

**21** **FASTING &**  
**PRAYER**  
DAYS OF



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## **Introduction**

In a time when there are many voices attempting to grab out attention it is easy to get our focus on the wrong places. This is not a time for the church to pray for a political victory, or a certain candidate to win, but a time for the church to turn their focus to Jesus (Hebrews 12:2-3). In this truly unprecedented time, God is calling on his people to “Come and follow Me!”

This devotion was not written by one church or one pastor, but by multiple pastors and ministry leaders representing a broad spectrum of the local church community to encourage, and build up the church community of the basin. The name of the writer was left off of the devotion, so you will be able to read and meditate on what God is speaking.

For 21 days starting on October 16<sup>th</sup> and ending on November 5<sup>th</sup>, there is a devotion for each of the 21 days. We are also asking that you combine the devotion prayer time with a fast. You can choose to fast anyway you feel lead to, you can do a complete fast, a Daniel fast, you can fast one type of food, you can fast social media or media in general. The point is not what you fast, but that you fast as you seek the Lord for the local church, both now in this season and in the seasons to come.

It is our hope that as you work through the 21 days, you would see the beauty of the local church community and you would gain a better feel for the church community in the basin and are able to fully focus on Jesus no matter the noise that is occurring around you. We also pray that you allow the pneuma- the breath of God to breath on you as you go through this devotion and gain a new deeper understanding of who He is. In this season, we would like to encourage you from Proverbs 46:10- Be still and know that I am God.

Standing unified under Christ

The Pastors and ministry leaders of KEA (Klamath Evangelical Association)

**Day 1**  
**October 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Reading the Bible Biblically**

Biblically involves reading relationally with God. Relational Bible reading does not refer to seeking emotional experiences. Neither does it refer to gaining personalized meanings of Scripture passages in a way that is foreign to their original meaning.

Reading the Bible Biblically involves communing with God, adoring Him, and being transformed by Him. Here are a few thoughts on reading the Bible relationally:

**Read in the right place.** (Take a moment right now to prayerfully read Hebrews 10:19–22)

**If we are invited to live in God’s glorious, revealed presence, let’s be sure not to read our Bibles somewhere else.** Read the Bible in the right place: the Most Holy Place. Make your personal devotions a time of meeting with God not just a meeting with the Scriptures.

We should not seek experiences, but we should seek God. We can connect with the living God. We can have real, true fellowship with Him. We can truly taste and see His goodness. The Scriptures abound with statements of our splendid opportunity to experientially know and enjoy the living God (Psalm 27:4; 34:8; 36:7-9; 2 Cor 3:18; 4:6; Rev 3:20). Let’s be Biblical by gazing at, partaking of, and communing with God.

**Read with the right Partner.** (Take a moment right now to prayerfully read 1 Corinthians 2:12–13)

**In our quest to understand God’s Word, we should always rely upon the Helper, the Holy Spirit.** Whenever we read a text, we should continually and lovingly interact with the Heavenly Author of that text (John 14:26; 16:13).

Relying upon the Holy Spirit does not mean that one should interpret passages based upon feelings or subjective experiences. The Spirit of truth will not guide us to understand a passage in a way that contradicts the original meaning it had for its original audience.

While relying upon the Holy Spirit does not require that we set aside sound principles of interpretation, it does require that we leave behind an independent approach to Bible reading. While we clearly must use our minds in the process,

our reliance must never be on our own minds or interpretive abilities. Our reliance must always be upon the Spirit of truth.

Practically, this finds expression in ongoing prayer. We do well to pray before, during, and after our times in the Scriptures. Ongoing prayer can take many forms. At times we may speak our words to Him. At other times, we wordlessly pray by looking to Him to guide us into the truth as we ponder a portion of Scripture. Whatever the forms our prayers may take, let's be sure to never leave our heavenly Partner out of the process.

**Read with the right purpose.** (Take a moment right now to prayerfully read Mark 12:29–30)

**Our private devotional times should always be part of a quest to love God with all that we are.** We should read the Bible as worshipers. If we do not, then our “devotions” will neither consist of devotion to God nor lead to greater devotion to Him.

We should listen to the Scriptures with our own souls in view. Bible reading must never be pursued solely for the purpose of gaining information. It should be undertaken out of a desire for personal transformation. God's desire for us is that growth in the knowledge of His Word would not be an end in itself but that it would result in greater godliness in our lives.

Since God's desire for us is to love Him with all our hearts, all our souls, all our minds, and all our strength, much more than our minds should be involved in our times in the Scripture. In response to God's revelation, we should open the entirety of our beings to the King of glory: surrendering our hearts, offering our affections, submitting our wills, consecrating our bodies, and more. We should lovingly pursue total life transformation—both during our meeting times with the Lord and as we leave them and go through our day.

These personally transformative times of adoring God will not always look the same. At times we will want to stop and lovingly gaze at the One that the Scriptures have described. At times we will need to gladly surrender and repent and align in some area to the King of Righteousness. At times we will pour out our hearts in distress and anguish, and at times we will wash His feet with tears of gratitude and joy.

Let's allow our times of personal devotion to be times of loving God with the totality of our beings and times in which we grow to love God with more of who we are.

## **NOTES**

**Day 2**  
**October 17<sup>th</sup>**

**So, You Want to Go Without Food?**

**Mark 6:31**

**'And he (Jesus) said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.'**

Jesus ordered the disciples to go on a retreat. They needed to be refreshed after a busy evangelistic effort. A 'retreat' is pulling back away from the busyness of life long enough to restore our energy and focus. We live in a time when many people work far too much and relax very little. This is hard on our bodies. God wants us to take care of our bodies (I Corinthians 6:19-20).

Just going without some things doesn't necessarily assure one of the desired goal – that of focusing on the presence of Christ and drawing near to Him. Examine Matthew 11:28-30. How would you enter into His Presence and thus into His Rest? Even God's Servant-Son needed time to rest, fellowship with His friends, and find renewal from the Father. If anything, time with God should increase as we rest. Take the Lord on your restful retreat this month.

