

**KING OF KINGS  
LENTEN DEVOTIONAL**



**2025**

# LENT & HOLY WEEK

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## **Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner**

March 4th, 5:00–7:30pm

## **Ash Wednesday Service**

March 5th, 6:15pm

## **Mid-Week Lenten Suppers**

March 12–April 9, 5:00pm

## **Mid-Week Lent Worship**

March 12–April 9, 6:15pm

## **Palm Sunday**

April 13, 9:30am & 10:45am

## **Maundy Thursday**

April 17, 5:30pm & 7:00pm

## **Good Friday**

April 18, 6:15pm

## **Easter Sunday**

April 20, 7:30am, 9:00am & 10:30am



# SHAPING TOMORROW

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While starting with good intentions, it is often the case that we fail to properly equip ourselves for the task ahead. For me, it sometimes feels like I'm jumping in without the right mindset, I end up feeling unprepared, and it's like I've failed before I even started.

It's like waking up in a bad mood, when everything feels off before the day even begins. Maybe you're being impacted by something that's been on your mind or you're carrying stress from the day before.

That's why the Shaping Tomorrow Devotion is meant to be read the night before—so we can take a moment to reflect and plan for what we'll focus on the next day.

Tonight as you read, pray over Psalm 4:8: "I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety."

May you experience a sense of calm and peace that only comes from the Lord.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon Larson

# THANK YOU

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Thank you Men's Ministry Team and Women's Ministry Team for contributing prayers.

The breath prayers in this devotional were provided by Pastor Amelia.

Wednesday, March 5

# RISE AND SHINE

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*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

*—Psalm 118:24*

**T**here was a song that we often sang during our summer Vacation Bible School program that invited us to start the day right, it begins, “Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory. Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory children of the Lord.” My favorite part was the line that went, “the animals they went on, they went on by two-sies two-sies, elephants and kangaroosies, roo-sies.” Kind of makes you smile doesn’t it?

Read and reflect on Isaiah 60:1

*Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

How am I beginning the day with a word and mindset of praise?

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**Lord, as I look to a brand new day, may I rise and give you the glory and let my light shine brightly. May I rejoice and be glad in all that you have given me and call me to do for your glory. Amen. —Laurel Bornholtz**

# HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON

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*Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near.*

*—Romans 13:11-12a*

**B**efore heading to bed, we often take a moment to think about what awaits us the next day— so we set an alarm.

Yet it never fails, after we have wrestled with our pillows all night and they finally cooperate, the alarm goes off. To add insult to injury perhaps it's a bit rainy or cold outside and your covers have never felt so comfortable. All you want to do is stay in your little "cocoon of bliss." So you think to yourself, "just a few more minutes" and hit the snooze button.

When it comes to our walk of faith, where are we hitting the spiritual snooze button? Where have we been pushing off our walk of faith in terms of our prayer and devotional life, time spent serving and caring for others as well as time spent at worship?

Tonight get a devotional ready for the morning. Don't know where to start? Pick a number between 1 and 150 and then open the book of Psalms. See what the Holy Spirit is sharing with you today.

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**Breathe in...Lord, I am prone to hit the snooze button  
Breathe out...Let me awaken to the joy of life in you.**

Friday, March 7

## WAKING UP ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BED

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*But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.*

– Lamentations 3:21-26

**W**hether you sleep on the right side, left side or right smack dab in the middle of the bed, we're all creatures of habit and typically get out on the same side of the bed. It can often feel a bit strange kicking our feet over the edge of the bed on the opposite side!

No matter what awaits you tomorrow, how are you preparing for your day in the Lord? How are you aligning your heart and spirit to God's will and seeking His presence, power and provision for the day? Take a moment to review your day and before your feet even touch the floor tomorrow, pray over specific concerns, meetings, times conversations, projects, tasks, etc. Ask God to move through your schedule as only He can.

Listen to the chorus We the Kingdom "Miracle Power"

<https://youtu.be/G34da6LqLPY?feature=shared>



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Hello Lord— here we go! So much to do to prepare for this wonderful season. Help me to always keep You front and center in this time of hurry up. I give thanks each day that You are present in my life and have given me family and friends to get ready for. I know that You are beside me always and will guide me through. Amen. –Sandy Bruckner

## BYTE SIZED VS BITE SIZED

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*Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. – Psalm 119:97-105*

**T**he first thing most of us do first thing in the morning is reach for our phones to check the news, social media or to play a certain game to wake up.

Think about what you're consuming throughout the day, from the time you wake up to the time you go to bed. Are there things that give life or take life from you? Is it something that can truly satisfy or is it something that keeps you longing for more, brings you down or keeps you stuck?

Be mindful of the content that you're consuming throughout the day tomorrow. Avoid those things that tend to trip you up.

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**Father God, it is true. Your Word of Jesus Christ serves the purpose of life like a lamp cutting through the darkness. But still, Lord, I need your reminding Spirit every day— redirecting my steps with your wisdom. Come Holy Spirit and empower me to boldly walk in the light of your cross that marches over the darkness of any despair. Amen. –Pastor Dan Clites**

Sunday, March 9th

# SKIP THE CAFFEINE

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*For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.*

*-2 Timothy 1:6-7*

Some of us couldn't imagine starting the day without a coffee first thing in the morning. Let's face it, many of us grew up hearing the jingle, "The best part of waking up is Folgers in your cup."

