



2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030

# ALWAYS *ready*

**BOOK 1**  
**JAN - JUN 2026**

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## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

“When have you felt truly with someone in a moment of need — whether through their presence, a word, or their help? How does it change things when you know you’re not alone?”

### SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 1:23

*“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means ‘God with us’).”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Matthew opens his Gospel with a declaration that sets the tone for the whole book: God is no longer distant. In Jesus Christ, God has drawn near. The ancient promise of Isaiah (Isaiah 7:14) is fulfilled as the virgin conceives and bears a Son who is God’s own presence among His people.

The name Immanuel — “God with us” — reminds us that in Christ, God is not merely watching from heaven but dwelling among us in flesh and blood. This is the staggering mystery of the incarnation: the eternal Word became human (John 1:14). Jesus is not simply a messenger of God’s presence; He is God’s presence.

For Matthew’s readers — many of whom were Jewish Christians wrestling with persecution, questions of identity, and the apparent silence of God—this truth was an anchor. God had come near in Christ, and He would never abandon them. Matthew begins his Gospel with Immanuel and ends with the risen Jesus’ promise: “Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Historical: Matthew writes to a largely Jewish audience, showing how Jesus fulfils the Old Testament promises and is the true King of Israel. By quoting Isaiah 7:14, he connects Jesus' birth to a prophecy originally given in the days of King Ahaz, when Judah was under threat and in need of assurance of God's presence. That promise finds its ultimate meaning not in Ahaz's time but in Christ.

Theological: The doctrine of the incarnation is at the heart of Christian faith. Jesus is fully God and fully man — one Person in two natures. As Immanuel, He bridges heaven and earth, reconciling God and humanity. This shows us that salvation is not just a set of ideas but the very presence of God coming down to us in love.

Christological: Jesus is Immanuel not only in His birth but in His life, death, and resurrection. In Him, the kingdom of heaven breaks into earth. On the cross, He enters our suffering and sin. In the resurrection, He conquers death. And through the Spirit, He continues to be "God with us," dwelling not only among us but within us.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does it mean to you personally that Jesus is Immanuel — God with us?
- How does the truth of God's presence encourage you in times of fear or uncertainty?
- Where in your daily life do you need to remember that Christ is with you right now?

- How might we reflect the presence of Christ to others in our community?

**REFLECTION: PSALM 46:1, 7**

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble... The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

Psalm 46 echoes the heartbeat of Matthew 1:23. The psalmist rejoices that God is present with His people as their strength, refuge, and fortress. Just as Israel was sustained by God’s presence in their struggles, so Matthew assures us that Jesus is the living fulfilment of that promise: God is with us in Christ.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, You are Immanuel, God with us. Thank You that in You heaven has come down to earth. Thank You for Your presence in every season of life — through joy and sorrow, strength and weakness. Help us to live each day with confidence that we are never alone. May Your presence shine through us so others may know the God who has drawn near. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 1:23

*“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means ‘God with us’).”*

### DEVOTIONAL

The long silence breaks with a name: Immanuel. In Jesus, God has come near—not in a pillar of fire or a stone temple, but in a baby’s cry. Matthew begins with a genealogy, grounding Jesus in history, then moves quickly to show that every promise is coming true.

Jesus is the new Moses, the new David, the true King. His teaching fulfils the law. His miracles fulfil the prophets. And His cross fulfils the covenant of grace. In Him, God is with us—not to condemn, but to redeem.

Matthew ends as it began—with presence. “I am with you always,” Jesus says. From start to finish, the gospel is about nearness. Jesus is Immanuel—the holy, healing presence of God in the midst of our everyday lives.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

How does the promise of “God with us” change the way you face today?

### PRAYER

Immanuel, you are with me—always and everywhere. Help me be aware of your presence in both joy and struggle. Let your

nearness shape my thoughts, words, and steps. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 5:14–16**

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Jesus calls His followers the light of the world — not because of our own brilliance, but because His light shines through us. The purpose of light is to be seen. A hidden lamp fails its calling.

The light we shine is not merely words; it is a life that reflects God's goodness. Our actions become evidence of the gospel's power, leading others to glorify God. This is not a call to self-promotion but to God-exaltation. The light we shine should make people look past us to the Father.

Each day gives us countless small opportunities to let the light of Christ shine — in kindness, truth, courage, and mercy.

#### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What is one way you can let your light shine today in a way that

points someone toward God?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for making me a light-bearer. Shine through me so that others see Your goodness. May my life bring glory to Your name. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 11:28–30**

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The invitation of Jesus is deeply personal — “Come to me.” He does not offer rest through a method or a formula, but through Himself. His yoke is not the crushing weight of religious performance. Instead, it is a shared life with Him, where His gentleness and humility guide our steps.

In our lives exhausted with endless demands, this is a radical promise. True rest is not found in escape but in connection to Jesus. Following Him may still involve hard work and sacrifice, but it is carried in His strength, not ours alone.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What burdens are you carrying right now that Jesus is inviting you to give to Him?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, I come to You with my weariness. Teach me to walk in step with You. Give me rest for my soul in Your presence. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 16:24–25**

*"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Jesus sets the terms of discipleship clearly — it involves self-denial, a cross, and following Him. This is not a casual commitment but a total surrender. Paradoxically, the way to life is through losing it for His sake. The pursuit of self-preservation leads to spiritual emptiness, but the surrender of self to Jesus leads to fullness of life.

The cross we carry is not a random hardship but the deliberate choice to live for Him in obedience, even when it costs us. True freedom is found on this narrow path — the freedom of belonging fully to Christ.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What is one area of your life you need to surrender more fully to Jesus today?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, teach me what it means to take up my cross. Help me to follow You without holding back. Let me find true life in You alone. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 28:18–20**

*"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

The Great Commission is not given to a select few but to all who follow Jesus. His authority is the foundation for our mission — we go because He reigns. The scope of the mission is as wide as the world, and the task is as deep as forming disciples who obey everything Jesus commanded.

The promise that He is “with you always” is not a sentimental farewell; it is the empowering presence of the risen Lord in every place, every season, and every challenge.

Our part is to go, baptise, teach, and trust His presence. His part is to build His kingdom through us.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where might Jesus be calling you to step out in obedience to His mission?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for Your authority and presence. Send me where You want me to go. Use me to make disciples for Your glory. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

“Can you think of a time when someone surprised you with an act of service—big or small—that showed love in action? How did it affect you?”

### SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 10:45

*“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

If Matthew emphasises Jesus as Immanuel, God with us, Mark presents Him as the Servant King. Mark’s Gospel is fast-paced, action-oriented, and often uses the word “immediately” to show the urgency of Christ’s mission. Yet in this verse, Mark pauses to give us the heartbeat of the Gospel: Jesus came not to be served but to serve.

In the first century when kings and rulers expected honour and obedience, Jesus redefined greatness. True greatness in His kingdom is measured not by power but by service. He stooped to wash His disciples’ feet, welcomed children, healed the outcasts, and ate with sinners. His entire life was a life of service.

But His service culminated in the ultimate act: giving His life “as a ransom for many.” This word ransom (Greek *lytron*) means the price paid to set someone free. Humanity was enslaved to sin and death, and Jesus paid the cost with His own blood. On the cross, He exchanged His life for ours, that we might be free.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

**Historical:** Mark writes for a Roman audience, likely facing persecution, emphasising Jesus’ deeds more than long teachings. This Gospel highlights Jesus’ authority not in worldly dominance but in sacrificial service. In Roman culture, where honour and power were prized, Mark shows that Jesus embodies a radically different kind of kingship.

**Theological:** This verse captures the doctrine of atonement. Jesus’ death was not accidental but purposeful—He laid down His life as the substitute for sinners. The “ransom” points to deliverance from slavery to sin, echoing the Exodus when God redeemed Israel out of Egypt. Now Jesus, the true Servant, brings the greater Exodus: freedom from sin and death.

**Christological:** The title “Son of Man,” drawn from Daniel 7, points to Christ’s authority and glory, yet He uses it to describe His path of humility and suffering. The paradox is stunning: the exalted Son of Man conquers not by domination but by service and sacrifice.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- How does Jesus’ definition of greatness challenge the world’s idea of success?
- In what ways can we reflect Jesus’ example of service in our homes, workplaces, and communities?
- What does it mean to you personally that Jesus gave His life as a ransom for you?
- How can this truth shape the way you approach others who are in need of love and service?

**REFLECTION: PSALM 40:6–8**

*“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—but my ears you have opened—burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require. Then I said, ‘Here I am, I have come—it is written about me in the scroll. I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.’”*

This psalm foreshadows Christ, the ultimate servant who came not to bring endless sacrifices but to be the sacrifice. His delight was to do the Father’s will, even when it led Him to the cross. Mark shows us Jesus fulfilling this psalm as the Servant who gives His life for many.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, thank You for showing us that true greatness is found in humility and service. You gave Your life as a ransom to set us free, and we stand in awe of Your love. Help us to follow Your example—to serve rather than be served, and to give rather than take. May our lives reflect the pattern of our Servant King. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 1:15

*“The time has come,” Jesus said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Mark’s Gospel begins with urgency. Jesus steps onto the stage of history announcing that God’s kingdom has drawn near. This is not a distant promise but a present reality breaking in through Him.

His call is clear and simple: repent and believe. Repentance means turning away from old ways of living, realigning our hearts with God’s will. Belief means entrusting ourselves fully to Him, embracing the good news that His reign brings forgiveness, healing, and hope.

The kingdom of God is not an idea to admire but a reality to enter. It reshapes how we see time — “the time has come.” It reframes our choices, our relationships, and our future.

Every day, we are invited to live in light of this kingdom — to turn again to Jesus, to believe again in His good news, and to walk in the reality that God’s reign has come near in Him.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What does it look like for you today to “repent and believe the good news”?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You that Your kingdom has come near in Jesus. Help me to turn from what keeps me from You. Teach me to live each day in the freedom of Your good news. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 2:1–5**

*"A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. Some men came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them... When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralysed man, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'"*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

This moment is a vivid picture of what it means to bring people to Jesus. The friends of the paralysed man would not be stopped — they carried him, broke through the roof, and lowered him down to where Jesus was.

What strikes us is that Jesus “saw their faith” — the faith of the friends — and responded with forgiveness before healing. Spiritual restoration was His first concern. This reminds us that sometimes the people in our lives need our faith to carry them when they can’t carry themselves. Our prayers, our persistence, and our love can help bring them to the feet of Jesus.

Who might God be calling you to carry today — in prayer, encouragement, or action — until they meet the One who heals?

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Who in your life needs you to help carry them to Jesus right now?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, help me be a faithful friend. Give me perseverance to carry others in prayer. Lead them to Your healing grace. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 4:39–41**

*"He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?' They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'"*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The disciples had seen Jesus heal the sick and cast out demons, but here they see His authority over nature itself. The storm that terrified them was silenced by His word.

Yet His question pierces — “Do you still have no faith?” It’s not

that they had no awareness of Him, but they had not yet grasped the depth of His power and care.

We too face storms — some outside us, some within us. Fear can loom large until we remember the One who is in the boat with us. His presence is our peace. Faith grows as we see Him for who He truly is — Lord over all, trustworthy in every storm.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “storm” in your life needs to be met with trust in Jesus’ power today?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, help me trust You in every storm. Speak Your peace into my fears. Remind me that You are always with me. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:34–35**

*"Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.'"*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Following Jesus is not a matter of adding Him to an already comfortable life. It involves self-denial, surrender, and the

willingness to bear a cross. The paradox is that in losing our life for His sake, we actually find it. Clinging to our own control and comfort leads to loss; surrendering to His lordship leads to life.