Thought for the Day: At the end of the story in Mark 6:38-44, Jesus reminds us that He will take what we have and are and satisfy the longing of our souls. (Mark 6:42). God can use anyone and anything to accomplish His ultimate purposes! Enjoy your get-away time with Him!

**Notes**



**Day 3**  
**October 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**The God of Unity**

**Tribe Language People and Nation**

The Shema tells us “The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deut 6:4-5). Our God is uniquely One God in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is also One in His power over all who exist, and, in the end, all peoples will be one in worship. John’s Revelation describes a scene of unity in worship as Jesus Christ is glorified: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation” (Rev 5:9). As you reflect on the unity of our God remember also the unifying power of our God who draws all people to himself. Remember, as Peter did, “that God does not show favoritism in dealing with people, but in every nation, the person who fears him and does what is right is welcomed before him” (Acts 10:34-35).

**Power of God**

The author of Hebrews tells us that “without faith it is impossible to please him [God], for the one who approaches God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him” (Heb 11:6). The faith God requires is not simply what we call “saving faith” (see Eph 2:8), but also active faith as Jesus described in Matthew 17:20 “if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; nothing will be impossible for you.” What is it we must believe in? We must *know* that God has all power and authority. That He alone controls the events of the earth. Church, remember the proclamation of the Psalmist: “The Lord has established his throne in heaven; his kingdom extends over everything” (Ps 103:19).

Rejoice and be glad that nothing happens apart from His command. Everything is included in His Kingdom. Therefore, we can trust that “there is no authority except by God’s appointment, and the authorities that exist have been instituted by God” (Rom 13:1). And, we should trust that if such a human authority did exist, God would deal them as He sees fit (see Dan 4:25, Acts 12:2-24). Consequently, glorify the LORD and trust in Him alone. His power is unfailing. His plan is undeniable. His authority is unmatched. Walk by faith in the Almighty and be filled with His peace and joy.

**Notes**

**Day 4**  
**October 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Staying in Stride with the Spirit**

**“...live by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh” (Galatians 5:16)**

What does it mean to walk by the Spirit?

Set this devotional aside for a moment and take some time to prayerfully ponder Galatians 5:16-17.

**Walking by the Holy Spirit is not accomplished by fulfilling items on a checklist but by cultivating an ongoing relationship with the living God.**

Some may be settling for or struggling with a flat spirituality—one that lacks depth and dimension. In order to experience a more Three-dimensional spiritual life, pursue a “3D” life in the Holy Spirit:

***Devotion:*** We offer ourselves to fulfill the Holy Spirit's desires. It is a loving and obedient devotion in which we are attentive to His presence within us and pursue a life that conforms to the Word He inspired.

***Death:*** We have earthly remains that need to be put to death so that we more fully conform to the heavenly life that we now have in the Spirit. We have an obligation to not live according to the flesh but by the Spirit to put to death the affections, attitudes, and actions in us that are contrary to Him.

***Dependence:*** As has been so clear earlier in this letter, we follow the Spirit by faith. We do not try to produce the fruit of the Spirit in ourselves through disciplined effort. Nor do we try to fulfill the Spirit's wishes expressed in Scripture through our own self-reliant striving. We live by faith in the Son of God, whose Spirit indwells and empowers us to walk in a way that pleases Him.

Those who live like this will experience victory. In the Greek, it is stated in the strongest possible way: “if you live by the Spirit, you will by no means fulfill the flesh's desires.”

Now, take a moment to reflect before the Lord upon Galatians 5:25.

*“If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit” (5:25, ESV).*

**If we are people who have new life with the Spirit of God—and we are—then let's live in a way that agrees with God's life.**

Dolphins behave in a way that agrees with their marine environment. They are created for the sea, and they live like it. Similarly, Christians are new creations whose lives are united to Christ and possessed by the Holy Spirit. Consequently, Christians are to behave like Christ.

Staying in stride with the Spirit could aptly be referred to as Spirit-controlled living. The Greek term translated “keep in step with” in 5:25 means, “to be in line with a person or thing considered as standard for one's conduct,” and can be rendered “hold to, agree with, follow, conform.” The Spirit-dwelt believer is exhorted to “behave in accordance with the Spirit” (NET).

Here are two primary indicators as to whether or not we are staying in stride with the Spirit: If His fruit is not evident in us, then we are not truly staying in stride with Him. If we are disobeying the Word He inspired, then we are not keeping in step with Him either.

A matter as central to spiritual success as this one deserves substantial attention. Let's diligently seek to discover what it means to live by the Spirit and pursue a life that knows this through firsthand daily experience.

**Notes**

**Day 5**  
**October 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Blessing Flows from Blessing!**

**Psalms 118:26a NRSV**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord....**

Simply put, blessed are the ones that see and receive the message of Christ.

**Blessed means to be fully satisfied**

To have God's favor, peace and joy regardless of outside circumstances.

Blessed is the one who takes heed of God's Word

Blessed is the one who is obedient to the Word.

Blessed is the one who forgives, for in forgiveness one finds freedom.

Are you fully satisfied?

Are you a blessing to others?

If you can't give a blessing, then be a blessing.

**Prayer:**

Father, thank you for blessing us with everything we need to be a blessing to the world in which we live. Help us dear Lord to be a light to this world and to be a blessing to others. Thank you for the grace, love and mercy you have so freely given to us. And may we reflect the same example to the world around us.

Amen.

**Notes**

**Day 6**  
**October 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**A Holy Hope**

**1 Peter 1:3- PHI (The Phillips Translation)**

**“Thank God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that in his great mercy we have been born again into a life full of hope, through Christ’s rising again from the dead!”**

In these perilous times that many would call the “last days,” it’s tempting to abandon all hope for life looking or getting any better. “This is the end; it’s not going to get better. . . the days only grow darker.” I think I’ve said it myself whilst scanning the political and geopolitical horizon with angst if not depression, as a spirit of abandon washes over me.