Whether it's a coffee from home or from a coffee shop (for like \$10 I might add), we're quick to reach for that quick pick me up to jumpstart our day or maybe even to get us through our day.

Yet what if we were intentional about starting our day a bit differently and to get our energy elsewhere?

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**Prayer Prompt: Pray for God's Holy Spirit to renew your energy and spirit. Pray that God would rekindle the gift of the Holy Spirit that is within you.**



# EAT AN ELEPHANT

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*Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. – Psalm 90:14*

**H**ow do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time.

Instead of being overwhelmed by the laundry list of tasks that need to get done and trying to tackle the whole day all at once, what one thing can you tackle tomorrow? Is there something on your to-do list that keeps lurking in the back of your mind and needling at you? Be intentional about how you start your day. It may be as easy as making the bed.

Take a moment to organize your thoughts tonight in preparation for tomorrow. Perhaps it won't be as overwhelming.

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**Breathe in...Gracious Lord...**

**Breathe out...Keep me focused on one thing at a time.**

Tuesday, March 11

# EAT A WORM

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*Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.*

*–Philippians 2:4*

**W**e often wait for big events to show our appreciation to someone, or we think we have time to catch up.

“The early bird gets the worm” is a saying that speaks about getting a jumpstart on the day. Instead of focusing on ourselves, what would it mean to focus on how we can bless someone else’s day?

Plan on waking up early tomorrow and tackle something that would bless someone else. It can be a handwritten note, a phone call, or organizing a drawer (just don’t decide to vacuum at 5:30 a.m.).

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**Father God, let my first thought of the day be of you and how I may glorify you this day. Prepare my heart and mind to share the joy I have been blessed with from you. Send me forth in humbleness as your servant to reach others with your message of love. Amen. –Joey Johnson**

# EAT A FROG

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*I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

*– Philippians 4:13*

Chances are, we leave the most uncomfortable, challenging or unpleasant task until the end or keep pushing it down the line.

For example, when shoveling, I tend to leave the heavy sludge at the end of the driveway until last. At that point however, I'm already spent. But what if it was the first thing I tackle when I'm still fresh, energized and my back isn't already strained?

So what if we started the day by eating a frog?

The phrase, "Eat the Frog" comes from a quote attributed to Mark Twain which says, "If it's your job to eat a frog, it's best to do it first thing in the morning. And if it's your job to eat two frogs, it's best to eat the biggest one first." It's a metaphor for doing the most challenging or unpleasant thing first thing in the morning in order to make the rest of the day easier.

Look at your to-do list for tomorrow and tackle the thing that seems to be the most overwhelming while you're still fresh.

How does today's verse encourage you today?

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**Breathe in...Strengthening Spirit, fill me with determination...**  
**Breathe out ...To tackle the hard things today.**

Thursday, March 13

# BRUSH YOUR TONGUE

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*Rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*

*–Proverbs 12:18*

Perhaps I'm dating myself, but there was an old cartoon on School House Rock that taught kids how to brush their teeth entitled "Yuck Mouth." This green monster would sing, "They call me Yuck Mouth, cause I don't brush. I like my teeth like this" and he proudly points to four decaying teeth. He then continues singing, "They call me Yuck Mouth, no I won't brush— how's about a little kiss" and as he gives the screen a smooch a green smog comes out of his mouth to indicate his bad breath. Proudly he continues to sing, "I got some beef in my teeth and some chicken too" and as he points to his tooth he says, "Ouch that's a cavity! Hey, that's new! Well if you don't brush your teeth, then you too can be a yuck mouth."

Being aware of our hygiene is important but so is the tone of our words. Tomorrow let's be truly mindful of our words. Just like brushing your teeth after every meal, hit the reset button throughout the day.

Where do I need to speak a word of grace? Where do I need to speak a word of forgiveness? Where do I need to receive something someone else is saying rather than thinking about my next argument?

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**Dear Lord, By Your Word You brought all things into existence and in Your image, you created us with the ability to use our words to create and to destroy. Help me to use my words to breathe hope into others' situations, to encourage them, to bring healing, and to glorify You. In Jesus name I pray. Amen. –Laura Griffith**

## DON'T MIX ORANGE JUICE & TOOTHPASTE

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*For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. –James 3:16-17*

**W**hile brushing our teeth and drinking a glass of orange juice in the morning are both good for us, the combination can leave a bad taste in our mouths. Sometimes we do the right things for the wrong reasons. Be mindful of our motives tomorrow.

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**Blessed are you, Father God, King of the Universe! I declare today that trusting you is the only way to remove disorder and chaos that leads to wickedness– in me and around me. I need your cross-wisdom, so I ask for it again today. I desire to be a product of your Fruit of the Spirit– impacting people and places around me today with your glory. Amen.**

**–Pastor Dan Clites**

Saturday, March 15

# REMEMBER WHOSE YOU ARE

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*26for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

*– Galatians 3:26-27*

**M**uch like hopping into a shower to get clean, we are washed anew each day. In fact, every morning Martin Luther would make the sign of the cross on his forehead to remind himself that he was a Baptized Child of God.

This simple practice reminded him of whose he was.

Speak these words over your life as you make the sign of the cross on your forehead, “Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” Allow them to protect you and to guide and guard your heart and mind. Whenever you see water, whether it’s a shower or a glass of water, may it be a reminder that through the waters of Baptism you are a claimed and forgiven child of God.