This is not a path of grim resignation but of joyful allegiance — the kind that flows from knowing the worth of the One we follow. The cross is not an ornament to wear but a reality to bear. Yet in carrying it, we find freedom.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What part of your life is Jesus asking you to surrender so you can follow Him more fully?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, teach me to take up my cross with joy. Help me trust You with every surrender. Lead me into the life that is truly life. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 10:45**

*"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

In contrast to measuring greatness by status and power, Jesus redefines it through service and sacrifice. The Son of God — the rightful King of all — chose the posture of a servant. His life was not taken from Him; He gave it willingly as a ransom.

This ransom was the cost to free us from sin's bondage. His greatness is shown not in how many served Him, but in how completely He served us. As His followers, we are called to walk in the same pattern — not seeking to be served, but to serve, and to give ourselves for the good of others.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where can you serve today in a way that reflects Jesus' heart?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for serving me through Your life and death. Make me more like You in humility and love. Help me serve with Your heart. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

“Can you think of a time when you witnessed someone receive good news that completely changed their outlook? What was their response?”

### SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 4:18–19

*“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

In Nazareth’s synagogue, Jesus unrolls the scroll of Isaiah and reads these words. With breathtaking boldness, He declares, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing” (v. 21). This is His mission statement. The Messiah has arrived, and He comes Spirit-empowered to bring good news, freedom, healing, and grace.

Luke’s Gospel highlights Jesus as the Saviour for all—Jews and Gentiles, men and women, rich and poor, insiders and outsiders. The marginalised, overlooked, and forgotten are the very ones He prioritises. For Luke, Jesus’ ministry is the breaking in of God’s Jubilee—the “year of the Lord’s favour”—when debts are canceled, captives are released, and new beginnings are given.

The good news of the gospel is not abstract philosophy but life-changing reality. The poor hear they are rich in Christ. The blind see the light of His glory. The oppressed are liberated by His

truth. The enslaved find freedom at the cross. Jesus Himself embodies the Kingdom of God coming near.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Historical: Jesus quotes Isaiah 61, a prophecy that Jewish people associated with the Messianic age. By applying it to Himself, He claims to be the one anointed by the Spirit to inaugurate God’s Kingdom. His hearers expected liberation from Rome, but Jesus came to bring a deeper freedom—release from sin and Satan’s power.

Theological: Luke emphasises the Holy Spirit’s anointing. From His conception, baptism, and ministry, Jesus is Spirit-filled, modelling the life believers are invited into. This passage also highlights salvation as holistic—touching body, soul, and society. Christ’s redemption reaches every corner of life, undoing the curse of sin.

Christological: Jesus is the fulfilment of Jubilee (Leviticus 25). He is the one who proclaims release, restoration, and renewal. Through His death and resurrection, He brings the ultimate “year of favour”—eternal life and reconciliation with God.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think Jesus began His public ministry by declaring this passage?
- How does the idea of “the year of the Lord’s favour” shape your understanding of the gospel?
- Who are the “poor” and “oppressed” around you today who need to hear and experience Christ’s good news?
- In what ways can we, as Spirit-filled followers, join Jesus in

this mission?

**REFLECTION: PSALM 146:7-8**

“He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down...”

This psalm echoes the heart of Luke 4: the Lord’s compassion for the vulnerable and His power to restore. Jesus embodies this psalm in action—feeding the hungry, freeing the bound, and lifting the weary. In Him, God’s promises of rescue become reality.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, thank You for coming to bring good news to the poor, freedom to the captive, and healing to the broken. Open our eyes to see the ways You are still setting people free today. Fill us with Your Spirit so we may carry Your mission into the world with boldness and compassion. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 1:30–33

*“But the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.’”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Luke’s Gospel opens with wonder. To a young woman in an obscure town, God announces His astonishing plan: the promised King is coming, and His kingdom will never end.

Mary is told not to fear — because God’s favour rests on her. Yet this favour will not make life easy; it will draw her into a story far bigger than herself. She will bear the Son of the Most High, the fulfilment of centuries of longing.

This moment reminds us that God’s kingdom often breaks into ordinary lives in unexpected ways. Mary’s response — humble trust and surrender — is the pattern for all who receive His call. The promise given to Mary still shapes our hope: Jesus reigns, and His kingdom will not fail. When fear rises, we hold to this: the King has come, and He is with us.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

How can Mary’s trust in God’s promise encourage you to

respond in faith today?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for bringing Your kingdom through Jesus. Teach me to trust Your promises even when I cannot see the way ahead. Let my life be surrendered to Your greater story. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 4:18–19**

*“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

In His first recorded sermon in Luke’s Gospel, Jesus stands in the synagogue, reads from Isaiah, and declares that these words are fulfilled in Him. It is a bold, unmistakable claim — He is the promised Messiah.

Notice the scope of His mission: good news for the poor, freedom for captives, sight for the blind, release for the oppressed, and the announcement of God’s favour. This is salvation in its fullness — body, soul, and spirit.

The poor hear that God has not forgotten them. The bound are

told that release has come. The blind are given vision, both physically and spiritually. The oppressed find freedom.

When we come to Jesus, we encounter a Saviour who addresses the deepest needs of our lives and the greatest wounds of the world. And as His followers, we are called to carry this mission forward — proclaiming, serving, and loving in His name.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How can you join in Jesus' mission to bring good news and freedom to someone this week?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for coming to set the captives free. Fill me with Your Spirit so I may serve in Your mission. Help me bring Your hope to the broken. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 7:44–47**

*Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair... Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven — as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

In the home of a Pharisee, a woman known for her sinful life kneels before Jesus, weeping, washing His feet with her tears. The religious onlookers are shocked, but Jesus sees something they do not — a heart overflowing with love because it has been forgiven much.

Jesus points out that the Pharisee, though outwardly respectable, had offered Him no real honour or affection. The woman, by contrast, held nothing back. Her love was extravagant because she knew the depth of grace she had received.

We live in a world that often measures worth by appearance, status, or performance. But Jesus measures love by the gratitude of a forgiven heart. If we forget the depth of our own forgiveness, our love will grow cold. But when we remember what He has done, love will overflow in worship and service.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How aware are you of the depth of God's forgiveness in your life right now?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, remind me daily of the grace I have received. Let my gratitude overflow in love for You. Help me love others as You have loved me. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 15:20–24**

*“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him... ‘For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

The parable of the prodigal son is a window into the heart of God. The father does not wait with crossed arms for the wayward son to arrive and grovel. He runs — an undignified act for a man of his position — driven by compassion.

The son’s prepared speech about being unworthy is interrupted by a robe, a ring, sandals, and a feast. This is not reluctant acceptance but joyful restoration.

In Jesus’ story, the father’s embrace mirrors God’s embrace of every sinner who turns to Him. It is grace that runs to meet us, not grace that makes us climb a mountain to earn its welcome. No matter how far we’ve gone, the Father’s eyes are on the horizon, longing for our return.

#### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Do you see God more as a distant judge or as a Father running to welcome you?

#### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for running to meet me with grace. Help me trust Your heart of compassion. Let me welcome others with the same joy. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 24:30–32**

*When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

After the resurrection, two disciples walk the road to Emmaus, discouraged and confused. They do not recognise the stranger who walks beside them. But as He opens the Scriptures, something stirs deep within them — a burning in the heart. It is only at the breaking of bread that their eyes are opened to see that it was Jesus all along. And then, He is gone — but the burning remains.

Sometimes we, too, walk through seasons where God feels hidden. Yet He is often nearer than we realise, speaking through His Word, revealing Himself in unexpected moments. When our hearts burn within us, we are tasting the joy of His presence — even before our eyes see clearly.

**QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where in your life might Jesus be walking with you unseen right now?

**PRAYER**

Lord, open my eyes to see You in the everyday. Let my heart burn with joy as I hear Your Word. Stay with me on the road until the journey ends. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

When have you had a moment where someone showed up in person and it meant far more than just a message, text, or letter? How did their presence change things?

### SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 1:14

*“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

John calls us to wonder: the eternal God became flesh. He did not remain distant, aloof, or inaccessible, but stepped into the dust and frailty of human life. Jesus knew hunger, weariness, sorrow, joy, and pain. His glory was not only displayed in miraculous signs but also in His willingness to suffer, to weep, and to carry our sin.

This is the heart of Christianity—the God who draws near. In Jesus, we do not encounter an abstract truth but a living person, full of grace to forgive and truth to guide. His coming means God is no longer merely above us, but with us and for us. The incarnation tells us we are not abandoned—God Himself has walked our road, carried our burdens, and revealed His heart.

### HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

John’s Gospel, likely written in the late first century, was crafted to answer questions about who Jesus really is. Unlike the Synoptics, John begins not with Bethlehem but with eternity: “In

the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” The Greek word Logos (Word) carried deep meaning—philosophically, it represented reason and order; biblically, it was God’s self-expression in creation and revelation.

By saying the Word became flesh, John is declaring that Jesus is both fully God and fully man. The phrase “made his dwelling” literally means “pitched his tent,” evoking the tabernacle in Exodus, where God’s glory dwelled among His people. Now, God’s presence is no longer in a building but in a person.

Theologically, this verse is central to the doctrine of the incarnation. God did not disguise Himself as human; He truly became human while remaining divine. His glory—once seen in fire and cloud—was now revealed in a man full of grace and truth.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- How does the incarnation change your view of God’s closeness and care?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus is “full of grace and truth”?
- How can you live in a way that reflects both grace and truth to others?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 46:1–2**

*“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.”*

The psalmist celebrates God as an ever-present help. In Christ,

this truth takes flesh—God is not only spiritually present but physically present in history, and now, through the Spirit, He remains with His people forever.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, You are the eternal Word made flesh. Thank You for dwelling among us and showing us the Father's heart. Help us to trust Your presence in our daily lives, to receive Your grace, and to walk in Your truth. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 1:14

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

### DEVOTIONAL

John begins his Gospel not with Bethlehem but with eternity: the Word, who was with God and was God, entered into human history. The Creator stepped into His creation.

This is the staggering mystery of the incarnation — God did not remain distant but came close, choosing to dwell among us. The Greek word here suggests “pitching His tent” or “tabernacling” with His people, echoing God’s presence in the wilderness. In Jesus,

God’s glory is not hidden in a cloud or a temple, but revealed in a person. And this glory is marked by “grace and truth.” In a world that often separates the two, Jesus brings them perfectly together. His truth exposes, and His grace restores. In Him, we see what God is really like. To behold Jesus is to behold the very heart of God — approachable, knowable, and full of love.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What does it mean for you personally that God chose to dwell among us in Jesus?

### PRAYER

Lord, thank You for coming near in Christ. Show me Your glory in the person of Jesus. Fill my life with both Your grace and Your truth. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 3:16–17**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Few verses capture the heartbeat of the Gospel as clearly as these. God's love is not abstract or distant — it is demonstrated in the giving of His Son. Love, in God's hands, is always active, self-giving, and costly.

Jesus came not to condemn but to save. This is the posture of God toward a broken world: not one of shaking His head in disappointment, but stretching out His arms in invitation.