I am now convinced that’s not at all what a Born-Again Believers attitude should be; (1Peter 1:4-5) “You can now hope for a perfect inheritance beyond the reach of change and decay, reserved in Heaven for you. **And in the meantime** (read “right now”) you are guarded by the power of God operating through your faith, till you enter fully into the salvation which is all ready to be revealed at the last.” Basically, the very power of God is at work in you to give you a heavenward perspective. If we allow the Holy Spirit to work freely in us, we find renewed energy and focus to fulfill the great commission (Romans 8: 11) “Once the Spirit of him who raised Christ Jesus from the dead lives within you, he will, by that same Spirit, bring to your whole being, **yes even your mortal bodies new strength and vitality**. For he now lives in you.” Essentially, it doesn’t matter what day it is, how close we are to the end, or what we are facing today because we have this **Holy Hope** that God’s in control, a hope the world knows nothing of.

(1Peter 1: 6-7) “This means tremendous joy to you, even though at present you may be temporarily harassed by all kind of trials. **This is no accident** – it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold. . .” this stuff is planned? Yeah, it’s actually “planned to result in praise and glory and honor in the day when Jesus Christ reveals himself. “Christian take comfort and find Holy Hope in realizing God has a plan and He is working out His plan, every minute of your life.

**Notes**

**Day 7**  
**October 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Exiles**

I grew up, loving the idea of being an American, and still do. I count it as a great privilege to be a citizen of a nation that promotes freedom and justice for all people. I hold the freedom, wealth, and opportunity that I have in this nation as a great blessing, especially as I look at the rest of the world and its history. I appreciate the many lives that have been given for freedom and fully support those who serve to protect and keep this nation. And I value the general godly heritage of America and its benevolent attitude and action toward the needs of others around the world.

Yet as a follower of Jesus, I know that this world is not my home. I belong to the Lord and my true home is where He is. My true home is with Jesus. Oh yeah! ... In the meantime, I am here according to my Lord's purposes. This brings up the question of how then shall I live, in America?

I believe my/our situation is a lot like that of the Israelite when they were taken away from their home to the great nation of Babylon. In Babylon, they were a minority among people who served false God's and pursued immorality (huh... sounds like people in America). How did God want them to live? Should they resist at all costs, and bide their time waiting for the day of the Lord to take them home? Or should they go all in and become Babylonians? How did God want them to live?

Well, God instructed them on how they should live through a letter from his prophet Jeremiah: *"Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 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 29:4-7)*

The Israelites were to actually do life in Babylon. God also gave them two things that they needed to do toward Babylon. The first one, was to actually seek Babylon's welfare. The second one, was pray to the Lord on its behalf. This would be good for them as well, *"for in its welfare you will find your welfare."* I take it then, on principle, that this is how God want his people today to live in America. That he has for us to really live here, to seek the welfare of America and to pray to the Lord on its behalf.

Now, in the book of Daniel, we also see that during the Babylonian exile, God placed certain Israelite men in special positions in Babylon. Daniel was such a man and stood out as a leader and example of how to live in a nation that was not his own. He greatly

benefitted Babylon yet he did not adopt their ways, their values or their God's. Even when he was under great pressure (see Daniel 1-11), Daniel did not become a Babylonian. Could this be the best way for us to live today as followers of Jesus, living in and seeking to benefit and pray for America without becoming "Americans?"

## **NOTES**

**Day 8**  
**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Serving God for Nothing**

We all have our reasons for serving God, but have you ever considered serving Him for nothing? It's a question that can challenge our understanding of God's will and our own motivations. The enemy often tries to sow doubt, leading us to misunderstand God's direction, provision, and process in our lives. So, I ask you, the reader, a crucial question: **'Will you serve God for nothing?'**

Have you ever considered such a thing before? If you haven't, some of the power, influence, anointing, and motivation of your life can possibly be leveraged and twisted in your heart and mind by the enemy. The church has been misinformed in many ways to believe that serving God is all about what WE get and what God can do for us. This is a fundamental issue with why God is so misunderstood by the people of the World today with statements like this: 'If God is so loving and caring, why did this \_\_\_\_\_ bad thing happen?' This shows the motive of our hearts: we do not serve God for what we can do for Him; we serve Him for what He can do for us. I would advocate that we settle this once and for all in our prayer time. Let us, like Job, declare - No matter what happens to us, no matter what happens during the elections, I will trust the LORD. I also feel that our stand as a church and as God's people needs to be declared, as in Joshua 24:15, 'As for me and my house we will serve the Lord.' Let our prayer be today. No matter what, Lord Jesus, I will serve you with all of my heart, mind, and soul. Whether it ever benefits me or not - I WILL SERVE YOU FOR NOTHING!

**Prayer Focus:** Dear Lord, I pray that your perfect and divine will be done in all things. No matter if it goes my way or not, I will trust you. I believe you work all things out for your good to those who are called according to your purpose. Bless this nation and your people to serve you and stand behind you with the right motivation. Heal my/our heart and motive if I/we have ever misunderstood your plans, purpose, and ways.

**Notes**



**Day 9**  
**October 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Justified**

**Romans 5:1-2 ESV**

**“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”**

Through faith in Jesus, you have been *“justified”* by God. Justification is a legal statement. We are declared righteous by the One Worthy Judge, by God! Our sins are forgiven and forgotten. God no longer views us as enemies. Instead, *“we have peace with God”* because of Jesus Christ. We don’t have to live in fear anymore of God’s judgment or His wrath. The long cold winter of war is finally over for us as believers. We are ushered into *“peace”*.

As believers we wrestle with living a feeling-based faith instead of a fact-based faith. The truth is we don’t always feel at peace. As we will discuss at length here, we will all go through periods of drought and doubt. We struggle, we wrestle, sometimes even with God.