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Lord, as we wake each morning remind us that you are our Lord and Savior and have washed away our sins through baptism. Let us take this day as a new opportunity for us to serve you and share your love with others. Thank you for the gift of baptism and remind us that all things are possible through Christ. Amen. –Jenny Johnson

Sunday, March 16

# THROW IN THE TOWEL

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*Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.*

*–Psalm 37:5*

**E**ven though we recognize that there are things outside our control, we have a hard time letting go and often take matters into our own hands as if the outcome is dependent on us.

What would it mean to surrender those things to the Lord and to place them into the hands of the one who created us, sustains us and provides for our every need?

What do we tend to hold onto and what would it mean to place that thing or that person in God's hands tomorrow?

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**Breathe in...**Loving Father...

**Breathe out...**I release things I cannot control to you.

Monday, March 17

# RETHINK YOUR WARDROBE

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*As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. – Colossians 3:12-16*

**W**e hear it at awards and fashion shows as the interviewer asks a celebrity, “Who are you wearing?” which prompts the celebrity to share the name of their designer.

As followers of Jesus Christ, our fashion sense starts way before we put anything on physically as we ask ourselves. “What are we clothing ourselves with spiritually?”

According to Colossians 3:12-17 what does it look like to clothe ourselves with Christ?

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Lord Jesus, as I prepare for my day tomorrow, may I be guided and grounded in your Spirit. Help the gifts of the spirit flow through me.



# CLEAN OUT THE FRIDGE

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*Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ – John 6:27*

**H**ave you ever opened your fridge and thought to yourself, “What is that smell?!” Perhaps you even said it out loud and only after digging around a bit did you find the culprit that was hiding away in the back or the corner of some drawer or shelf.

Whether it was something that expired, began to mold or was full-out rotten, it was time to get rid of it.

Where have we placed our trust in something that expires? What would it mean to replace it with something that truly brings life?

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**Set your seal on me; oh God, that I will be found trusting you in all matters of my life: finances, health, work and relationships. Keep me from wasting precious time and resources on those elements that waste away. Instead, empower me by your Holy Spirit so everything I do is driven by the cross of faith. For you, Father God, are the everlasting hope! Amen.**

**–Pastor Dan Clites**

Wednesday, March 19

# TAKE OUT THE TRASH

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*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

–1 John 1:8-9

**W**henever I think about garbage day, I think about that line from The Coasters song, Yakety Yak, “Take out the papers and the trash, Or you don’t get no spendin’ cash. If you don’t scrub that kitchen floor, You ain’t gonna rock and roll no more. Yakety yak (don’t talk back).”

While we remove trash from our homes, what about clearing out some of the spiritual clutter (trash) that has built up in our lives?

Perhaps there’s a certain way of thinking, speaking, responding, coping or a certain sin that continues to trip us up.

What would it mean to have a spiritual trash day and remove those things that seek to divide us?

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**Father God: I acknowledge that You know my sinful nature better than I do. I repent my sins. Fill my heart and mind with the Holy Spirit and keep my focus on You and the mission you have for me, tuning out the temptations of satan. Purify me Lord and lead me in service to You. –Joey Johnson**

# AVOID RUSH HOUR

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*You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.*

*—James 1:19-21*

**S**o what's our first reaction when wronged? To lash out.

Oh, you're not convinced? Just sit in traffic for a while or stay in your lane while the person behind you is thinking you're not going fast enough. Yeah, that type of stuff.

We've all seen drivers who are a bit too intense, who swerve in and out of traffic, drive too close and seem to be having an argument with those around them.

Whether you're heading into work or setting out on errands, don't let someone else's impatience or aggravation impact your day.

You see, we never know what's going on in someone else's life and their impatience or irritation may be due to something else. Don't get drawn in. Give them space so you don't get "sideswiped."

Tomorrow, rather than rush, rush, rush, give yourself a bit more time to get to the places you need to be. This may also be a blessing to others. Little ones at home? What would a bit of patience look like for them?

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**Breathe in...Patient God, in all things...**  
**Breathe out...Let me patient like you.**

Friday, March 21

# WHISTLE WHILE YOU WORK

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*Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters,\* since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve\* the Lord Christ.*

– Colossians 3:23-24

One day can often blend into another as we feel like we're spinning on the hamster-wheel of life. Next Thursday will most likely be the same as last Thursday, and the Thursday before that, and the Thursday before that.... And sadly, we can often feel unappreciated as words of affirmation are few and far between.

While we may not receive countless accolades for our work and perhaps feel stuck in routine, what would it mean to take time to remind ourselves who we're working for?

How can we dedicate our day and work to the Lord so that we can find joy and purpose in it rather than being drained by it?

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Dear Lord - We thank you for the gift of work and purpose in our lives. Help us to live in the present moment, enjoying the time we have been given, and dedicate all that we do to your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.  
–Steve Stickers

# WRITE A "TO DON'T" LIST

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*Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.*

*—Psalm 143:8*

**H**ave you ever felt busy but not really getting anywhere? Despite your efforts to get ahead, your to-do list keeps growing, and the tasks from the start of the day remain, replaced by others. Our schedules are packed, and instead of saying "No," we keep adding more, often out of guilt or fear of disappointing others. But what if saying "No" could create space to focus on what truly matters?