We often carry a distorted image of God — as though He is waiting for us to fail. But John reminds us that God's motive is love, and His purpose is life. Eternal life is more than endless existence; it is knowing God now and forever. This life begins the moment we believe in the Son He sent.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Do you tend to picture God as more eager to condemn or to save? How does this affect your relationship with Him?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for loving the world — and loving me. Help me to believe deeply in Your Son. Let me share this good news with others. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 8:10–11**

*Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” “No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

A woman is caught in the act of adultery and thrown before Jesus. The religious leaders expect Him to uphold the law by condemning her. Instead, Jesus exposes the hypocrisy of her accusers and turns the moment into an encounter with mercy.

Notice the order of His words: “Neither do I condemn you” comes before “Go and leave your life of sin.” Grace precedes transformation. We are not changed by fear of condemnation, but by the experience of mercy.

This is the Gospel in miniature — a Saviour who knows our sin yet chooses to rescue rather than destroy. Jesus does not downplay sin, but He removes shame so that true repentance can take root. The same voice that defends us calls us into a new way of living.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How has God’s mercy toward you empowered you to leave sin behind?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for freeing me from condemnation. Help me walk in the freedom of forgiveness. Let my life reflect Your mercy. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 10:14–15**

*“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me — just as the Father knows me and I know the Father — and I lay down my life for the sheep.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd — not merely a caretaker of sheep, but one who knows each one by name. His knowledge is intimate, not statistical; it is the kind of knowing that comes from love.

He compares the relationship between Himself and His sheep to the relationship between Himself and the Father — a staggering parallel. We are invited into that depth of mutual knowing and trust.

The defining act of this Shepherd is that He lays down His life for the sheep. No hired hand would do this. This is sacrificial love at its purest. When life feels uncertain, the Good Shepherd's voice cuts through the noise. He knows where we are, what we need, and how to lead us home.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like to trust the Good Shepherd with every area of your life?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for knowing me fully and loving me completely. Help me recognise Your voice above all others. Lead me in Your way and keep me close. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 20:26–28**

*A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here;*

*see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Thomas has been called “the doubter,” but in truth, he was simply honest about his questions. He wanted tangible proof before he would believe the impossible claim of Jesus’ resurrection. Jesus meets Thomas in that place of doubt — not with rebuke, but with an invitation. He offers His wounds as evidence, allowing Thomas to see and touch.

This is the heart of our Lord: He meets us where we are, but He does not leave us there. Thomas moves from doubt to the highest confession in the Gospels: “My Lord and my God!” Faith is not the absence of questions, but the presence of trust in the One who shows us His scars.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you most need Jesus to meet you in your doubts today?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for meeting me in my uncertainty. Show me Your scars so I may believe. Help me to say with all my heart, “My Lord and my God.” Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

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# MARCH

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## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 3:14–15

*“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Genesis begins with the beauty of creation, harmony between God, humanity, and the world. Yet by chapter three, rebellion has entered. Adam and Eve grasp for autonomy, and sin fractures the relationship with their Maker. Into this bleak moment, God speaks a word not only of judgment, but also of hope.

Genesis 3:15 is sometimes called the protoevangelium — the “first gospel.” It declares that though evil will wound humanity, there is a promised offspring who will ultimately crush the serpent’s head. This promise echoes throughout the Bible: the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12), the son of David (2 Samuel 7), the suffering servant (Isaiah 53), all fulfilled in Christ (Galatians 4:4).

The cross seemed like the serpent’s greatest strike: Jesus’ heel was bruised in death. But in that very act, He crushed Satan’s head, disarming the powers of sin and death (Colossians 2:15). The everlasting promise in Eden finds its “Yes” in Jesus (2 Corinthians 1:20).

This passage reminds us that the gospel is not God’s backup plan. From the beginning, He promised to redeem. Even at humanity’s darkest moment, His grace shone. His everlasting

plan was already at work.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think God gave this promise of hope immediately after the fall?
- How does seeing Christ in Genesis 3:15 change the way we read the Old Testament?
- In what ways does Jesus' victory over the serpent shape how we face temptation and spiritual struggle today?
- How might this everlasting promise bring comfort when we see brokenness in the world?

### **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

**Ancient Near Eastern Setting:** In the ancient world, serpents often symbolised danger, chaos, and opposition to divine order. In Mesopotamian myths, the serpent was frequently cast as an enemy of the gods or a bringer of death. Against this backdrop, the Genesis account presents the serpent not as a divine rival, but as a creature under God's sovereignty. This highlights the radical biblical claim: evil is real and cunning, but never equal to God.

**The Fall as a Turning Point:** Genesis 3 is one of the most pivotal chapters in Scripture. Humanity's rebellion brings sin, shame, pain, and death into the world. Yet, even as judgment falls on the serpent, the woman, and the man, God clothes them (Genesis 3:21) and promises a future victory. This juxtaposition of judgment and mercy establishes a pattern repeated throughout Scripture.

**Protoevangelium – The First Gospel:** The phrase “he will crush

your head, and you will strike his heel” introduces a long story of conflict that runs through the Bible. Cain and Abel (Genesis 4), Pharaoh and Israel (Exodus), Goliath and David (1 Samuel 17), and ultimately Christ and Satan (Luke 4; Revelation 12) all reflect this enmity. The New Testament explicitly sees Christ as the fulfilment of this verse: “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet” (Romans 16:20); Jesus destroys “the one who holds the power of death — that is, the devil” (Hebrews 2:14).

**Christological Reading:** The “offspring” points ultimately to Christ, who was born of a woman (Galatians 4:4) and came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). Early church fathers such as Irenaeus saw Mary as the “new Eve,” whose obedience in bearing Christ reversed Eve’s disobedience.

**Everlasting Covenant Trajectory:** This promise in Eden sets the trajectory for God’s everlasting covenant of redemption. From Abraham (Genesis 12), through Israel’s covenant at Sinai, to David’s kingship, each covenant builds upon this foundational promise that evil will not triumph. Christ, the true offspring, secures the everlasting victory at the cross and resurrection.

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 110**

“The LORD says to my lord: ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’”

Psalm 110 is one of the most quoted psalms in the New Testament and is directly connected to Christ (Matthew 22:44; Hebrews 1:13). It speaks of the Lord’s anointed one who rules at God’s right hand and subdues His enemies. The imagery of enemies placed under His feet resonates with Genesis 3:15,

where the offspring of the woman crushes the serpent's head.

By pairing Genesis 3:15 with Psalm 110, we see the continuity of Scripture's story: the first hint of victory in Eden matures into the promise of a reigning Messiah who conquers His enemies and establishes everlasting peace. This psalm helps us read Genesis 3 not just as a curse but as the beginning of God's unstoppable redemptive plan, fulfilled in Christ's exaltation.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord, thank you for your everlasting promise, spoken even in the garden. Thank you that Jesus has crushed the serpent's head and broken the power of sin and death. Strengthen us to walk in the victory of Christ, trusting in your faithfulness from beginning to end. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 3:14–15

*“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

The story of redemption begins almost as soon as sin enters the world. In the ruins of the fall, God speaks a word of judgment—but tucked inside it is a promise. A child of the woman will one day come to crush the serpent's head. This is the first glimpse of the gospel—the proto-evangelium.

Genesis unfolds with flawed heroes: Noah rescued through judgment, Abraham called to bless the nations, Isaac spared by a substitute, Jacob transformed by grace, and Joseph raised up to save many lives. Each narrative pulses with anticipation, pointing forward to the true and better Son—the One who would bring ultimate rescue not just from famine or flood, but from sin and death.

Jesus is the long-awaited Seed of the woman, bruised on the cross but risen in triumph. From Eden's garden to Joseph's dreams, Genesis whispers the name of Jesus in every turn of the story.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

How does the promise in Genesis 3:15 shape your view of

God's grace at work even in the darkest moments?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that your plan for salvation began even in Eden. Help me see your promises even in places of pain. Let your grace take root in my heart today. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 6:8–9**

*But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

By Genesis 6, the world is swollen with violence, corruption, and grief. The good creation of Genesis 1 is marred beyond recognition, and God's heart is deeply troubled. Yet into the darkness comes one bright word: "But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord." Grace. Before the first plank is cut, before the ark is built, before the floodwaters rise — grace is spoken.

The story of Noah is not simply about survival; it is about salvation through God's initiative. Noah "walked faithfully with God," but his rescue was not earned — it was given. The ark became a refuge, not because it was impressive, but because God had promised to save those inside.

The New Testament picks up this picture in 1 Peter 3:20–21, showing the ark as a foreshadowing of salvation in Christ. Just as Noah was brought safely through the waters of judgment, we are saved through the death and resurrection of Jesus. The ark had one door; Christ is that door (John 10:9).

In a world that still knows violence and corruption, we stand secure, not because we have built something worthy, but because we have entered the refuge God has provided in His Son.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you need to rest today in the safety of God's provision rather than your own effort?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that in the flood of this world's sin, you have given me refuge in Christ. Help me to walk with you in daily faithfulness. Keep my heart anchored in your saving grace. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 12:1–3**

*“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation... and all peoples*

*on earth will be blessed through you.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Abram’s story begins with a call — a call to leave the known for the unknown, to trade security for promise. God doesn’t give a map; He gives Himself. The promise is breathtaking: land, descendants, and blessing — not just for Abram, but for “all peoples on earth.”

This covenant becomes a spine through the whole Bible. Israel’s story unfolds under this promise, the prophets recall it, and the apostles announce its fulfilment in Christ. Galatians 3:8 even calls it “the gospel in advance” — that God would justify the nations by faith.

Jesus is the Seed of Abraham through whom the blessing flows. His life, death, and resurrection open the floodgates of grace to Jew and Gentile alike. The God who called Abram out still calls us to step into His mission — a mission that reaches the ends of the earth.

Following Jesus often means leaving what is comfortable. But like Abram, we leave for something better — the presence of God and the joy of being part of His redeeming work in the world.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “comfortable place” might God be calling you to leave in order to step more fully into His purposes?

## **PRAYER**

God of Abraham, thank you for calling me into your blessing. Give me courage to step where you lead. Let my life be a channel of your grace to the nations. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 22:13–14**

*Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns... So Abraham called that place 'The Lord Will Provide.'*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Genesis 22 is a mountain of mystery and mercy. Abraham, called to offer up Isaac — the son of promise — walks a road of trust few could imagine. At the last moment, the angel of the Lord stops his hand, and a ram is provided in Isaac's place. The test reveals both Abraham's faith and God's faithful provision.

This scene blazes with foreshadowing. Centuries later, another Son, carrying wood on His back, would walk up another hill. But this time, there would be no ram in the thicket. Jesus would be the Lamb, willingly laid down for the sins of the world.

Abraham names the place "The Lord Will Provide" — in Hebrew, Yahweh Yireh. The name is future-tense because the ultimate provision is still ahead. On the cross, God's promise was kept. The Father gave His only Son, and through that gift, salvation has been secured for all who believe.

When we face our own moments of fear or loss, we can look back to the hill where God provided and be certain He will not fail us now.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does the cross give you confidence in God's provision for today?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you have already given me your Son. Help me to trust that you will provide everything I need. Strengthen my heart to walk in faith, not fear. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 50:20**

*"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Joseph's story is a tapestry of betrayal, injustice, and unexpected mercy. Sold by his brothers, falsely accused, and forgotten in prison, Joseph's life could have ended in bitterness. Yet, when the tables turn and he stands as Egypt's governor, his perspective is stunning: "God intended it for good."

This is more than optimism — it is faith in a sovereign God who weaves even human evil into His redemptive plan. The famine that threatened death became the setting for salvation, not just for Egypt, but for Joseph’s own family — the family that would become the nation of Israel.

Joseph’s words point forward to the cross, where humanity’s greatest crime became God’s greatest gift. What was meant for evil — the crucifixion of Jesus — was turned by God into the saving of many lives.