However, our justification is based on God’s decision, and He doesn’t change His mind. He made a choice to love, forgive and cleanse us; that is a fact. Rather than being driven and tossed by the storms of life, we need to place our faith in the fact of His decision to love and redeem us. When we don’t feel like He is near, or like we have failed too much, we need to remember His eternal choice to love us...no matter what. We have been *“justified”* by God and we are at *“peace”* with Him.

**“Access”**. Not only do we have *“peace with God”*, but through Jesus we have *“obtained access”* to God as well. In Hebrews 10:19-22 we find that we are allowed to boldly approach the very throne of God. The veil separating the holy of holies has been torn in two because Jesus, our High Priest, has made the final sacrifice for sin. His blood has sprinkled the mercy seat of a new covenant. Now as sinners we have *“access”* into His literal presence.

Revelation 8:3-4 says each prayer we offer up literally ascends into the very throne room of God the Father as sweet incense. God desires to be with us. He gave His lifeblood to make it possible. He is so motivated to make it happen He offers us *“access”* for free. Take a moment to offer a prayer of gratitude for the *“access”* you have in Christ.

**“Grace”.** When we approach the Lord, we can even *“stand”* confidently before Him because God is the God of *“grace”*. Do we deserve to *“stand”*? Absolutely not! But through faith in Christ, we are totally forgiven and completely cleansed. Through His amazing grace, we are free now to stand in His presence because the Father sees us clothed in the righteousness of Jesus. Take a few moments to thank the Father for His grace.

**“Rejoice”.** When we realize through faith we are at *“peace with God”*, have *“obtained access”* to God and that we can *“graciously stand”* before Him, it should cause us to *“rejoice”*.

Rejoice means to take great joy or delight in something. More specifically it means to keep experiencing joy over something. To re-joy, and re-joy and re-joy again. It is incredible! May the good news bring a smile to our face, and radiance to our complexion, emanating from a joyful heart.

**“Hope”.** What are we *“rejoicing”* about? Because of God’s work in our lives, we have *“hope”*. We know for certain we have eternity with Him, and we await this day with fervent desire and great confidence. Where should we focus our *“hope”*?

Fixate it on the **“glory of God”**. We don’t *“hope”* in ourselves, our paychecks, our reputation, our retirement. No, our hope is in Almighty God, who made heaven and earth. He is all-powerful, ever-present, full of truth and faithfulness. No circumstance, no suffering, will ever remove His love from us. Not even death can conquer His purpose in us. We have been set free. Amen!

## Notes

**Day 10**  
**October 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**The Joy of the Lord is Our Strength**

**Nehemiah 8:10 NLT**

**"Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don't be dejected and sad, for the joy of the LORD is your strength!"**

Today, like in the days of Nehemiah there is a sorrow, a sadness and dejection that seems to affect us all. In Nehemiah's day the people had lost the "joy of the Lord". We have as well. The people were under constant threat from their enemies as they embarked on rebuilding the walls around Jerusalem. It was so intense that they would work double shifts to complete it. Half the day they would work, and the other half would keep guard for those working. You can imagine the intensity and pressure of the situation. All which lead to Nehemiah's statement, "Do not sorrow, for the Joy of the Lord is our strength."

Today you may feel the pressure of life closing in, that sorrow that grips your soul. The constant and relentless trials, family pressure, work, relationships, or just the weight of all that is going on in our world today. Like the people of Nehemiah's day, you might be ready to give up and run away just to get out from under the stress. Your strength is all but gone and you don't know what to do.

The answer is found in the strength that comes from joy. It's not a "joy" in going through the trials, but a "joy" in knowing the one who leads you through the trials. Let me say that again. Joy is not in going through trials but knowing the one who leads you through the trials. Paul said in Romans 15:13, *"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."* You and I have HOPE! When we understand and put to practice this idea that our hope lies in God alone... the natural outcome is joy and peace.

We can learn a valuable truth regarding joy in an encounter Jesus had with his disciples in Luke 10:20. Jesus said, *"do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."* The disciples were so excited that the spirits were subject to them. But Jesus knew it would be short lived. The joy they had in the moment would not last. Jesus wanted them to learn true joy. True Joy that we can have in every circumstance, is to know "your name is written in heaven". That should give us joy, beyond joy.

Paul said in Philippians 4:4, *“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!”* Joy is an outcome of rejoicing. We can rejoice that our names are written in heaven! No one can change this, not even our circumstances. We too can say with Nehemiah, “the Joy of the Lord is our strength.”

In Nehemiah, the people were instructed to celebrate with feasts and share gifts. We as the church should be celebrating that our names are written in heaven. We should be giving the lost and the hopeless rich food and sweet gifts of hope that we have found in Jesus our savior.

The world needs to see true joy. You and I have access to it. The question is, will we live in it. No matter what the future may bring we can have joy because our names are written in heaven!

## **Notes**

**Day 11**  
**October 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Salt**

What do you think about salt? I like salty food, as long as it's not too salty. Salt really brings out the flavor in many foods, but I don't eat it on its own. Yuk!

Did you know that historically, salt has been a very precious commodity. It's not just because it makes food taste better. In the ancient world, salt was an essential as a preservative. Without a source of refrigeration, salt was the means of keeping meat from decaying. The ancients rubbed down meat and fish to preserve it for regular use. Salt was so important in the ancient world that wars were fought over it, and entire economies were based on it. In short, salt could literally make the difference between life and death in a time when fresh food was unavailable.

Jesus used salt as a word picture. Matthew 5:13 records Jesus telling his followers, "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet."

What is saltless salt good for? Nothing

But what is salty salt good for? Improving flavor and preserving from decay.

What's my point. Well, if you are like me, you are deeply saddened by the misery and moral decay of the culture that we are temporarily living in. Is there any hope? Is there any way to make things better? I say yes, salt. We need more salt in the world, that is we need more of those that Jesus calls "you" in Matthew 5:13. This "you" is you if you are a true follower of Jesus like me. The problem with us being salt, as Jesus says, is that we can lose our saltiness and be good for nothing in making this world better.