This is why I love dry erase boards — with one swipe, everything is cleared. While our responsibilities don't magically disappear, a "hard reset" could help us focus on the things that matter most.

Much too often the distractions of life keep us from our true calling. Is there a habit or task you know isn't serving you? What needs to be trimmed to make room for something better? Write your task list for tomorrow and ask God where your time and energy should go, and what you should let go of. You may find you're replacing something good with something better.

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**Breathe in...Reveal to me what is mine to do...**

**Breathe out...Let me release that to you.**

Sunday, March 23

# DELAY YOUR REPLY

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*Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. Let your eyes look directly forwards, and your gaze be straight before you. Keep straight the path of your feet, and all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil. –Proverbs 4:23-27*

**W**e've all had moments when someone says something or sends an email, and without fully processing it—or even breathing—we've already replied and hit send.

I know someone who responds just to get it off their plate and don't have to deal with it anymore.

We're often quick to reply, quick to question, quick to condemn, even with little information.

We've all heard the "THINK" acronym—"Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it inspiring? Is it necessary? Is it kind?"

Tomorrow, take a moment to breathe, look with good intent, pause and ask God to guide and guard your words.

What do you want me to say, Lord? How do you want me to respond? Help me to truly THINK.

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**Heavenly Father, in these times of advanced technology, guide our minds, our hearts and our words so that we may take the time to pause and reflect on what we are responding to. Help us to remember to THINK before hitting the send button and remind us that our words have the power to help or hurt. May God bless us with only words to help. Amen. –Lynda Paulson**

# PICK UP THE SLACK

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*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!' – Isaiah 6:8*

**H**as anyone ever felt overwhelmed by the amount of tasks that need to be done around the house or even at work? It seems to never end.

So let me ask you, who's in the lead? I mean who is ahead in terms of the number of gifts given, the costs involved or who has given more time in terms of spending time with or caring for a loved one or who does the most around the house?

When it comes to being "fair," we often keep track of how much we have done and how little someone else has done. Yet the truth of the matter is that they may be thinking that they have been doing the "lion's share" and we're the ones who are slacking. It's all about perception.

The reality is that people care and serve in different ways and while we may be focused on one aspect or area, they may be doing more than their share in another. While we are often quick to become frustrated and point out what's not being done, what if we were a part of the solution?

Tomorrow, lend a much needed helping hand, go above and beyond, not to keep track or to prove a point about how much we do, but because we get to.

- Pick an unexpected project at home. *(Clean out under the kitchen counter, dust the cold air returns, organize the junk drawer in the kitchen.)*
- Pick an unexpected project at work.

**Heavenly Father - During those times when we feel overwhelmed by all of the things we need to do, please grant us the wisdom to slow down and prioritize our activities. Help us to be led by your Spirit to accomplish the tasks that each day brings and to use our gifts to help others. In Jesus' name, Amen. –Steve Stickels**

Tuesday, March 25

# SKIP REPEAT

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*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! – 2 Corinthians 5:17*

**H**ave you ever played a song on repeat? Over time, that song gets old and we get sick and tired of it.

It never fails, we could be having a great day and all of a sudden our minds betray us. Where rather than focusing on something positive we begin to wrestle with something we're insecure about, something we said or did and how it came across to the other person.

As we "replay the tape" over and over, we begin to beat ourselves up as regret and self doubt set in and negative self talk draws us down.

Rather than allowing our minds to get stuck on repeat, over past regrets, mistakes or insecurities, what if we focus on the goodness, grace and holiness of God and who he says we are?

Listen to Lauren Daigle's song "Who You Say I Am."

<https://youtu.be/slaT8Jl2zpl?feature=shared>



Make an intentional effort tomorrow to catch yourself before you hit repeat. Learn from your past; don't dwell on it.

May the only song on repeat be the word that God speaks into and over your life.

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**Lord, help me to move on from the mistakes and missteps of the past and make the most of the future. Give me the wisdom to focus on the future and the blessings you have in store for me as my loving Father. Amen.**

**–Dawn Swenson**



## SKIP REPEAT (DIDN'T WE JUST DO THIS ONE?)

*Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to advice.*

*– Proverbs 12:15*

Sometimes we work in a bubble, simply grinding it out. The term cubicle not only refers to a space where people work but how we choose to work; isolated and detached from those around us. If we do seek someone's counsel, it's typically from those who agree with or think like us.

If you ever want to be told what you want to hear, surround yourselves with those who think like you and will simply agree with you. Known as "yes men," these individuals will simply tell you what you want to hear. Yet sadly, they will also keep you stuck in a certain pattern or way of thinking.

Challenge yourself tomorrow to be open to new ideas, insight and thoughts that both challenge you and cause you to pause to reflect a bit more deeply. Keep learning, keep listening and get rid of that know it all attitude. Perhaps a different perspective will bless your work and your relationships as there is always something to glean.

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**Breathe in...You say I am loved...**

**Breathe out...Help me to hear this truth**

Thursday, March 27

# TRY MONOTASKING

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*Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out from their distress; he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad because they had quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven. —Psalm 107:28-30*

**M**any of us pride ourselves on the ability to multitask.

We think that we are being so productive as we move from one thing to the next, to the next and back to the next.