In our own stories, we may not yet see the good God is working. But Genesis closes with this reminder: the God who began His promise in Eden, who preserved it through the flood, who called Abraham, and who provided the Lamb, is the same God who can turn harm into hope.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you need to trust that God can bring good out of what others intended for harm?

### **PRAYER**

Sovereign Lord, nothing is wasted in your hands. Help me to see my life through the lens of your redeeming work. Bring beauty from the ashes for your glory. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 12:12-13

*“When I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Exodus tells the story of God’s mighty rescue. Israel, enslaved under Pharaoh’s cruel hand, cries out, and the Lord hears. Through Moses, He confronts the gods of Egypt with plagues, each one revealing His supremacy. The final plague — the death of the firstborn — would break Pharaoh’s grip and bring freedom for God’s people.

But the Israelites were not exempt from judgment by their own merit. They, too, stood under the same sentence of death. Their only hope was in the blood of the lamb, painted on the doorframes. When the Lord saw the blood, He passed over their homes. Their salvation was not earned, but given, by grace through blood.

The Passover lamb points forward to Christ, “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). Just as Israel’s firstborn were spared, we are spared eternal death by the blood of Jesus. His sacrifice covers us, and God’s judgment passes over us. Paul makes the connection explicit: “Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed” (1 Corinthians 5:7).

This moment in Exodus anticipates the cross. The blood on the doorposts foreshadows the blood of Christ shed on the cross. Both proclaim the same truth: salvation is found under the covering of the Lamb’s blood.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think God required blood on the doorposts rather than another sign?
- How does the Passover deepen your understanding of Christ's death on the cross?
- What does this passage teach us about grace and judgment?
- In what ways can we live in daily gratitude for Christ, our Passover lamb?

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

**Egyptian Setting:** The tenth plague was not random. In Egyptian religion, Pharaoh was considered divine, and the firstborn represented strength and future inheritance. By striking down Egypt's firstborn, God was demonstrating His power over Pharaoh and Egypt's gods (Exodus 12:12).

**Blood as Atonement:** In the ancient Near East, blood symbolised life itself (Leviticus 17:11). The Israelites learned that salvation comes through the shedding of blood. Without it, they too would perish. The blood on the doorpost was a substitution — the lamb died in place of the firstborn.

**The Passover as Covenant Meal:** The Passover wasn't just protection from judgment, it became the central act of Israel's identity. Every year, Israel was to remember this night with a meal (Exodus 12:14). This covenant meal looked forward to the greater covenant meal — the Lord's Supper — where Jesus declared, "This is my blood of the covenant, poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

Christological Fulfilment: The New Testament repeatedly draws the connection:

- John the Baptist identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:29).
- Paul calls Him “our Passover lamb” (1 Corinthians 5:7).
- Peter says we were redeemed “with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect” (1 Peter 1:19).
- Revelation shows the victorious Lamb who was slain, yet reigns (Revelation 5).

Judgment and Mercy Together: Exodus 12 holds the tension of God’s justice and His mercy. Judgment falls on Egypt, but mercy covers God’s people through the blood. The cross is the ultimate display of this: God’s justice satisfied in Christ, and mercy extended to all who believe.

**REFLECTION: PSALM 118:17–23**

“I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done... The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes.”

Psalm 118 was traditionally sung during Passover celebrations. Its themes of deliverance, protection from death, and the Lord’s marvellous salvation echo the first Passover. The psalm looks ahead to Christ, the rejected stone who becomes the cornerstone of God’s plan.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem at Passover, the crowds shouted verses from this very psalm (Matthew 21:9). He was

entering as the true Passover lamb, soon to be slain. Reading Psalm 118 alongside Exodus 12 reminds us that the blood of Christ not only saves us from death but also makes us living witnesses to the Lord's great salvation.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord, thank you for the blood of the Lamb. Thank you that in Jesus our judgment has passed, our sins are covered, and our lives are spared. Help us to live as a people of gratitude, proclaiming what you have done, until the day we share the feast of the Lamb in your kingdom. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 12:12–13

*“When I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Exodus is the great liberation story of the Old Testament—but it is more than national deliverance. It is a parable of our salvation. Israel’s bondage in Egypt mirrors humanity’s slavery to sin.

Pharaoh’s hardened heart reflects the rebellious spirit of the world. And Moses, the mediator and deliverer, foreshadows the greater Redeemer to come.

At the centre of it all is the Passover lamb. On the night of judgment, it was not nationality or morality that saved a household —it was the blood. When God saw the blood, He passed over them in mercy. This becomes the clearest early picture of substitutionary sacrifice, fulfilled in Jesus, our Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Jesus is the Deliverer greater than Moses, leading His people not just out of Egypt, but out of death itself—into the freedom of forgiveness and life everlasting.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What does it mean to live each day under the protection of the Lamb's blood?

## **PRAYER**

Jesus, my Deliverer, thank you for rescuing me through your sacrifice. May I live in freedom, not fear, because of your grace. Keep me near the shelter of your cross today. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 3:4-6**

*“When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, ‘Moses! Moses!’ And Moses said, ‘Here I am.’ ‘Do not come any closer,’ God said. ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.’”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Moses’ story shifts forever at a bush that burns but is not consumed. In the wilderness of Midian, after years of exile, God interrupts his ordinary day with a holy encounter. The voice from the flames calls him by name — and calls him into mission.

The burning bush is more than a sign; it’s a window into the character of God. His holiness is not distant but draws near. His fire does not destroy the bush, just as His presence does not consume His people when covered by grace.

In Jesus, we see this holy presence become even more personal. The God who told Moses to remove his sandals came Himself to walk in our dust. Holiness put on humanity so that we

could stand in God's presence without fear. The bush burned but was not consumed; the cross burned with judgment, yet Jesus bore it for us.

When God calls, He not only reveals Himself — He also sends us. Like Moses, we often feel unworthy or inadequate. But the One who calls also equips, and His presence is our confidence.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where might God be calling you into something new, and how does His presence give you courage?

### **PRAYER**

Holy God, thank you for calling me by name. Help me to trust your presence more than my own ability. Send me in your strength to do your will. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 14:13-14**

*“Moses answered the people, ‘Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today... The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The Red Sea moment stands as one of Scripture's most dramatic rescues. Israel is trapped between water and army,

with no way forward and no way back. Panic rises, but Moses speaks a different word: “The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

This stillness is not passivity but trust. God parts the waters, making a way where none existed. The same sea that opens for God’s people closes over their enemies. Salvation is entirely God’s work from start to finish.

The New Testament sees in this event a picture of our salvation in Christ. We, too, were trapped — hemmed in by sin and death. But at the cross, God made a way through the impossible. The waters of judgment fell on Christ so that we could walk free on dry ground.

Our part is still to stand firm in His promise, to trust when we cannot see, and to remember that the battle belongs to the Lord.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you need to stop striving and instead stand still, trusting God to fight for you?

### **PRAYER**

Mighty Deliverer, thank you for making a way where there was none. Help me to trust your power in the face of my fears. Teach me to stand still and see your salvation. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

## **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 16:4**

*“Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

In the wilderness, God’s people are hungry and restless. Their memories of Egypt grow fonder than the reality of their freedom. Into this place of complaint, God provides manna — bread from heaven — fresh every morning.

Manna teaches dependence. The people can’t store it up; they must gather daily. God’s provision is enough for today, and tomorrow’s bread will come tomorrow. This rhythm forms trust in the One who sustains life.

Jesus picks up this image in John 6, calling Himself “the bread of life.” Just as manna sustained Israel physically, Jesus sustains us spiritually. We don’t just need Him once; we need Him daily — to feed on His Word, rest in His grace, and live in His strength.

In a world obsessed with storing security, manna calls us back to the joy of daily reliance on Christ. His mercies are new every morning, and His grace is always enough.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How are you practicing daily dependence on Jesus, the bread of life?

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, my daily bread, thank you for sustaining me. Teach me to trust you one day at a time. Let my heart be satisfied in your presence. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 40:34–35**

*“Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Exodus ends with glory. The tabernacle — God’s portable dwelling place — is finished. Every detail has been crafted according to God’s command. And now, the presence of the Lord comes down in cloud and fire to fill it.

This moment is the fulfilment of God’s promise to dwell with His people. The God who thundered from Sinai now rests among them. But the glory is both welcoming and overwhelming — so great that even Moses cannot enter.

Centuries later, John writes, “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us... we have seen His glory” (John 1:14). The word “dwelling” literally means “tabernacled.” In Jesus,

God's glory comes not in a cloud but in a person, approachable yet holy.

The end of Exodus points to the day when, through Christ, God's glory will not only dwell among His people but within them, by the Spirit. And one day, that glory will fill the whole earth.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for God's presence to fill the "tent" of your life today?

### **PRAYER**

Glorious God, thank you for dwelling among your people. Fill my life with your presence so that others may see your glory. Make me a living place where you are honoured. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 16:15–16

*“He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull’s blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Leviticus is often a hard book for us to read, filled with laws, sacrifices, and rituals that seem distant from modern life. Yet at its heart is the holiness of God and the provision He makes for sinful people to dwell near Him. Chapter 16 describes the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) — the most solemn day in Israel’s calendar.

On this day, one goat was sacrificed, its blood sprinkled in the Most Holy Place to cleanse the sanctuary from Israel’s sin. Another goat, the “scapegoat,” carried the people’s sins away into the wilderness, symbolically removing guilt. Together, the two goats painted a picture of substitution and cleansing: sin both punished and removed.

All of this points us to Christ. On the cross, Jesus became our sin offering, His blood shed to cover our rebellion. He is also our scapegoat, carrying our sins away “as far as the east is from the west” (Psalm 103:12). Hebrews makes the connection crystal clear: “He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption” (Hebrews 9:12).

What the high priest had to repeat year after year, Jesus accomplished once and for all. His sacrifice makes us clean, not just outwardly but inwardly, cleansing our consciences so that we may serve the living God.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does the Day of Atonement reveal about God’s holiness and our sin?
- How do the two goats together give a full picture of forgiveness?
- How does Jesus fulfil and surpass the sacrifices described in Leviticus 16?
- How might your worship deepen by remembering the cost of atonement?

### **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

The Setting of Leviticus: Leviticus comes immediately after Exodus, where God rescued His people from Egypt and established His covenant with them at Sinai. The book takes place while Israel is encamped at the base of the mountain. God’s presence had just descended into the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34–35), and Leviticus answers the question: How can a holy God dwell with a sinful people? The laws, rituals, and sacrifices are not arbitrary but God’s gracious provision for His presence to remain with Israel.

Day of Atonement in Israel’s Calendar: Yom Kippur (literally “Day of Covering”) was the high point of Israel’s year. Unlike the daily or festival offerings, this was a once-a-year ritual (on the tenth day of the seventh month) designed to cleanse both the people

and the sanctuary itself. The repetition each year reminded Israel that sin remained an ongoing problem — no sacrifice could fully and permanently remove it.

**The Role of the High Priest:** On this day alone, the high priest entered the Most Holy Place, behind the heavy curtain, carrying the blood of the sin offering. This restricted access emphasised the danger of approaching a holy God with sin unresolved. The priest had to offer a sacrifice for his own sin first (Leviticus 16:6) before representing the people. This highlighted that even Israel's spiritual leaders were not exempt from guilt.