Personally, I don't hold the world fully to blame for being so increasingly tasteless and corrupt, it is the way of the vicious and deceptive master they were born under. Is each individual responsible for their sin? Of course! But that doesn't mean that they have the ability to resist the ways of the world nor it's master. They don't.

But then Jesus came and provided the way for people to be born again under the rule of a loving master. Now those who live under this loving master, do you have the power to resist the world and its master and they are the salt of the earth. As I see it, the world should be getting better not worse. It sure looks like it is getting worse. **There must be something wrong with the salt.** We are the ones that God has here to give good flavor to and preserve the world from decay and it is not happening as it should be. Why? I think it is because we look and often act just like the people of the world, that is we have lost our saltiness.

How do we be salty salt, making this world purer? I really don't think that God want us to be in their faces... salt in the face hurts. No, salt is effective when it is in direct contact with the meat. I think God wants us to be in and around them living out our new natures of love, hope, peace, kindness, goodness and... well, you get the idea.

What do you say? Are you up for it? Let's live for our master and ask him to make us be salt that is salty through the power of the Holy Spirit so that we can make this world a better, tastier and healthier place.

## **Notes**

**Day 12**  
**October 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pressing Towards the Goal**

**Philippians 3:12-14 NLT**

**“I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”**

We know we have a hope and a future because of Jesus. That hope and future is what we press forward toward every day. But there is a more immediate pressing that we must embrace, a pressing onto godliness. When others say, you are doing great, when the world says, you don’t need to be so steadfast about this God thing. We can have a mixture of world, flesh and Jesus and we say I am fine. What does God say?

The Bible tells us Enoch walked with God, Enoch pleased God it is telling us Enoch’s devotion to God was so intense that it changed his behavior. His relationship with God changed his conduct, his language, everything he did pleased God. We cannot build Christian behavior, conduct, language without a deep foundation of a life devoted to God.

Devotion consists of the fear of God, the love for God, the desire for God. We should ask ourselves, on a consistent basis, is my heart devoted to God? Not how many conferences I have been to, not the number of times a week I am in church, all important for sure but do not offer the full gauge of devotion.

We cannot be cultural Christians. People may say yes, I’m a believer but that doesn’t mean they follow Jesus Christ. A cultural Christian will not be in unity with the plan of God for His church. Is my life so devoted to God that my life becomes a beacon for all to see. Or does my life have many places that say it is okay to act and be like the world as long as Jesus is my Lord. You can’t press into the call on your life, that call is first living and speaking like the King. We can’t be speaking poorly about other Christians or churches and then say I am devoted.

### **Points to Ponder**

Do you long for God? Do you fear God? Is He your everything?

We all have a call on our lives, a call of devotion. Be honest, are you devoted to Him and Him alone?

May we pray that God would strengthen us so we can be united for the cause of Christ.

### **Prayer Focus:**

God, thank you for loving me when I am unlovely. Thank you for continuing to pursue a relationship with me even when I don't put You first in my life. Guide me, help me to pursue you first in every place in my life. I need Your help so I can be filled with a desire for You. Use me Lord to be a light of unity in my community. In Jesus Name, Amen.

### **Notes**



**Day 13**  
**October 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**We Need Another Awakening**

Never in our history has the United States and the world needed an awakening to the things of God. We have indeed fallen into the patterns of the Church of Laodicea and slowly become lukewarm and complacent. The First Great Awakening was a period when spirituality and religious devotion were revived and awakened within large groups of society all at once. This Great Awakening, which swept through the American colonies between the 1730s and 1770s, profoundly impacted society. The revival of Protestant beliefs was part of a much broader movement that was taking place in England, Scotland, and Germany at the exact same time. Many different preachers spoke under the power and conviction of the Holy Spirit, where massive groups of society confessed their sins and devoted themselves to Christ. The movement was popular in Europe but even more popular in the American colonies. Tens of thousands of non-religious colonists were converted and filled with the Holy Spirit's power; bars, taverns, brothels, government offices, and schools started closing or having evening revival services within their buildings. This greatly impacted church attendance, workplaces, entertainment, and colleges. It's an understatement to say the world was literally turned upside down by a wave of God's presence and holy conviction. As we seek the Lord in prayer, may that again be the church's heart cry. Lord, send us an awakening that changes people and cultures and pushes back evil by your Holy conviction.

**Prayer Focus:**

Lord, we need an awakening of your anointing and power again around the globe. We pray today for a desire to be released throughout the land so that your people can see your spirit, power, and conviction move upon us once again. We desire you and your presence in this United States of America. Come, Lord Jesus, and heal our land.

**Notes:**

**Day 14**  
**October 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Being Right**

**Acts 14:15-17 ESV**

**“Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup>In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. <sup>17</sup>Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”**

Acts 14 is an interesting read. Human nature has not changed. Instead of doing what was ‘right in the sight of the Lord’ the Greeks and Jews were stirred up in their minds; the Apostle Paul had to remind them to return to the living God.

Not only choosing to think and desiring to do what is upright is vital, but BEING in a right relationship with a living God is still God’s mandate and command for the nations. As we enter the “Election” season, let us consider the privilege that God has given to us to remain in right standing and “be His witness” by receiving a shower of His blessing as we acknowledge the righteousness that He extends to us.

Isaiah spoke these words of exhortation to a rebellious and wayward nation of his time, *“Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout; I the LORD have created it. “*

(Isaiah 45:8). Pardon this pun, but today may we cry out to our dry and weary land, “Lord reign on us! We want to live out *Your Righteousness* to this nation.”

**Thought for the day:** Consider the ways you open your life and allow His blessings to SOAK in so that you can bear fruit to those in your sphere of influence.