Let's be honest, when our focus is divided, nothing really gets our full attention and can often result in decreased productivity, lower quality of work and increased stress. What would it mean to practice monotasking tomorrow by giving something or someone your full and undivided attention?

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**Father, God; please grant us your wisdom and focus as we go about our daily tasks. Never let us forget that you are our first priority and that anything we do should be done to your glory and to the best of our ability. With that in mind, please allow us not to be distracted by the many things the world tells us are important but focus on what you have put before us. In Jesus' name. Amen. —Mark Bremseth**

# LOSE TRACTION

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*The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to want. – Proverbs 21:5*

**W**e're constantly on the move, going from one thing to the next, to the next in order to complete a task or project. Most of the time we simply press forward trying to get ahead of the neverending demands of life. Yet how productive is it really? What's that saying, "One step forward, two steps back?"

Seldom do we take time to pause. Yet what if a pause is exactly what we need? Better yet, what if by stepping back we become more prepared to meet the challenges before us?

We've all seen those movies where the hero has to decipher a code in order to cross a bridge that has certain tiles that have been boobytrapped. One false step and the bridge will collapse! So they take their time, becoming more intentional about their steps and discerning their next move.

Instead of diving into tomorrow, take a step back. Where can you exercise patience this week as you navigate the challenges of the day? Where do you need to weigh your thoughts and intentions?

Perhaps you have the personality or the job that requires you to make decisions, move on and deal with whatever may come. Yet what if there is power in a pause? Ask God to direct your steps and provide the best course of action. What can a small adjustment to the pattern of your day mean for the rest of the day?

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**Dear Lord, thank you for this beautiful day. Help me to slow down, take a step back and give you praise for all that you have sacrificed for me. Give me strength to then take two steps forward to share your glory and continue on the path you have chosen for me. Amen –Sandy Bruckner**

Saturday, March 29

# GRIEVE

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*Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning.*

*–Psalm 30:5*

**W**hen we think of grieving our minds typically go to the loss of a loved one. Yet our lives are filled with all sorts of loss including regrets. Regrets over words that were spoken, opportunities missed, decisions that were made. Perhaps there is a regret that you have held onto for far too long.

What would it mean to grieve that regret and offer it up to God? Ask for a word of forgiveness for self and to let go.

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**God, we are so thankful that you can forgive all sins, griefs, and regrets. Nothing is too hard for You. You make every day new and full of wonder. Great is Your faithfulness! Help us to also forgive ourselves and look to the love, compassion and joy You have for us. Help us to move on from those things holding us back. Lead us on Your path so we can truly experience the joy in the morning! In Your name we pray. Amen. –Sonja Hammond**

# OPEN UP A CREDIT CARD

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*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. – Psalm 119:105*

When it comes to credit cards, most of us have heard the question, “What’s in your wallet?” It’s a phrase that causes us to pause and think about the value, rewards, security features and customer service that our credit card companies should offer.

“What’s in your spiritual wallet?” What passages of scripture that you have in your back pocket can you recall to remind you of the gifts that God offers in terms of our daily hope and salvation, not to mention our eternal rewards?

Set aside some time tomorrow to find a verse that speaks to you.

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Abba, Father; You have been so graciously loving in providing us the bread of life that is your word. You speak to us with every passage. Please help us and remind us to build our relationship with you by surrounding ourselves in your word on a daily basis. Help us make your word our “love language” and commit passages to memory and pass that love language on to our neighbors when a loving word is what is needed. In Jesus’ name. Amen. –Mark Bremseth

Monday, March 31

# CHECK YOUR CREDIT SCORE

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*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Luke 12:34*

**B**efore you read any further, make a list of your top 5 priorities.

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Most of us are constantly reviewing our bank account and credit card statements or stock or investment portfolios. Whether they're conservative, moderate or aggressive, it's important to review them periodically to be sure that they are in alignment with what you hold as a priority. Where are you spending/allocating your time, energy and resources?

Now with an honest assessment, what priorities need to be shifted to paint a more realistic image?

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Tomorrow, make it a point to connect with your most valuable "assets and clients."

It's worth the investment.

**Lord Jesus, your cross is the greatest asset there is. Forgive us when we think of it as foolish. Instead, create in us hearts that treasure your investing sacrifice for the world. Amen. –Mark Smith**

# THROW A DINNER PARTY

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*'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. – Luke 6:32-36*

**W**hen we think about throwing a party, we often think about who's on our guest list. We not only think about the connection we may have with someone but perhaps we think about what we can get in return.

What would it mean to do something for someone expecting nothing in return, but simply an act of kindness?

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**Dear Gracious and Loving Father, you have blessed all of us. Help us to remember to do good to all people and never expect anything in return. Help us to give to others in our community through acts of kindness in love through Jesus. Amen. –Bob Bowman**

Wednesday, April 2

## PAY YOUR BILLS

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**M**ost of us try to be on top of paying our bills so we're not delinquent, past due or overdue. We may even make sure our bills are paid on time by setting up auto payments directly from our bank account.

When it comes to prayer, we are often quick to ask for God's blessing and provision but how are we at giving thanks to God for His work and movement in our lives?

Have we been on time in thanking God for all his benefits or is your "praise bill" past due?