**The Symbolism of Blood:** In the ancient Near Eastern mindset, blood represented life itself (Genesis 9:4; Leviticus 17:11). Sprinkling blood before God was not an act of magic but a visible sign that a life had been given in substitution. The blood symbolised that the penalty of sin (death) had been borne, allowing the people to live. Theologically, it underscored that forgiveness was costly — sin required death.

**The Two Goats – A Dual Aspect of Atonement:** The sacrificial goat: Its blood was sprinkled on and before the atonement cover (the “mercy seat”) of the ark. This represented propitiation — God's just wrath against sin was satisfied.

**The scapegoat (Azazel):** The priest laid his hands on the goat, confessing all Israel's sins, then sent it into the wilderness. This symbolised expiation — sin and guilt carried away, never to return. Together, these acts gave Israel both assurance that their sin was dealt with before God, and that it was removed from them personally.

**Theological Trajectory Toward Christ: Temporary and Repeated:** The Day of Atonement was powerful yet provisional. It pointed forward to a final and greater sacrifice. Hebrews 10:3 notes that the annual reminder of sin showed the insufficiency of animal sacrifices.

**Jesus Our High Priest:** Unlike Aaron, Jesus did not need to offer sacrifices for His own sins (Hebrews 7:26–27). He entered not an earthly sanctuary but heaven itself, presenting His own blood before God (Hebrews 9:11–12).

**Once-for-All Atonement:** Where Israel's priest repeated the ritual every year, Jesus' sacrifice was decisive and final — “It is finished” (John 19:30).

**The Tearing of the Curtain:** At Jesus' death, the temple curtain tore from top to bottom (Mark 15:38), showing that the barrier to God's presence was removed. What only the high priest could do once a year, all believers now enjoy continually: access to the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16).

**Substitutionary and Cleansing:** Jesus' death unites both dimensions of the two goats: He bore God's wrath in our place (propitiation, Romans 3:25) and removed our guilt forever (expiation, John 1:29).

**Implications for the Church:** Leviticus 16 reminds us that God is utterly holy and sin is deadly serious. Yet it also teaches that God has always provided a way for His people to draw near. In Christ, we do not need yearly sacrifices, priests, or rituals. His

once-for-all death is sufficient, and His intercession as High Priest is ongoing. For the believer, assurance and cleansing are not a distant hope but a present reality.

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 103:8-12**

“The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love... as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”

Psalm 103 celebrates what the Day of Atonement anticipated: forgiveness, compassion, and the complete removal of sin. The imagery of sin carried infinitely far away connects beautifully with the scapegoat. In Christ, this psalm becomes our reality — not just a ritual reminder once a year, but a daily assurance that we are forgiven, cleansed, and loved by the Lord.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Merciful God, thank you that Jesus is both our sacrifice and our scapegoat. Thank you that His blood covers my sin and that He has carried my guilt far away. Keep me in awe of Your holiness and filled with gratitude for Your mercy. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 1:3-4

*“If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, you are to offer a male without defect. You must present it at the entrance to the tent of meeting so that it will be acceptable to the Lord. You are to lay your hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on your behalf to make atonement for you.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Leviticus opens with the burnt offering — a whole sacrifice, consumed by fire, given entirely to God. The worshiper lays a hand on the animal’s head, symbolically transferring guilt. The animal dies in the worshiper’s place, and atonement is made. Every detail points to the seriousness of sin and the wonder of substitution. Sin costs life. Holiness demands a covering. And God, in His mercy, provides a way.

Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of the burnt offering. He was without defect — perfectly pure. On the cross, our guilt was laid on Him, and He was wholly given over to death for our atonement. Unlike the repeated offerings of Leviticus, His sacrifice was once for all (Hebrews 10:10).

When we remember the burnt offering, we remember that we are wholly His because He was wholly given for us. Our response is to offer ourselves back to God — living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to Him (Romans 12:1).

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it mean for you to offer your whole self to God today, in gratitude for Christ's sacrifice?

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, you gave yourself completely for me. Help me to live wholly for you in love and obedience. Let my life be an offering that brings you glory. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 11:44–45**

*“I am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy... I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Leviticus makes a repeated call: “Be holy, because I am holy.” Holiness is not merely moral purity — it is being set apart for God's purposes, reflecting His character in every part of life.

God's command is rooted in relationship. Israel is to be holy because they belong to Him — the God who redeemed them from slavery. Holiness is not a ladder to climb into God's presence; it's a response to the God who has already drawn near in grace.

In the New Testament, Peter repeats this call to holiness (1 Peter 1:15–16), reminding us that our redemption is now through the precious blood of Christ. We are set apart by the cross, filled with the Spirit, and called to live differently because we belong to a holy God.

Holiness is not isolation from the world but transformation within it. As Christ lives in us, His purity and love shape our speech, relationships, work, and worship.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What is one area of your life where God is calling you to reflect His holiness more clearly?

### **PRAYER**

Holy God, you have set me apart as your own. By your Spirit, make me more like Jesus. Let my life reflect your character in all I do. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 16:15–16**

*“He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain... In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Leviticus can feel distant with its rituals and regulations—but

every sacrifice and ceremony whispers of Christ. The entire system of atonement, the high priesthood, and the Day of Atonement all anticipate the need for a perfect, once-for-all sacrifice.

At the centre of Leviticus is a holy God making a way for sinful people to dwell with Him. Blood must be shed. Atonement must be made. Holiness must be pursued. Yet no animal or priest could fully deal with sin. They pointed forward—signposts of something greater.

Jesus is both our Great High Priest and our spotless sacrifice. He entered the true Most Holy Place once for all and made eternal atonement (Hebrews 9:11–14). Through Him, we are made holy— not by rituals, but by grace.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does Jesus' perfect atonement change the way you approach God today?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, you opened the way into the Most Holy Place. By your blood I am cleansed and made new. Let me walk in holiness, not from duty but from love. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 19:18**

*“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Tucked within Leviticus’ laws is a command that Jesus later calls the second greatest commandment (Mark 12:31): love your neighbour as yourself. It’s easy to miss its radical nature amid sacrificial rituals and ceremonial instructions, but here is the heart of God for His people.

Loving our neighbour is not sentiment but action. In its original context, it meant treating fellow Israelites with fairness, compassion, and care — refusing to repay wrong with wrong, and instead seeking their good.

Jesus expands this command beyond Israel to include even our enemies (Luke 10:25–37; Matthew 5:43–44). The cross is the ultimate fulfilment: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

Grudges and vengeance can feel natural in the human condition, but love is supernatural. It flows from the God who loved us first, and it reflects His heart to those around us.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Is there someone you need to stop holding a grudge against, and instead choose to love in Christ’s name?

## **PRAYER**

God of love, thank you for loving me when I was undeserving. Help me to love others as you have loved me. Free my heart from resentment and fill it with grace. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: LEVITICUS 25:10**

*“Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you...”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

The Year of Jubilee was a radical reset. Every 50 years, debts were cancelled, slaves were freed, and land was returned to its original owners. It was a year of liberty and restoration, a living reminder that everything belongs to God and that His people are to live in His generosity.

The Jubilee pointed forward to a greater liberation. In Luke 4, Jesus stands in the synagogue and reads from Isaiah 61: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me... to proclaim freedom for the prisoners.” He declares, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” In Him, the true Jubilee has come.

Through Jesus, we are released from the debt of sin, freed from the slavery of fear, and restored to the inheritance of eternal life. The liberty He proclaims is not every half-century — it is now, and it is forever.

As His people, we are called to live Jubilee-shaped lives — offering forgiveness, releasing others from their debts against us, and working for restoration wherever we can.

**QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for you to live out the spirit of Jubilee in your relationships this week?

**PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, you are my Jubilee. Thank you for setting me free and restoring my life. Help me to extend your freedom and grace to others. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

What's the strangest remedy or treatment you've ever heard of someone using for an illness or injury? Did it work?

### SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 21:8-9

*“The LORD said to Moses, ‘Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.’ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.”*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

The people of Israel, weary and rebellious in the wilderness, complained once again against God and Moses. Their grumbling led to judgment: venomous snakes spread through the camp, bringing pain and death. Yet even here, God provided a way of salvation. He instructed Moses to lift up a bronze serpent on a pole — a symbol of both judgment and healing.

The act of looking was not about eyesight but about faith. Israel's healing came not from the bronze object itself but from trusting God's promise. In the New Testament, Jesus made the connection explicit: “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him” (John 3:14-15).

Christ bore the curse of sin on the cross, becoming the very symbol of what destroys us, so that by looking to Him in faith, we are healed and given life. The story calls us to see afresh the seriousness of sin, the mercy of God, and the simplicity of the

gospel: look and live.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Background in Numbers: Numbers recounts Israel's 40 years in the wilderness, a journey marked by rebellion, testing, and God's patient faithfulness. By the time of Numbers 21, Israel had repeatedly grumbled against God's provision (manna, water, leadership). The snake incident came after yet another rejection of God's goodness.

The Fiery Serpents: The text calls them "seraph serpents" (from the Hebrew root saraph, meaning "burning"), probably because of the burning venom of their bites. In Israel's imagination, serpents represented danger, curse, and chaos — a reminder of Eden's serpent who deceived humanity.

The Bronze Serpent: Bronze or copper was used in Israelite metalwork for strength and durability. By raising up a bronze snake, Moses displayed the very symbol of their judgment. Normally, such an image would have been considered idolatrous, but here it became God's chosen means of healing. Later, when Israel began to worship the object itself, King Hezekiah destroyed it (2 Kings 18:4).

Theology of Substitution: Israel's salvation came not by removing the snakes but by providing a focal point of faith. The curse was displayed, lifted up, and in that act God gave life. This anticipates the cross, where Jesus "became sin" for us (2 Corinthians 5:21) — the very thing that condemned us was lifted up, and through it God brought life.

Christ in the Story: Jesus directly applied this event to Himself in John 3. Just as the Israelites looked to the serpent lifted high, we look to Christ crucified and risen. The parallel is deliberate: both were lifted up publicly; both represented judgment transformed into healing; both required a response of faith, not works.

Implications for the Church: This passage teaches that salvation is simple yet costly — simple for us (look in faith), costly for Christ (He bore the curse). It confronts our tendency to minimise sin, showing its deadly effects. It also calls us to lift Christ high before the world, that others may look to Him and live.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think God chose such a strange symbol (a bronze snake) as the means of healing?
- What does this story teach us about the seriousness of sin and the mercy of God?
- How does Jesus' use of this passage in John 3 shape the way we understand the cross?
- In what ways can we “lift Christ high” in our lives today so that others may see Him and believe?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 107:17–22**

“Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind. Let them sacrifice thank offerings

and tell of his works with songs of joy.”

Connection: Like Israel in the wilderness, those described in Psalm 107 suffered because of rebellion. Yet when they cried to the Lord, He brought healing and life. The Psalm reminds us that God saves not because His people deserve it but because of His unfailing love. Just as Israel was called to look and live, so we are called to cry out, receive His healing, and proclaim His mercy.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord God, we confess that like Israel we often grumble, doubt, and turn from your ways. Thank you that even in our sin, you provide a way of healing and life. We praise you for Jesus, lifted up on the cross, who bore our curse so that we might live. Teach us to look to Him in faith each day, and help us to lift Him high in our lives so that others may see and believe. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 6:24–26

*“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

In the midst of Israel’s wilderness wandering, God teaches Aaron and his sons how to bless the people. These words are more than a prayer — they are a divine declaration of God’s intent toward His own.

The blessing flows in three waves: protection (“keep you”), favour (“make his face shine on you”), and peace (“give you peace”). In Hebrew, peace (shalom) means wholeness, harmony, and flourishing — life as God intended it.

Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of this blessing. He is the face of God turned toward us in grace (John 1:14). Through His death and resurrection, we are kept from condemnation, welcomed into God’s favour, and given peace that the world cannot take away (John 14:27). When we receive this blessing in faith, we carry it into the lives of others. We become living reminders that God’s face still shines, even in the desert.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

How could you speak God’s blessing into someone’s life this week?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that your face is turned toward me in grace. Let your peace guard my heart today. Make me a channel of your blessing to others. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 9:15–17**

*“On the day the tabernacle... was set up, the cloud covered it... Whenever the cloud lifted from above the tent, the Israelites set out; wherever the cloud settled, the Israelites encamped.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

God’s people were not guided by maps or military scouts — they were guided by His presence. The cloud by day and fire by night were visible reminders that the Lord Himself was leading them.

This rhythm required trust and attentiveness. Sometimes the cloud stayed for a day; sometimes for months. The people learned to wait when God stayed and to move when He moved.

In Christ, we still live under God’s guidance, though it is now through the indwelling Holy Spirit. He leads us not by visible pillars but by His Word, His Spirit’s prompting, and the peace of His presence. Our challenge is the same: to be attentive, willing to stay when He says “stay” and ready to move when He says

“go.” The journey is safest when the Lord Himself is the map.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How can you be more attentive to the leading of God’s Spirit in your daily life?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that you still lead your people. Help me to walk in step with your Spirit. Keep my heart willing to wait or move at your command. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 13:30**

*“Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said,  
‘We should go up and take possession of the land, for we  
can certainly do it.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The spies return from Canaan with a mixed report: the land is good, but the people are giants and the cities are fortified. Fear spreads like wildfire, drowning out faith. Only Caleb and Joshua speak differently, urging the people to trust God’s promise.

Faith does not deny the obstacles — it simply sees God as greater than the obstacles. Caleb’s confidence is not in Israel’s military strength but in the Lord who had already delivered them from Egypt.

Jesus calls us to the same courage. He has promised that His kingdom will advance and that nothing — not even the gates of hell — will overcome it (Matthew 16:18). When challenges loom large, we fix our eyes not on the giants, but on the God who has already secured the victory.

Faith often sounds like a minority voice in a fearful crowd. But one voice of trust, anchored in God’s promises, can change the course of a whole community.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “giant” in your life needs to be confronted with faith in God’s power rather than fear?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, make me bold to trust your promises. Help me to see you as bigger than my obstacles. Strengthen my voice to speak faith in the face of fear. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 21:8–9**

*“Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole.  
Then when anyone was bitten... they looked at the bronze  
snake and lived.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Numbers is a book of wandering, rebellion, and God's patient discipline. Yet even here, hope glimmers. When the people grumble and turn away, God does not abandon them. In the wilderness, He provides manna, water, guidance—and astonishing grace.

One of the strangest moments is the bronze serpent. Bitten by deadly snakes, the people cry out, and God instructs Moses to lift a serpent on a pole. All who looked were healed. Jesus later says this image was about Him (John 3:14–15). On the cross, He became sin for us—lifted up to bring healing to those who believe.

Jesus is the true and better provision in our wilderness. He is the One who never grumbled, never rebelled—yet bore the curse for us so we might live.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you need to "look up" and fix your eyes on Jesus today?

### **PRAYER**

Jesus, when I am weary and bitten by sin, lift my eyes to you. Thank you for becoming sin so I could be healed. Lead me with your grace through every wilderness. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: NUMBERS 35:11–12**

*“Select some towns to be your cities of refuge, to which a person who has killed someone accidentally may flee... They will be places of refuge from the avenger...”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

In God’s law, mercy is woven even into matters of justice. The cities of refuge were safe places where someone accused of causing a death could flee until a fair trial was held. These cities protected the innocent from vengeance and upheld the value of life.

The New Testament shows us that these cities point to Christ. He is our refuge from the judgment we deserve. We run to Him, not as the innocent seeking protection from false accusation, but as the guilty seeking mercy. And in Him, we find both justice and grace.

Hebrews 6:18 says we “have fled to take hold of the hope set before us” — that hope is anchored in Jesus, our High Priest who lives forever to intercede for us.

The cities of refuge were scattered throughout Israel so no one was too far to reach them. Likewise, Christ is near to all who call on Him. The door to our refuge is always open.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing Jesus as your refuge change the way you face your fears and failures?

## **PRAYER**

Jesus, you are my safe place and my defender. When I am guilty, you cover me in grace. Keep me close to you, my refuge and strength. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 18:15

*“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.”*

### OPENER

Who is someone you’ve always found worth listening to — and why? What made their words carry weight in your life?

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Moses, the great leader of Israel, knew his time was coming to an end. The people feared what would happen when he was gone. Into that uncertainty, God gave a promise: another prophet would arise, one like Moses, who would reveal God’s will and lead His people.

This promise points beyond Joshua and the line of prophets that followed. While they were faithful messengers, they all fell short of the greatness described here. Ultimately, this passage finds its fulfilment in Christ. Jesus is the true Prophet, not only declaring God’s word but embodying it (John 1:14). He speaks with an authority greater than Moses, not simply saying, “Thus says the Lord,” but declaring, “Truly, truly, I say to you.”

For the Israelites, this was a word of hope — God would not leave His people without a voice. For us, it is a reminder of grace — God’s final Word has come in Christ. The command is clear: “You must listen to Him.” Our lives, like the disciples on the mountain of transfiguration, are centred on this call: listen to Jesus, the true Prophet who speaks life, truth, and salvation.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Deuteronomy is Moses' farewell sermon to Israel as they stand on the edge of the Promised Land. The covenant at Sinai is being renewed for a new generation. Israel's survival depends on their obedience to God's Word and their faithfulness to His covenant. But who would lead them after Moses? This anxiety gives shape to God's promise in 18:15.

In Israel's history, prophets were God's covenant messengers. They reminded the people of His commands, called them back from idolatry, and foretold His future plans. But none of them perfectly reflected God's heart — they were flawed and limited. Moses was unique because he spoke to God "face to face" (Deut. 34:10). The expectation of a prophet "like Moses" became a messianic hope: one who would bring God's Word with clarity and authority.

The New Testament identifies Jesus as the fulfillment of this promise. Peter, in Acts 3:22–23, directly quotes Deut. 18:15, proclaiming that Jesus is the Prophet Israel longed for. In Hebrews 1:1–2, we see the progression: "In the past God spoke... through the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son." Jesus not only speaks God's Word — He is God's Word, the final and decisive revelation of God.

This also carries a sharp warning: ignoring Jesus' voice is rejecting the very Word of God. Just as Israel was commanded to listen to Moses, so we are commanded to listen to Christ. Eternal life is bound up in how we respond to Him.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does it mean that Jesus is the “prophet like Moses”? In what ways is He greater than Moses?
- How does listening to Jesus shape your everyday life — in decisions, relationships, and struggles?
- Israel was told to listen carefully to God’s Word for their survival. What would it look like for us to take God’s Word that seriously today?

## **REFLECTION: PSALM 95**

Psalm 95 calls God’s people to worship and to listen: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” This psalm pairs with Deuteronomy’s theme of hearing and obeying the Word of God. The wilderness generation failed to listen, and their disobedience barred them from the land. In contrast, those who hear and trust the voice of the true Prophet — Christ — enter God’s rest. The psalm warns against spiritual deafness but also invites joyful, humble listening to the Shepherd of our souls.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Father, thank you that you did not leave us without a voice, but sent your Son, the true Prophet, to reveal your heart and will. Help us to listen to Jesus with open ears and open hearts. May His words shape our lives, guide our paths, and draw us ever closer to you. In His name we pray, Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5

*“Hear, O Israel: 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.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Known as the Shema, these verses are the heartbeat of Israel’s faith. God calls His people to listen — not just with ears, but with their whole being — and to respond with total love. This is not a partial affection or a divided loyalty; it is a whole-life devotion.

When Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment, He quotes these very words (Mark 12:29–30). For Him, loving God is not a rule to be kept but the life-giving centre of all obedience. It is the source from which every other command flows.

The love God calls for is a response to His love for us. He redeemed Israel from Egypt before giving the Shema. In the same way, He redeems us through Christ before asking for our devotion. Our love is always rooted in His prior grace.

In a distracted world, the Shema invites us to live with an undivided heart — to let love for God be the shaping force behind our choices, habits, and priorities.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What would it look like to love God with all your heart, soul, and

strength in a practical way this week?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, you are one, and you are my God. Teach me to love you with my whole being. Let my life be an overflow of devotion to you. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 8:2-3**

*“Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years... to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

As Moses reflects on the wilderness years, he reminds Israel that the journey was not a mistake — it was a classroom. God humbled them, tested their hearts, and taught them dependence. The manna in the morning was more than food; it was a lesson that life is sustained by God’s Word.

Jesus quotes this verse when tempted in the wilderness (Matthew 4:4). Hungry after forty days of fasting, He resists the devil’s invitation to turn stones into bread. His refusal is not about rejecting food — it is about declaring that obedience to God’s Word is more essential than even physical survival.

Our lives are often shaped by what we think we cannot live without. Deuteronomy calls us to see that the truest necessity is hearing and obeying God's voice. Bread can fill our stomachs, but only His Word can fill our souls.

God's people were never meant to wander aimlessly; they were meant to walk closely with the One whose Word is life.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would change in your daily routine if you truly believed you could not live without God's Word?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, your Word is life to me. Feed me daily with your truth and teach me to depend on you. Keep my heart humble and my ears open to your voice. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 18:15**

*"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him."*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

As Moses prepares to leave the people, he reminds them of God's law, His faithfulness, and the need to choose life. But he also points ahead: God will raise up a prophet like him. The

people must listen to this coming one.

The New Testament makes it clear—this prophet is Jesus (Acts 3:22). Like Moses, He mediates between God and man. But unlike Moses, Jesus perfectly fulfills the law and speaks not just God’s word—but as the Word made flesh.

Deuteronomy ends with a view from the mountain—a glimpse of the Promised Land Moses cannot enter. But Jesus, the true Moses, leads us all the way in. He is the One we must listen to. In Him, life and blessing are found.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for you to truly "listen to Him" today?

### **PRAYER**

Jesus, you are the greater Prophet, full of truth and grace. Open my ears to your voice and my heart to your Word. Lead me into life as I walk in obedience to you. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:19–20**

*“This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses...  
Now choose life, so that you and your children may live  
and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his  
voice, and hold fast to him.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

As Moses nears the end of his life, he places before Israel a stark choice: life or death, blessing or curse. To choose life is to love the Lord, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. This choice is not just about the moment; it shapes generations.

In Christ, this choice takes on its fullest meaning. He is “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). Choosing life means choosing Him — trusting His sacrifice, following His teaching, and clinging to His presence.

Moses’ words are not an invitation to self-reliance but to covenant faithfulness. God’s people are not saved by making perfect choices, but by holding fast to the One who has chosen them.

Each day we face many smaller “life or death” moments — opportunities to walk in trust or drift in self-dependence. Choosing life is a daily decision, empowered by the Spirit and grounded in God’s grace.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What does “choosing life” look like in one decision you’re facing right now?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, you are my life and my joy. Help me to choose you in every decision. Let my heart hold fast to you above all else. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## Devotional Day 5

### SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

#### SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 34:4–5

*“Then the Lord said to him, ‘This is the land I promised... I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.’ And Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab...”*

#### DEVOTIONAL

Deuteronomy ends with both beauty and bittersweetness. Moses, the servant of the Lord, stands on a mountain and sees the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He sees it, but he will not enter it. This moment reminds us that God’s purposes are bigger than any one life. Moses’ role was vital, but the story belongs to God. His promises will be fulfilled, even when our part in them comes to a close.