**Notes**

**Day 15**  
**October 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**Fix Your Eyes on Jesus**

God has been challenging me lately on how I handle problems. My first response is to come up with a game plan as soon as a problem arises. I want to figure out the root of the problem, identify the parties involved and create/implement solutions. However, I have been convicted lately that sometimes I start glorifying the problem more than glorifying the God who can solve it. The song Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus has become very real. The chorus states:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full into his wonderful face  
And the things of the earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of his glory and grace

I am not suggesting we completely ignore the problems we face but I am strongly encouraging each of us to turn our eyes upon Jesus every time. I have some very recent experience applying this and have found problems have grown dim in the light of our Savior. We can get so caught up in the problems of this world that we lose sight of what really matters. Colossians 3:1-2 states “Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.” We have been commanded as believers in Christ to dwell on what is eternal. I challenge each of you to keep track of how much time you spend on earthly things verses eternal. I think you will find, like I did, this is a moment-by-moment battle in which we must train our minds to dwell on the eternal. Our mission at Crosspoint Christian School is to provide a Christ-centered education, biblically developing the entire student – spirit, mind, and body. Our mission is to reach the lost hearts and minds of students and then disciple them through the realm of education. I deal with a wide variety of problems on a daily basis and have decided recently to evaluate each problem as it arises to determine if it is eternal or earthly. The problems that could have an eternal impact on the hearts and minds of our students deserve my full attention. Earthly problems can be placed on the back burner and as the song says, “And the things of the earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.” Let us as the spiritual leaders of Klamath Falls be united in fixing our eyes upon Jesus in every problem we face..... Stand United!

**Notes**

**Day 16**  
**October 31<sup>th</sup>**  
**It Starts with Revelation**

**Mark 4:35-41 ESV**

**On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.”<sup>36</sup> And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.<sup>37</sup> And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.<sup>38</sup> But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”<sup>39</sup> And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.<sup>40</sup> He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?”<sup>41</sup> And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”**

This is a passage of revelation. Revelation always starts with invitation. God will never crash your life, but he will always invite you to his. In this passage Jesus invited the disciples to get into the boat with Him and go to the other side. Jesus is inviting you to go the other side with him. This is where things get tough, for all of us. When Jesus says follow me, he is asking you to join him in the boat and go to the other side, he is asking you to leave all of the stuff on the shore behind us. Our relationship with Jesus was never meant to be static, it was meant to be dynamic, moving, growing. The idea of following Jesus is more than saying I am a Christian, or I follow Jesus, we actually have to do that in our thoughts, our words and our actions, how we love, and how we respond. Following Jesus requires a radical commitment. When Jesus said, let’s go across to the other side, he was inviting them to join him on a journey of faith and growth.

In a world that is focused on experience, Jesus is asking you to “Get in the boat and follow him.” Now what he can do for you, but him. Do you choose to follow Jesus for what he can do or for who he is? Who he is, is the foundation for what he can do. As followers of Jesus our deceleration should be, “I am here to be radically committed to Jesus and follow him.”

Look at Jesus as the storm is coming up. He is asleep in the front of the boat; Jesus is wiped out. The storm got so bad the disciples began to fear for their lives. And Jesus is still sleeping. Jesus was so confident in his relationship with the father that he was sleeping through the storm. The disciples wake him up, he calms the storm and asks them why are you so afraid? Jesus is asking us that very question now. As the storms

rage around us, as the world turns darker and darker, Jesus is asking, “Why are you afraid?” What Jesus is really doing is reminding us that we are not alone in the boat, he is with us, he gets it, he gets us because he has been in the storm.

As the storm rages around us, as many are fearful for the outcome of an election and beyond, we can take a posture of rest, you won't be able to change the outcome of an election, a storm or issue, but we can stand on 2 Timothy 1:7 that tells us that we have the spirit of God in us, the same spirit that was present at creation, the same spirit that raised Jesus from the dead is the same spirit that was given to us. A spirit that gives us the ability to rest in the storm.

No matter what happens in this life, we do not have to be fearful of the storm because our foundation is Jesus and the Word. Choose to say to the storm, “Peace be still” and take a posture of rest, not of fear.

## **Notes**

**Day 17**  
**November 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Confront with Love**

**2 Timothy 2:23–26 ESV**

**Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. [24] And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, [25] correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, [26] and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.**

Obviously, Paul penned the words above after seeing a vision of the United States in the 21st century...or maybe not. Maybe people are always drawn to foolish, ignorant controversies. Maybe people have always become quarrelsome when they see what they perceive to be a lie.

God has chosen you, his servant, to be kind to people who are wrong. Teach them with patience. Endure their insults. Correct them with gentleness. Paul doesn’t say, “keep quiet.” He doesn’t say to ignore all manner of error. That’s because there are two types of lies which breed quarrels.

The first, is the foolish, ignorant lie. I’ve heard a few: microchips in vaccines, the earth is flat, and the United States government was behind 9/11. Have nothing to do with those. Even bringing them up here seems dangerous.

The second, far more dangerous lie is the one intended to hide evil. I am shocked, saddened, and angered by these lies. They flood the airwaves, go viral on TikTok, and infect the minds even of the people of God. When you come across these, and you will often, be kind. Correct those who are deceived with gentleness and love. Pray for them and for others like them. Be honest when you hear these lies from your own brothers and sisters in Christ. Don’t stay quiet, but engage one another in humility. Satan wants to divide us. Our only hope at maintaining unity is to recognize his tricks and overcome them with kindness, patience, and gentleness. A call for unity is synonymous with a call for humility and prayer. I would encourage you to take some time in this moment to pray against the lies that surround us, to pray for brothers and sisters who don’t see the truth, and to pray for your own heart; that you would stay humble as you seek the truth. Perhaps God will lead all of us to a knowledge of the truth.