**Recite these Psalms of Praise throughout the day tomorrow. Keep track of how it impacts your spirit and changes your attitude!**

*O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.*

– Psalm 96:1-2

*1 Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! 2 For great is his steadfast love towards us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.*

*Praise the Lord!*

– Psalm 117:1-2

*1 I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will bless you, and praise your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.*

– Psalm 145:1-3

*I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

– Psalm 34:1



*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

*—Psalm 103:2-5*

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**Dear Heavenly Father, creator of heaven and earth, thank-you for all of the blessings that you have poured out upon us. Help us to focus on the bountiful, good blessings that come from you and to thank you for them at all times. For you loved us so much that you sent your Son for us as a blessing to cancel our sin. Amen. —Bob Bowman**

Thursday, April 3

# STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES

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*On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. – Psalm 145:5*

**S**top and smell the roses is a saying which is used to encourage someone to take a much needed pause to appreciate what's around them, because most of us pull out of our garage, park at work or head into a store, only to leave and pull back into the garage barely seeing the light of day. We can even become so accustomed to what's around us that we stop seeing and appreciating it.

In fact, when was the last time that you truly got out in nature and experienced the splendor of God's creation or appreciated God's provision?

What would it mean to look at your day tomorrow with new and fresh eyes? Give thanks to God for those things that we simply overlook or take for granted and go for a walk.

Listen to the song "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Lyric Video: <https://youtu.be/Zy7t2Uasqe8?feature=shared>

Acoustic Version: <https://youtu.be/99drtySjnFo?feature=shared>



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Lord, something sacred and peaceful happens to our souls as we step into the joy of the outdoors. We're so grateful that you've made a way for nature to calm us, as its rhythm and beauty remind us of your nearness and steadfast love. Thank you for telling the seasons when it's time to turn and for the fragrance of springtime blossoms and bright stars in the nighttime sky...there's always something new and fresh awaiting! Amen.

–Annette Sherrill

# GET SOME EXERCISE

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*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. – Hebrews 12:1-2*

**E**xercise is important for our physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. There's nothing like a bit of cardio and weight training to get the body moving and blood pumping.

Unless we're intentional about making exercise a part of our daily routine, it's bound to get pushed out by something else. We can quickly get off track and lose focus. It's good to have some accountability built in.

Much like working with a coach or a personal trainer or having someone remind you to take our vitamins or to remember to breathe during exercise, where do we need someone to walk with us in terms of our spiritual wellness? Set aside some intentional time tomorrow to talk with someone about faith. Use the reading for the day as a starting off point. Where can you be more intentional when it comes to your faith life? Where do you need someone to cheer you on or hold you accountable?

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Dear Lord, please be my personal-trainer in my walk of faith on earth, growing physically, mentally and spiritually stronger each day. With so many distractions it can be easy to lose focus and get off track, so help me to stay disciplined and determined to be in your word daily, staying committed to reaching the goal that you have set for me. I am your servant, Lord, so reveal how to exercise your calling while getting fit for your kingdom. Amen. –Nick Berg

Saturday, April 5

# STAY HYDRATED

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*Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.*

– Jeremiah 17:7-8

**S**o what’s the recommendation as to how much water we should drink per day? Answer: At least 8 cups or 64 ounces of water a day.

But it often amazes me how I can go the whole day and have to almost force myself to drink water but at night, it seems I can’t get enough.

As we go from one thing to the next, it’s amazing how quickly we can become dehydrated, especially during exercise.

How are we refreshing ourselves spiritually as we go about our day and particularly as we’re going through a difficult season?

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**Breathe in...Fill me to overflowing...**  
**Breathe out...With Living Water**

# BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES

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*My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. Now by this we may be sure that we know him, if we obey his commandments. – 1 John 2:1-3*

**N**o matter how careful we may be, we're bound to spill something on ourselves. Whether it's spilling a bit of coffee as we take that first sip or what we're eating misses our mouths and falls onto our outfit – or we're in the way of someone else's spill – we're bound to get a bit messy.

Depending on what's going on in our day, our clothes pick up the dirt and debris of the day.

Sin is a lot like that.

No matter how hard we try to keep from sinning, it's bound to happen. As you look back on your day and anticipate tomorrow, what word of forgiveness does God seek to speak into your life?

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**God of Atonement, it gives me so much comfort that no matter how dirty my clothes are at the end of the day, you will make me white as snow again. Help me to open my eyes to my sin, and give me the strength to let it go and give it to you. Tomorrow is a new day, and another chance to grow to be more like Jesus. Amen. - Leigh Rekow**

Monday, April 7

## BUILD A MODEL & FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS

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*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit.*

*-1 Thessalonians 5:16-19*

**W**hen it comes to taking medication, you often read or hear the phrase, "Take as directed." When it comes to prayer it's also important to follow the directions. In fact, when asked how to pray, Jesus offered his disciples the model of the Lord's Prayer.

Matthew 6:9-13 - 'Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

Yet did you know that ACTS also offers us another model of prayer?

**Adoration** - giving praise for who God is

**Confession** - setting our hearts in the right place

**Thanksgiving** - giving thanks for what God has done

**Supplication** - asking for our needs.

Set intentional prayer time throughout the day tomorrow. Set 5 alarms that will go off throughout the day in order to wake up your prayer life.