Moses’ death also points us forward. Centuries later, on another mountain — the Mount of Transfiguration — Moses stands with Elijah and talks with Jesus (Luke 9:28–31). The true and greater Joshua (Jesus) would lead God’s people into an inheritance far greater than Canaan: the kingdom of God.

For those in Christ, our journey will also end with a view — not of a land we cannot enter, but of the home we are invited into forever.

#### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

How does the hope of your eternal inheritance shape the way you live today?

**PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that your promises never fail. Teach me to serve faithfully, even in what I cannot finish. Keep my eyes fixed on the home you are leading me to. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**



# APRIL

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## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

When you want to know what someone is really like, do you pay more attention to what they say or how they live? How do words and actions together reveal the truth of a person's character?

### SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 1:3

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

The opening of Hebrews begins not with us but with Christ. The writer wants us to see Jesus in His true majesty—God's Son, who perfectly reveals the Father. He is not merely a prophet or teacher, but the very radiance of God's glory. Just as sunlight is inseparable from the sun, so Christ is inseparable from God—He shows us exactly who God is.

This is the heart of Christian faith: to know Jesus is to know God. We don't have to guess what God is like. We look to Christ—His compassion for the broken, His holiness in truth, His sacrificial love at the cross. In Him, the fullness of God's glory shines clearly.

The verse also reminds us of Jesus' ongoing work. He sustains all things by His powerful word—meaning our lives, the universe, and history itself are held together in His hands. And after providing purification for our sins at the cross, He sat down—His work finished, His reign secure. This is the Jesus we follow: not

just Saviour, but Lord and King.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Hebrews was written to Jewish Christians tempted to drift back into old covenant practices under pressure. The writer argues Christ is greater than angels, Moses, priests, and sacrifices. Here in the opening verses, he establishes Christ's divine nature.

Theologically, “radiance of God’s glory” echoes Old Testament imagery of God’s presence—like the shining cloud of glory in the tabernacle and temple (Exodus 40:34–35). The “exact representation” (Greek *charaktēr*) conveys the idea of a stamp or imprint: Jesus bears the very nature of God, not just a reflection but the real essence. This is a foundational verse for the doctrine of Christ’s divinity.

## **REFLECTION: PSALM 27:1**

“The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?”

Just as the Psalmist sees God as light and salvation, Hebrews declares that light shines fully in Christ.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does the phrase “radiance of God’s glory” teach us about the relationship between the Father and the Son?
- When you think about Jesus, do you see Him as someone distant, or as the clearest picture of God’s heart for you?
- Why does the author emphasise that Jesus is seated at God’s right hand? What does that signify?
- How might remembering that Jesus “sustains all things by

His word” change how you view your daily struggles?

- In what ways does your life reflect confidence that Christ has already finished the work of salvation?

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, You are the radiance of God’s glory, the exact image of His being. Thank You for making God known to us so clearly in Your life, death, and resurrection. Help us to trust You as the One who holds all things together, and to rest in the salvation You have accomplished. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 1:1–4

*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.*

### DEVOTIONAL

God's story is not one of absence, but of ongoing speech. In ages past, He spoke through prophets, giving glimpses and promises, shadows and signs. But now, the voice is clear and final — God has spoken through His Son. Jesus is not just another prophet in the line; He is the fulfilment of all that came before. The prophets pointed forward, but the Son is the destination.

The writer paints an exalted portrait: Jesus is “heir of all things,” the One for whom creation exists. He is also the One through whom creation was made — the beginning and the end. This dual truth means He is both the origin of our existence and the goal toward which our lives are moving.

To see Him is to see God, for He is the “radiance of God's glory

and the exact representation of His being.” Radiance is not borrowed light; it is the very outshining of the divine. In Christ, God is perfectly revealed, His character and nature on full display.

Yet this supreme One is also the Lamb who “provided purification for sins” and then sat down. His sitting is not weariness — it is the posture of completion. The work is finished. The atonement is secure. No more sacrifices are needed.

Here, at the very beginning of Hebrews, we are reminded: the supremacy of Christ is not an abstract idea. It is the foundation for our hope. The One who sustains galaxies also sustains you, and His word is enough.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing that Jesus’ work is complete give you rest today?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, You are the radiance of God’s glory. Thank You for speaking the final word of salvation. Hold my heart in the security of Your finished work. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 2:14–18**

*Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*

*For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

The glory of Christ in Hebrews 1 might feel untouchable — cosmic and eternal. But here, the focus shifts to His humanity. The One who sustains the universe also took on flesh and blood. He entered the fragility of our human condition. He did not remain distant from suffering; He stepped into it, fully.

His death was not an accident or a tragedy outside His control. It was purposeful — “that by His death He might break the power of him who holds the power of death.” The cross was a decisive victory over the enemy. Death, which loomed like an unbeatable foe, has been defanged. The fear that enslaved humanity is broken by the risen Christ.

This passage is also deeply personal: “it is not angels He helps, but Abraham’s descendants.” This is covenant language — He came for the people of God, and through the gospel, we are

counted among them. His solidarity with us is complete: “fully human in every way.”

In becoming like us, He became our “merciful and faithful high priest.” He knows our weakness from the inside. He knows the pull of temptation, not from yielding to it, but from resisting it to the very end. Because He suffered when tempted, He is uniquely able to help us when we are tempted. His help is not theoretical — it is born from experience.

The majesty of Christ does not remove Him from our struggles; it equips Him to meet us in them. The One who sits at the right hand of God also walks beside us in the valley.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing that Jesus understands your temptation change the way you approach Him in prayer?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, thank You for taking on my humanity. Thank You for defeating death and breaking its power. Help me to run to You for mercy in my time of need. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 4:14–16**

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold*

*firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.*

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Hebrews 4 brings comfort and courage together. Jesus is not just a high priest; He is a “great” high priest who has ascended into heaven. His position is secure, His authority unmatched. This means our faith rests on a foundation that cannot be shaken.

Yet this greatness is paired with deep empathy. He is not “unable to empathise” — His heart is moved by our weakness. He has faced temptation “in every way” we have, yet without sin. His sinlessness does not make Him cold toward us; it makes Him the perfect source of help.

Because of who He is and what He has done, we are invited to “approach God’s throne of grace with confidence.” This is astounding. In the old covenant, the high priest could enter God’s presence only once a year, and only with a blood sacrifice. Now, because of Jesus, the way is open all the time, and we are welcomed boldly.

The throne we approach is not a throne of judgment for those in Christ — it is a “throne of grace.” And at that throne, there is

always what we most need: mercy for our failures, grace for our present challenges. The call is simple yet profound: hold firmly to your faith, and keep coming to Him. He is never weary of your prayers.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What keeps you from coming boldly to God for help, and how might this passage change that?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, You are my great high priest. Thank You for opening the way to the Father's throne. Give me confidence to come to You again and again. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 10:19–23**

*Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

The imagery here is drawn straight from the temple. The Most Holy Place was where God's presence dwelt — a place inaccessible to all but the high priest, and even he only entered once a year. Now, because of Jesus, the way is open. His body is described as the curtain — torn for us so that nothing stands in the way.

This is a “new and living way.” It's not a cold ritual but a living relationship. Access to God is not a privilege for the few; it is an open invitation to all who come through Christ. We are told to “draw near to God with a sincere heart.” This is not about external performance; it's about a genuine approach, a heart made clean by the blood of Jesus. Our conscience, once weighed down by guilt, is cleansed.

And then comes the call to perseverance: “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess.” Why? Because the One who promised is faithful. Our grip on hope is not sustained by our strength, but by His unwavering character. Every time we draw near in prayer, worship, or simple trust, we are living in the reality this passage describes. We are entering the Most Holy Place — not in fear, but in love.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for you to “draw near” to God this week with full assurance?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for tearing down the barrier between us. Cleanse my heart and renew my hope. Help me to draw near to

You daily. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

### **Devotional Day 5**

## **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 12:1–3**

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The Christian life is a race — not a sprint, but a marathon of endurance. We are not running alone. The “great cloud of witnesses” are the faithful who have gone before, their lives a testimony that God is worth trusting to the end.

Running well means throwing off what hinders. Not every hindrance is sin, but anything that slows our pursuit of Christ must be laid aside. And the sins that entangle — those patterns that trip us up again and again — must be released.

Our focus is not on the crowd but on Christ. He is the “pioneer and perfecter” of faith — the one who starts it in us and brings it

to completion. His race took Him to the cross, which He endured “for the joy set before Him” — the joy of redeeming His people and glorifying the Father. Now He is seated in victory, His work complete. When we consider His endurance, our own weariness finds perspective. Our race may be hard, but it is run in His strength.

Hebrews ends as it began: with our eyes fixed on Jesus. He is both our example and our enabling power.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What do you need to “throw off” in order to run with perseverance?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, help me to run the race with my eyes fixed on You. Give me strength to endure and courage to let go of what hinders. Keep me from growing weary or losing heart. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

Can you think of a time when someone's actions spoke louder than their words? What did it teach you about the connection between belief and behaviour?

### SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 2:17

*Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

James is strikingly direct. He reminds us that faith is not an abstract idea or a set of words—it is something that comes alive in the way we live. Faith that is only spoken but never acted upon is no faith at all; it is lifeless. Genuine trust in Christ will always overflow into love, mercy, and obedience.

This does not mean that we are saved by our works. Scripture is clear: salvation is a gift of grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8–9). But James insists that real faith is never idle—it works itself out in everyday life. Just as a tree shows life through fruit, a believer shows faith through deeds.

Our world is full of skepticism, and many people do not listen to words about Jesus unless they see His love embodied. Acts of service, compassion, forgiveness, and courage are the living evidence that faith is genuine. In the end, faith without deeds is like a lamp without oil—it cannot shine.

### HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

James wrote to Jewish Christians scattered outside of Jerusalem, facing trials, poverty, and social tension. His letter is

deeply practical, urging believers to live out their faith consistently. The tension between Paul's teaching on justification by faith and James' emphasis on works has often been debated. But the two are not in conflict: Paul addresses how we are made right with God (by grace alone), while James addresses how true faith shows itself in life.

Theologically, James 2 echoes Jesus' own teaching: "By their fruit you will recognise them" (Matthew 7:16). Faith and works are not two competing paths to salvation but two sides of the same coin—faith is the root, works are the fruit.

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 15:1-2**

*Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart.*

The psalmist, like James, connects true fellowship with God to the life that flows from it.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why does James describe faith without works as "dead" rather than simply "weak?"
- What specific actions in your life demonstrate the reality of your faith to others?
- How does James' teaching complement Paul's words about salvation by grace?
- Where might God be calling you to let your faith show itself in a practical way this week?
- If someone observed your life for a week, what would they

conclude about the God you believe in?

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Father, thank you that salvation is a gift of grace through Jesus Christ. Help us not to settle for empty words but to let our faith come alive in deeds of love, justice, and mercy. May our lives be a testimony that our Redeemer lives in us. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:2-4

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

### DEVOTIONAL

Few instructions in the Bible seem as counterintuitive as this: Consider it pure joy... when you face trials. James is not romanticising suffering. He is not suggesting we pretend pain is pleasant. Rather, he is inviting us to view trials through the lens of God's purpose. Trials are not random disruptions; they are opportunities for growth in Christlikeness.