**Notes**

**Day 18**  
**November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Prayer for Elected Officials**

**Ephesians 6:12 (NRSVUE)**

**“For our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”**

**1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NRSVUE)**

**“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”**

Praying for elected officials instead of against them can be a meaningful way to seek positive outcomes and foster unity, regardless of your personal opinions about their policies or actions. Here are some ideas on how to pray constructively for elected officials:

**1. Pray for Wisdom and Discernment**

Ask for divine wisdom to guide leaders in making decisions that benefit the common good for all. Pray that they have discernment to lead with morality, justice, fairness, and compassion.

**2. Pray for Humility and Integrity**

Pray that elected officials act with humility, placing the needs of their constituents above personal or political gain. Integrity is crucial for just leadership, so you can ask that they remain honest and true to their commitments.

**3. Pray for Protection and Strength**

The weight of leadership can be overwhelming. Praying for protection, both physical and emotional, can be beneficial. Ask that they find strength to persevere through challenges and lead with resilience.

**4. Pray for Unity and Cooperation**

Pray for collaboration between leaders across political divides, and that they work together for the betterment of the people they serve. Unity and cooperation are vital for a functioning government.

### **5. Pray for Justice and Compassion**

Pray that leaders will be guided by a sense of justice, morality and compassion, particularly for the marginalized and vulnerable members of society.

### **6. Pray for Personal Growth and Well-being**

Leaders are people too, and they face personal struggles and challenges. Pray for their well-being, personal growth, and the health of their families.

### **7. Pray for the People They Serve**

You can also pray for the citizens and communities that are impacted by leadership decisions. Pray that the outcomes of leaders' decisions reflect the will of the people and serve the greater good.

#### **Application:**

Praying for elected officials fosters a growth of love, unity, and positive civic engagement. It shifts one's mindset from frustration to empathy, promoting understanding and reducing societal tension. Praying for our elected leaders encourages constructive action and spiritual responsibility, acknowledging that ultimate control lies beyond human hands. By seeking wisdom, compassion, moral compass and justice for leaders, individuals contribute to a healthier political environment and set a positive example for others. Ultimately, praying for leaders helps build bridges, strengthens our republic and promotes a way forward for the common good.

#### **Prayer Focus:**

God, I pray that our leaders are granted wisdom and understanding to navigate the complexities of their roles with insight and clarity. Grant our leaders the humility to serve others before themselves and the integrity to lead honorably and truthfully. Protect our leaders from harm and give them the strength and courage to lead with conviction, even in difficult times. Lord, help our leaders work together in unity, setting aside differences to find solutions that benefit everyone. Instill in our leaders a sense of morality, justice and compassion, so they may care for those who are most in need and ensure equality in their policies. Lord, bless our leaders with personal peace and well-being. May they grow in character and love, and may their families be supported and protected. Father, I pray for the people our leaders serve. Let their needs be heard and met, and may the decisions made reflect equality for all.

#### **Notes:**



**Day 19**  
**November 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**The Place Our Voice is Found**

**John 19:23-25 NLT**

**<sup>23</sup> When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes among the four of them. They also took his robe, but it was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. <sup>24</sup> So they said, “Rather than tearing it apart, let’s throw dice for it.” This fulfilled the Scripture that says, “They divided my garments among themselves and threw dice for my clothing.” So that is what they did. <sup>25</sup> Standing near the cross were Jesus’ mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene.**

We are all a part of many communities, your church community, your friends, possibly your job, to name a few, they all create some type of environment that brings us together. Community is defined like this- a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. Something that is supposed to bring us together, for many people in community, it has pushed us apart. What if we are looking at community the wrong way? What if true, authentic, unifying community does not start in our churches, our jobs, but it started at the foot of the cross? When you read about the crucifixion of Christ it is easy to overlook what is happening around the cross. Around the cross we see people, many of which would not ever think about being in the same place like they were. We had women, poor people, soldiers, wealthy and powerful people, religious people, Roman citizens, Jews all in the vicinity of the cross.

In a time when most of these people would not be in the same place together, they came together at the foot of the cross, the community that the cross creates is not about anything more than people. The community that was started at the foot of cross over 2,000 years ago was incredibly radical then, and it is radical now.

The community that the cross creates requires radical commitment. Not to a political party, or a person, or even a theology. The community the cross creates requires us to be radically committed to Jesus. We cannot build the radical community of the cross at the foot or altar of controversy, a cause or issue, a political ideology, even a political party. The radical community the cross built is built at the foot of the cross, on the altar of self. Now more than ever we need a church that is gathering at the foot of the cross, putting our distinctives aside and committing to radically following Jesus. When Jesus said to Peter and Andrew, “Come follow me!” he was not asking them to follow an ideology, party, organization, he said, “Come follow ME!” Our culture needs a voice that

is found at the foot of the cross, our culture needs a church community that is about Jesus, his love and Holiness. The world needs a community that uses its voice that is found at the cross to reveal a Father who loves them and desires relationship with them.

**Prayer Focus:**

Lord, show me the things that are preventing me from becoming a part of the community the cross creates. When people see me, I pray they see you, not my politics, not my church, not my theology, but you. I invite you to search me and reveal anything that is preventing me from truly and radically following you. Show us (me) how to build a community that when people see it, they see your love, your grace and your power.

**Notes:**

**Day 20**  
**November 4th**  
**Trusting God in Election Uncertainty**

As we approach the upcoming elections, feelings of anxiety and uncertainty can easily overwhelm us. The future seems uncertain, and the stakes feel incredibly high. In these moments, it's essential to turn our hearts and minds to the truth found in Philippians 4:6-7:

**"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."**

These verses remind us that in the face of anxiety, we are called to bring everything before God in prayer. During this the election season anxiety and tension can run high. So, instead of allowing worry to take control, we can turn to our Heavenly Father in prayer, who offers us a peace that surpasses all understanding. As we go through this season of elections, let us anchor ourselves in this promise, that God's peace will guard our hearts and minds.