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**Lord God, Maker of all things. How awesome is Your name! We praise You for Your goodness! Help us set aside our pride and selfish thoughts so we can give You honor and glory. Thank You for Your constant care. No matter the burdens, we can lay them at the foot of the cross and You will renew us. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit to guide us through each day and to shine Your light out to others. Keep us in Your word and steadfast love as we pray continuously and rejoice in Your name. Amen. -Sonja Hammond**

# FORGET THE FEBREEZE

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*But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.*

– James 1:22-25

I would imagine that many of you are familiar with the jingle to the air freshener commercial, “Breathe Happy Febreze, la, la, la, la, la” or the trick that some realtors use to make the house they’re trying to sell more appealing— nothing reminds you of home like the smell of freshly baked cookies, and it’s amazing what a fresh coat of paint can cover up.

Yet sometimes those pleasant odors and freshly painted rooms are simply masking what’s happening just under the surface.

Take time to truly assess what needs your attention tomorrow. Don’t try to simply gloss over sin or try to mask or hide it, ask God to reveal to you what area needs the most work and address it head on.

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Dear Lord, I’m struggling with how I devote so much of my time and talents to things that do not serve your greater purpose. Help me to be more generous, loving, kind, compassionate, and faithful to others – just as you have always done for me. Please help me to act on your Word with confidence and discernment. I know what you have in store for me is far greater than anything I’m able to accomplish on my own. You are indeed the way! Amen. –Bob Follensbee

Wednesday, April 9

# DECLUTTER

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*And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' – Luke 3:10-11*

It seems that we spend a lifetime accumulating more and more stuff. Our closets and drawers are overflowing and we're running out of room for storage in our attics and basements, yet our eyes continue to focus on the next thing. Rather than getting caught up in the pursuit of more, what would it mean to practice contentment?

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. – 1 Timothy 6:6-7

Find 5 things that you can donate to charity. Drop them off and ask that God would give you a spirit of generosity and contentment.

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**Breathe in...My mind, my house, my life is cluttered...**  
**Breathe out...Let my contentment be found in you.**



# FINISH THAT PROJECT

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*I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. – Philippians 3:6*

**T**hey say that the plumbing in the plumber's house is the last to get fixed, and the painter's house is the last to be painted.

Chances are we all have some sort of unfinished project that continues to loom over us. Perhaps we tried to tackle a project but quickly got frustrated, overwhelmed or realized that it was way over our head. Perhaps the cost was higher than anticipated or we simply didn't have the time as other things came up or got in the way and as a result, that project has been pushed further and further down the line.

In fact, if someone were to utter the phrase, "remodeling project" I'm sure we'd all come up with something to do. Perhaps it's a kitchen, bathroom, relaxation or storage space, or maybe even that he shed/she shed you've always wanted.

Rather than a physical remodel of the space, what would it look like to update a spiritual practice? Choose one from below.

- Morning Devotion
- Time of Intentional Prayer
- Fasting  
*giving up something to focus on God*
- Worship & Sabbath  
*time with God*
- Generosity
- Confession & Repentance
- Service
- Community & Fellowship  
*spending time with other believers*
- Silence & Solitude

As you reflect on those things that are yet to be completed, what can you tackle tomorrow? Don't put off until tomorrow what can be done today.

**Breathe in...Remind me, compassionate God...**

**Breathe out...That you are not finished with me yet.**

Friday, April 11

## WHO'S UP FOR LEFTOVERS?

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*Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.' – Luke 10:38-42*

**I** don't know about you, but my mind is often distracted and preoccupied.

I anticipate someone in my family asking, "Are you with us?" In fact, my dad would often quote a line from the 1980 Flash Gordon movie, "Zarkov calling Earth" to get my attention or make a comment about me being in "La La Land."

Yet we're not only distracted, but our energy is often spent from pouring into all the other things that needed our attention throughout the day. Sadly when we get home, we're ready to crash.

It's like going out for a meal and bringing home the leftovers in a to go box. While the leftovers are good and only need a few seconds in the microwave to warm them up again, no matter how you reheat them or warm them up, they're not as good as that freshly made meal.

When it comes to our time and attention, who's getting your best and who's getting your leftovers?

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**It's easy with the busy pace of life to get distracted from the important moments, missing all that You have blessed us with. Help us to pause and take the time to see what You have placed in our path. Heavenly Father, help us to choose the better part, which cannot be taken away from us. Amen. –Tom Campbell**

# DO SOMETHING SPONTANEOUS

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*We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.*

– 1 John 3:16-18

I saw a t-shirt the other day that said, “Hold on, let me overthink this.” Seems somewhat fitting (no pun intended, Shirt / Fitting - get it?).

But I know a lot of people, including myself, that need to have a shirt like that because we often overthink things, don’t we? We dissect and look at something from every possible angle, processing them to the nth degree. As a result we often miss the opportunities that would have not only blessed someone else’s life but perhaps our own.

What would a bit of spontaneity look like tomorrow?

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**Open my eyes Lord to the opportunities you have set before me and help me to respond in faith trusting in your provision, presence and movement in my life. –Pastor Jon**

Sunday, April 13

# KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT

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*Let another praise you, and not your own mouth— a stranger, and not your own lips. – Proverbs 27:2 2*

It's amazing how often the word "I" comes up in a conversation even when someone else is talking about their own experiences or feelings. Rather than listening, we tend to want to turn the attention to ourselves. Instead of celebrating and uplifting what others have done, we're quick to pat ourselves on the back and boast about our own achievements.

