Psalm 16:11*

3. Receptivity to God's Voice

We need to have our ears peeled to the word of God and voice of the Holy Spirit. When we pray it should look like a conversation. Talking to God and listening.

*“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
John 15:1-5*

4. Deepening our Dependence on Jesus and Accepting Our Limitations

We're called to repent of sin but boast in our weaknesses. This is where God's power rests!

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Cor. 12:9-10

*“Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.
He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.
The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.”*

Psalms 1:1-4

5. Interceding

We want to be a House of prayer. The gathered church, through the prayers of church, looking out to the nations, the lost, and injustices. We want to stand spiritually before the throne of grace, not just for people in the room, but to change the world around us. We believe in a resurrected King, who has all authority, and sits at the right hand of God, who has all resources available to Him, who reigns over His enemies and fills everything. We are asking, seeking, and knocking on the door of Jesus the King of a kingdom that has no end. He is Christ Crucified and Christ Resurrected. He lives and moves, works and never sleeps. So let the prayers of the saints rise like incense inviting God to shape history, right injustice, demonstrate power, bring salvation, through the gathered, interceding, unified church!

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever.

2 Chron 7:14-16

6. Mission

Prayer with fasting is to move to kingdom work, demonstration and active justice. This is

God's heart for us in active fasting.

*"Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
Isaiah 58:6-8*

In *Practicing The Power*, Dr. Sam Storms gives us some heartfelt guidelines for fasting.

"Fasting is one way we pursue God. Pursuit is an artifact of love, drawing deeply on God's presence and gazing on His beauty. Fasting is not about denying yourself it is about satisfying yourself in Jesus. Fasting is not a hunger strike, or health dieting, or a manipulation of God's power. Fasting is not physical pain but spiritual pleasure. Fasting is a stance against self-gratification in a consumer-oriented world." - Sam Storms

- * Fasting is motivated by deep desire, not suppression of desire but the pursuit of it. Fasting is feasting on Christ.
- * Fasting is not an act of willpower but a show of dependence and an appeal for grace from God.
- * Fasting is not a statement that food or other things are bad but that Jesus is better and God is enough.
- * Fasting is motivated by the desire to glorify God--our reward is not the applause of man but more of Christ and answering of prayers.
- * Fasting opens our spiritual ears to discern God's voice and sensitizes our hearts to enjoy God's presence.
- * Fasting is a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare.

Practice

In closing, my heart is to humbly sound the alarm to add to your prayers and fasting. If you've already connected to the idea, here are some practical handles to fast. Simply put, it is less about what you leave out and more about the time you put towards communion with Jesus in place of that which you're fasting from. Repentance and rejoicing are two passions that go hand in hand. Repentance is changing your mind, your ways, your practices so that Jesus can intersect and change your heart. Within repentance though, we always want to

rejoice in Jesus. Rejoicing is reflection on Jesus, treasuring and cherishing Him above all, until the heart is satisfied and lets go of all that it thinks it needs outside of Jesus.

Subtractions: social media, entertainment, attitudes, pride, shopping, busyness, mind-sets, food, and drink.

Additions: meditation, prayer, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance, celebration

St. Augustine said that God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them, and not only our hands but also our hearts, minds and attention are clogged with addiction.

Lastly, Tim Keller says extraordinary prayer is united, persistent, and kingdom-centered. In this season we want to join together under Jesus, praying through Him and His accomplished work...united, persistent, and kingdom-centered.

“My response is to get down on my knees before the Father, this magnificent Father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by His Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite Him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you’ll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ’s love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God. God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus! Glory down all the generations! Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!”

Ephesians 3:14-21 (Message)

-Charlie Hall

Helpful Prayer Rhythms

For Yourself and in Community

1. Small Group Prayer

As you begin prayer with each other, here are some helpful tips....

- Be brief, a few sentences at a time, one topic at a time
- Use everyday language
- Use spontaneity, not just circle order
- Build on the prayers of others, like a communal conversation with the Father
- As scripture comes to mind, pray it out, this is often the leading of the Holy Spirit
- Be clear with enunciation and volume
- Pray along silently agreeing with others that are praying, be in the moment listening
- Don't rush to fill silence
- Everyone has freedom to pray out loud or not, but all should attempt to step out
- Resist ending each prayer "in Jesus name". Culturally it cues us to end prayer.
- When the prayer time is closing, the leader will close in the name of Jesus.

-Tim Keller

2. Listening Prayer

We believe God speaks to His people. Prayer is not a one-way conversation; God will talk to us. The invitation from God is to quiet our minds and hearts to listen to what He might be saying. Take a few minutes and walk through these listening exercises.

"Fixing your eyes on Jesus"

Imagine Jesus sitting in front of you. The Scriptures are clear that He is "for us, not against us." Confident in His love for you and like you would talk to a friend ... what would you say to Him?

Take at least 2 minutes and say those things to Him out loud

Now, like you would with a friend...listen for what He has to say back to you.

3. Listening to God through the Word

Open your Bible to Psalm 16 (any Psalm will do).

Read the chapter through out loud twice and, as you're reading, notice what words or phrases stand out to you. It may be that a unique thought or a picture or even a person comes to mind.

Assume this is God speaking to you, and turn those "highlighted" words or thoughts or pictures into your own prayers to God.

4. ACTS – Pray through Scriptures of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

Adoration – Psalms 145-150
Confession – Psalm 51, Nehemiah 9
Thanksgiving – Psalm 136
Supplication – I Kings 8

5. Parts of the city – “But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” (Jer. 29:7)

Edmond
South OKC / Moore / Norman
East OKC / Midwest City
Downtown / West OKC
Shawnee

6. The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.” – Spend time acknowledging and enjoying God as Father.

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” – Petition God to push back darkness wherever it is found.

“Give us this day our daily bread.” – Ask God for your own needs and the needs of our church family.

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – Confess your sins to God and forgive anyone who has offended or wronged you.

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – Pray for God's protection over your own soul and the people of Frontline, that the Enemy would not win.

7. Concentric circles

- Pray for yourself, “... casting all your anxieties on the Lord because He cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)
- Pray for your family, “One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.” (Psalm 145:4)
- Pray for Frontline Community Groups, “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10)
- Pray for Frontline and churches in your city, “... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints ...” (Ephesians 6:18)
- Pray for your city, “But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” (Jeremiah 29:7)
- Pray for our nation and the nations, “... if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

8. Prayers for the Spirit – The Holy Spirit is the one who prays for us (Rom. 8:26), regenerates dead hearts (John 3), convicts of sin (John 16:8), speaks to us (John 16:13), and pours out the love of God into our hearts (Romans 5:5). Pray that Frontline would be a people ...

- “...filled with the Spirit” (Eph. 5:18)
- “... earnestly desiring the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy (1 Cor. 12:4-7, 14:1-3) - more healing, prophecy, miracles, faith, etc.
- known for the “fruit of the Spirit” in our lives – (Gal. 5:22, 23)
- “empowered to witness” – (Acts 1:8)

9. Our Mission: Love God - Love People - Push Back Darkness

- Love God, “And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” (Mark 12:30)
- Love People, “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:9-13)
- Push Back Darkness, “... to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” (Acts 26:18)

10. Pray for Vocations

- Teachers
- Medical professionals
- Military / law enforcement
- Business professionals
- Government
- Stay-at-home Moms
- Trades – Carpenter, plumber, etc
- Other

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