Here is what Jesus had to say about worry:

**Matthew 6:25-27, NIV**

**"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"**

As we approach the upcoming elections, it's natural for concerns and anxieties to arise. The direction of our country, the future of our communities, and the well-being of our families all seem to hang in the balance. Yet, in the midst of this uncertainty, Jesus' words in Matthew 6:25-33 offer a powerful reminder to place our trust not in earthly systems, but in our Heavenly Father.

Jesus begins by addressing the anxiety that often grips our hearts when we feel our future is uncertain. The elections can be a source of significant stress as we wonder about the outcome and how it will impact our lives. But Jesus tells us not to worry about our lives, because God knows our needs. Just as He provides for the birds of the air and clothes the flowers of the field, He will also take care of us.

During election season, it's easy to become consumed by debates, campaigns, and the potential consequences of the results. I am not saying these things are not necessary we just can't allow it to take our focus off our task at hand making Disciples for Christ return is imminent. Jesus points out that our Father in heaven knows exactly what we need it is this truth that frees us from the burden of worry, and allows us to focus on what truly matters: seeking God's kingdom and His righteousness.

Amid the political noise and the competing voices vying for our attention, Jesus calls us to seek first His kingdom. This doesn't mean we ignore our civic responsibilities or disengage from the process. Rather, it means that our primary focus should be on living out the values of God's kingdom—justice, mercy, humility, and love. When we prioritize God's kingdom, He promises that everything else will fall into place.

**Application:**

As we approach the elections, let's remember that our ultimate hope does not lie in a political party or candidate, but in God. Let's engage in the process with faith, not fear, knowing that God is sovereign over all things. Instead of allowing worry to take root in our hearts, let's commit to prayer, asking God to guide our nation according to His will and purpose.

Let this passage remind us to trust in God's provision and plan. Our task is to seek His kingdom and trust that He will take care of the rest. No matter the outcome, God remains on the throne, and His love for us is steadfast and unchanging.

**Prayer Focus:**

Heavenly Father, as we face the uncertainty of the upcoming elections, help us to place our trust in You. Remind us that You are our provider and that You hold all things in Your hands. Give us the peace that surpasses understanding and help us to seek Your kingdom above all else. May Your will be done in our nation, and may we be instruments of Your love and justice in this world. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

**Notes:**

**Day 21**  
**November 5th**  
**How Can I Love the Others?**

**Ephesians 2:14-16 ESV**

**14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility [15] by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, [16] and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.**

Confession time: I wrestle with my relationship to American politics. On the one hand, I believe that Christ is so much bigger than my country or my preferred political party. No matter what happens, God is still in control. If I am walking by faith, then I will recognize that political matters are relatively insignificant, ever-changing, and earthly. On the other hand, the other candidate said what?! That's unchristian!

*"True Christians cannot vote for THEM!!!"*

There may be contexts where a statement like this is true, but even if it were, the very thought puts up a dividing wall of hostility in my heart based on something other than Christ. At the church in Ephesus in the first century, similar statements were spoken often. The specifics were different, but the sentiments were the same. "True followers of Adonai would never allow the uncircumcised to worship alongside the rest of us!" "I can't believe they eat meat that's been sacrificed to idols!" "They're Sabbath-Breakers!"

The bitterness we hold in our hearts towards others who think differently has plagued the Church since the beginning. As we each struggle to love each other in spite of our differences, let us take note that the secular world is watching. However passionately and intensely we discuss our values, priorities, church policies, or politics with fellow believers, let us do so "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Eph 4:2-3)

I imagine some people responding: But pastor, how do I do that when my brother or sister is so obviously and totally wrong?! It is not easy, but it is simple: let your desire to maintain the unity of the Spirit be greater than your desire to be right. Let your desire for fellowship and a love for the kingdom be so strong that unity under the headship of Christ becomes the only dividing wall. This doesn't mean that we ignore disagreements or pretend that important political matters are trivial. It means we remember to keep first things first. Glorifying God was, is, and always will be our greatest aim. The only true threat to democracy is the end of the unity of the Christian Church. If the body of

Christ stays together through these crazy times, I expect we'll see miracles, transformation, and revival in every corner of our hurting nation. So, hug someone on the other side of the aisle. Take them out for coffee or lunch. Pray for one another. Let the temporal powers that threaten to divide us fall by the wayside. Let's be like Christ and make peace.

**Prayer Focus:**

Lord show me how to love those that have different theology than I do, that have different political ideologies than I do, that vote differently than I do. Lord help me to see them as you do, as people, as people in need of a savior and as people who are worthy of honor and respect because you decided they were worth it when you went to Cross. Lord replace my eyes of flesh with eyes of the spirit that see their value.

**Notes:**

## Conclusion

Every pastor or ministry leader who contributed to this devotional book is listed below. Each leader and pastor see the unity of the local church and ministries as foundational to the success of the Gospel in the basin and beyond. To keep the spirit of unity each of the authors is listed below instead of being identified on their devotion. As we close these 21 days, we would ask you to keep these churches, ministries, their pastors and their leaders in your prayers as we work together to reveal the Love of Jesus to the basin.

Pastor Jim Boyd.....Refuge City Church

Pastor Clay Bynum .....Life Recovery Network

Pastor Gary Cheaney..... New Horizon Christian Fellowship

Pastor Kevin Drake.....Thrive Church

Pat Haggerty..... Basin Youth for Christ (Merril, Malin and Tulelake)

Vicki Kaber..... Executive Director- Klamath Falls Gospel Mission

Pastor Kevin Kroeker.....Bible Baptist Church

Pastor John Kupitz.....United Church

Pastor George LeDoux.....Williamson River Christian Fellowship

Kevin Rice.....Head Administrator - Crosspoint Christian School

Pastor Denny Roberts..... Foothills Christian Fellowship

Pastor Troy Roberts.....Foothills Christian Fellowship

Pastor Chris Sherwood.....United Church

Steven Snyder.....Executive Director- Child Evangelism Fellowship