What would it mean to practice active listening and simply affirm what's being shared? What would it mean to uplift and value the work of others? Perhaps our example will lead others to speak on our behalf.

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**Breathe in...Let the times when I boast...**  
**Breathe out...Boast only of your goodness.**

## FIND THE NEAREST EXIT

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*So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.*

– 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

**N**o matter if you've been somewhere before or you find yourself somewhere new, it's always good to be mindful of the nearest exit just in case there's an emergency.

Temptation is all around us and we not only need to be aware of it but have a gameplan on how we are going to respond to it.

When it comes to temptation, God always provides a way out.

Sometimes that way out isn't easy, comfortable or popular but we are never stuck. Sometimes it's our own pride and stubbornness that becomes the biggest hurdle: "I've got this under control."

Rather than getting drawn into those things that trip you up tomorrow, make a game plan for how you are going to respond. Look for that way out and take it.

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**Prayer Prompt: Pray over and reflect on The Lord's Prayer, "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. "**

Tuesday, April 15

# ASK FOR A DOUBLE PORTION

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*If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.*

– James 1:5

I still know what's in a Big Mac because of that jingle, "Two all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame seed bun." Having a double patty seems to be an option on most menus, especially those that offer a "smash burger."

When it comes to a meal, we often ask for a double helping of those things we love but what would it mean to ask God for a double portion of wisdom, blessing, opportunities to serve and witness?

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Heavenly Father, giver of all things good, you have instructed us to ask, seek, and knock and you promise it will be given to us, we will receive, and the door will be opened. I know I fall short every day, so I ask that you give me a double portion of wisdom and discernment to guide my way, and lead me throughout this and every day. Lord, I am so thankful that you have plans to prosper me and not to harm me, plans to give me hope and a future. Please lead me Lord, in Jesus name I pray and as always, your will be done. –Warren Wessel

# GIVE UP SWEETS

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*Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not turn my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with those who work iniquity; do not let me eat of their delicacies.*

–Psalm 141:3-4

## **In contrast to the negative power of Gossip:**

*Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body. –Proverbs 16:24*

**F**or some, their downfall is the taste of something salty and fried like chips or french fries. For others, it's the taste of something sweet like cookies, ice cream or donuts.

In the words of Homer Simpson “Mmm... donuts” or from season 4 episode 12 of the Simpsons Marge vs the Monorail when Homer avoids disaster, “Donuts, is there anything they can't do?”

Though sweets are certainly delicious, they can have an adverse effect on our bodies.

The same is true with gossip, it may go down smoothly but can have a negative impact on self and others.

Tomorrow be mindful of the presence of gossip and avoid it at all costs.

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**Breathe in...pleasant words are like a honeycomb...**

**Breathe out...Sweetness to the soul and health to the body.**

Thursday, April 17

# EAT A SLICE OF PIE

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*And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'*

– 1 Peter 5:5b-6

**H**umble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. There's nothing like a good slice of pie, whether it's apple, pecan, pumpkin, blueberry or even rhubarb.

While eating a slice of pie is good, sometimes it can be difficult especially when we've eaten too much and "couldn't possibly have another bite – but just a small slice" or when it's a slice of humble pie.

While it's hard to eat a slice of humble pie, sometimes it can be good for us because it means that we admit that we were wrong and acknowledge our faults. A proud spirit can often be the greatest barrier to healing.

Where do we need to admit the wrongs that we have committed and seek healing?

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**Gracious God, remind us to value others above ourselves, and when we fail, surround us with the love and guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us back to the path of your Son. In Jesus' name, Amen. –Scott Borchert**



# STAY UP LATE

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*So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.*

*– Matthew 5:23-24*

**W**e stay up late all the time to stream our favorite shows or to simply get some downtime after a hectic day. Yet before our head even touches the pillow is there a word of forgiveness that needs to be spoken over someone's life?

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Dear God, today I ask that you lay upon my heart your spirit of kindness, understanding, peace, and forgiveness. For I am now troubled by an argument that led to some harsh words and bad feelings. Help me to walk by your loving spirit, so that I may have self-control, patience, compassion, and forgiveness towards those whom I care about as well as those who are in need. In Jesus' name, Amen. –Bob Follensbee

Saturday, April 19

## BE READY

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*Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. - Isaiah 60:1*

**A**s part of the Springhurst Harmonaires in Dobbs Ferry, New York, we sang the following in a round, “Early to bed, early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.”

While I didn’t know it at the time (or didn’t pay attention), the saying is often attributed to Benjamin Franklin. Carl Sandburg later suggested in 1928 that “Early to bed and early to rise and you never meet any prominent people.” But that’s not the point.

The former phrase uplifts healthy patterns that lead to a balanced lifestyle. Where did you find the most balance as you worked through this devotional? Where did you need to wake up spiritually? What are your plans for tomorrow?

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Heavenly Father, help us to remain steadfast in developing our spiritual disciplines so that we may apply ourselves to Your Word daily, listen for Your voice often, and proclaim Your goodness always. Amen.

—Greg Hammond

Sunday, April 20

**HAPPY EASTER!**




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**HE IS RISEN!**




**HE IS RISEN, INDEED!**



1583 Radio Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125

-  651-738-3110
-  [office@kingofkingswoodbury.org](mailto:office@kingofkingswoodbury.org)
-  [www.kingofkingswoodbury.org](http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org)

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