The testing of faith is like the refining of gold — the heat removes what does not belong, leaving behind something purer. Perseverance is not instant; it is developed in the long obedience of trusting God in difficulty. Each time we endure in faith, our spiritual muscles grow stronger.

James calls us to “let perseverance finish its work.” That means we resist the temptation to short-circuit the process by running from hardship prematurely. When we stay the course, God uses our trials to make us “mature and complete.” This does not mean we will become perfect in this life, but it does mean we will grow into a wholeness — a character increasingly shaped by Christ, with fewer fractures of unbelief.

The joy James describes is not the giddy happiness of circumstances going well. It is the deep satisfaction of knowing that God is at work in us, even in the hardest seasons, to make us more like His Son.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How might your perspective on your current challenges change if you saw them as part of God's work to make you mature in Christ?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, teach me to see my trials through Your eyes. sGrow in me the perseverance that leads to maturity. Help me trust that You are working for my good. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:22-25**

*Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

James draws a sharp line between hearing God’s Word and obeying it. It is possible to listen well — even to admire God’s truth — and yet remain unchanged. Such listening is self-deception. The mirror analogy makes it plain: seeing reality without acting on it is absurd.

God’s Word is meant to show us not only who He is, but also who we are and what must change. Ignoring that is like walking away from a mirror and forgetting what we look like — living as though nothing needs attention.

The “perfect law that gives freedom” may sound like a contradiction, but it’s not. In Christ, the law is fulfilled, and obedience becomes the pathway to true freedom. We are most free when we live in alignment with the way God designed us to live.

Obedience is not occasional but continual — “continuing in it” until it becomes the shape of our life. This is how blessing comes, not as a reward for our performance, but as the fruit of living in step with God’s ways.

The blessing James promises is not necessarily ease or prosperity, but the joy and wholeness that come from walking with God in integrity.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where might you be hearing God’s Word but failing to put it into practice?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, make me not only a hearer of Your Word but a doer. Give me courage to act on what You reveal. Shape my life in the pattern of obedience to You. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 2:14–17**

*What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

James confronts the temptation to reduce faith to words and feelings. True faith, he insists, will always express itself in action. Words of comfort without acts of care are empty. Faith without works is not faith at all — it is dead.

This is not a contradiction to Paul’s teaching that we are saved by grace through faith. Rather, it’s the other side of the same coin. Paul addresses how we are made right with God; James addresses how living faith shows itself in the world. The example James gives is practical and concrete: a fellow believer

lacking basic needs. Spiritual-sounding words are no substitute for tangible help. Love must take form in deeds.

James, this is not about adding works to faith to make it valid; it's about recognising that real faith naturally overflows in love. Just as a tree that is alive will bear fruit, a heart that trusts God will move toward others in care and generosity. If we want to know whether our faith is alive, we should look not at our feelings alone, but at the way we live.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where can your faith take tangible shape in loving action this week?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, let my faith be alive and active. Show me where I can meet the needs of others. Make my love practical, generous, and real. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 3:9-12**

*With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.*

*Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same*

*spring? My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

The tongue, James says earlier, is small but powerful. Here, he presses on its inconsistency. How can the same mouth both bless God and curse people made in His image? It's a contradiction that should trouble us deeply.

James uses vivid images — springs, fig trees, grapevines — to show that our words reveal the true condition of our hearts. Just as a spring cannot produce both fresh and salt water, our speech should not produce both praise and harm. This is not about perfect speech but about integrity. If we claim to worship God, our words to and about others should reflect His heart.

The challenge is that our tongues are directly connected to our hearts. To change our words, our hearts must be changed. Only the Holy Spirit can bring that transformation.

James invites us to see our words as sacred — instruments for building up rather than tearing down, for blessing rather than cursing. In this way, our mouths can become a stream of living water in the lives of others.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What patterns in your speech reveal a need for God's transforming work in your heart?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, set a guard over my mouth. Let my words be consistent with my worship. Make my speech a source of blessing and life. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 5:13–16**

*Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.*

*And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

James ends his letter with a call to prayer in every circumstance. Trouble? Pray. Joy? Praise. Sickness? Call for prayer. Prayer is not the last resort; it is the believer's first reflex in every situation. He encourages calling the elders to pray and anoint with oil — a tangible act that embodies God's care. Healing, James says, comes from the Lord, and it may involve both physical restoration and forgiveness.

Confession is also central. Sin that remains hidden festers, but sin brought into the light can be forgiven and healed. The community of faith is meant to be a place where we carry one another's burdens, including our spiritual struggles.

James assures us that "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Righteousness here is not sinlessness, but a life aligned with God through faith in Christ. Such prayers are powerful because they are in step with God's will. This closing emphasis reminds us that the Christian life is lived in constant dependence on God, and that prayer is not a duty to check off, but a privilege to embrace.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where in your life right now do you most need to bring prayer into the centre?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, teach me to pray in every circumstance. Give me courage to confess my sins and humility to receive prayer. Make my prayers powerful through Your Spirit. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**







## LifeHub Material

### OPENER

Can you think of a time when someone supported you or held you up when you were struggling to stand on your own?

### SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 1:24–25

*To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.*

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

Jude ends his short but weighty letter not with a warning, but with a song of worship. After urging his readers to contend for the faith and to resist false teachers, he turns their gaze upward to the God who is able to do what we cannot: to keep us from stumbling and to bring us safely into his presence.

What a promise this is! We live in a world filled with temptations, distractions, and spiritual dangers. Left to ourselves, we would falter. But God is both the keeper and the presenter. He guards our steps now and will one day bring us, spotless and joyful, into his glorious presence.

Notice also the tone—“with great joy.” God does not bring us reluctantly into his presence but rejoices over his people. His keeping power is matched by his delight in us, his redeemed children. No wonder Jude ends with a doxology: praise for the eternal majesty and authority of our Lord.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Jude, the half-brother of Jesus, wrote this brief letter to warn the church against false teachers who twisted grace into license. His letter is sharp and urgent, filled with Old Testament examples of rebellion and judgment. But he concludes with assurance: God's power is greater than the threat of falsehood.

Theologically, this doxology emphasises God's sovereignty in salvation. Perseverance in the faith is not merely human effort—it is God's preserving grace at work. Jude echoes Paul's confidence in Philippians 1:6: "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

This text also anticipates the final day when believers will stand before God's throne. By Christ's righteousness, not our own, we are presented "without fault" (cf. Col. 1:22). The result is worship—glory to God before all ages, now and forever.

## **REFLECTION: PSALM 121:7–8**

*"The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."*

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does Jude mean when he says God will "keep you from stumbling?" Is this about sin, salvation, or both?
- How does the phrase "present you... without fault" connect to Old Testament sacrificial imagery?
- In what areas of your life do you feel most likely to stumble? How can you trust God's keeping power there?
- How might meditating on God's joy in presenting you before

his presence change the way you see yourself?

- What practices help you turn reminders of God’s keeping power into moments of worship?

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord, thank you that you are able to keep us from stumbling and to bring us into your presence with joy. Help us to trust your keeping power each day, and to live in the confidence of your promises. To you be glory, majesty, power, and authority forever. Amen.

## **Devotional Day 1**

### **SILENCE AND STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE REDING: JUDE 1-2**

*Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James,  
To those who have been called, who are loved in God the  
Father and kept for Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace and love  
be yours in abundance.*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Jude introduces himself with humility — not as the half-brother of Jesus (which he was), but as His servant. In the ancient world, “servant” (literally “slave”) carried the idea of total devotion and belonging. Jude’s identity was rooted not in family ties or personal achievement, but in submission to Christ as Lord.

He writes to believers with a threefold description: they are “called,” “loved in God the Father,” and “kept for Jesus Christ.” Each phrase speaks of God’s initiative. We did not stumble into

salvation; God called us. His love is the fountain from which everything else flows. And He Himself ensures that we are kept — preserved for Christ's return.

Jude blesses his readers with “mercy, peace, and love... in abundance.” These are not static qualities but dynamic realities in the believer's life. Mercy reassures us when we fail. Peace anchors us in a turbulent world. Love flows from God to us and then through us to others.

In a letter that will soon warn about false teachers and spiritual danger, Jude starts by grounding his readers in security and assurance. Before he tells them to contend for the faith, he reminds them who they are in God's eyes.

We too face challenges and spiritual opposition, and the temptation can be to start with fear or striving. But like Jude's audience, we must first stand firm in the reality that we are called, loved, and kept. Only then can we contend without despair.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Which truth do you most need to remember today — that you are called, loved, or kept?

### **PRAYER**

Father, thank You that You have called me, loved me, and keep me. Help me to live from the security of Your mercy and love. Fill me with peace that overflows to others. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## Devotional Day 2

### SILENCE AND STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

#### SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 3-4

*Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people. For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a licence for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.*

#### DEVOTIONAL

Jude had planned to write a letter celebrating salvation, but urgency forced him to change direction. False teachers had infiltrated the community, twisting grace into permission for sin and undermining Christ's authority. The shift in tone is important — joy in salvation does not remove the need for vigilance.

The call to “contend for the faith” is not about quarrelling but about protecting the truth of the gospel. The “faith” here is not private belief but the body of Christian teaching “once for all entrusted” to God's people. The gospel is not open to revision; it is God's definitive revelation in Christ.

False teaching often slips in quietly, “secretly” distorting the truth. It may sound appealing — offering freedom without holiness, or spirituality without submission to Jesus as Lord. But

such distortions ultimately deny Christ, even if they use His name. Contending for the faith begins with knowing it well. It involves holding firmly to truth while embodying love and humility. It is not fear-driven defensiveness but Spirit-led courage to protect what is life-giving.

We live in a time when truth is often treated as flexible, and moral boundaries are blurred. Jude's warning reminds us that grace is never licence for sin; it is God's power to transform us. To contend for the faith is to keep the gospel clear, pure, and central.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What does contending for the faith look like in your life without becoming argumentative or harsh?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, help me to know Your truth deeply and clearly. Give me courage to stand firm when the gospel is twisted. Keep my heart tender and my words full of grace. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE AND STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 5-7**

*Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord at one time delivered his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority*

*but abandoned their proper dwelling—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Jude takes his readers back through history to show that God's grace does not mean He overlooks persistent rebellion. He recalls three examples: unbelieving Israelites after the Exodus, rebellious angels, and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Each illustrates the danger of rejecting God's authority.

The Israelites had experienced God's rescue from Egypt but failed to trust Him in the wilderness. Their story warns us that beginning well is not enough; perseverance in faith is essential. The rebellious angels remind us that even beings of glory are accountable to God. Sodom and Gomorrah show the destructive nature of giving oneself over to sin without restraint.

These examples are sobering. They remind us that God's love is holy love — it cannot be separated from His justice. Grace is not an excuse to live as we please but the gift that enables us to live in obedience.

Jude's point is not to leave us in fear but to stir us to seriousness about faith. The past is filled with lessons that, if heeded, can keep us from stumbling. We do well to let the history of God's people remind us that faith is not static. We must remain in Christ, drawing daily from His grace, so that we

finish the race He has set before us.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Which of Jude's three examples speaks most to you today, and why?

### **PRAYER**

Holy God, keep me from the sin of drifting from You. Help me to learn from the warnings of Scripture. Strengthen my faith so I may walk in Your ways. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE AND STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 20-21**

*But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

After a series of warnings, Jude turns to encouragement. The Christian life is not only about resisting error but about actively growing in faith. He gives three instructions: build yourselves up in your faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, and keep yourselves in God's love.

“Building yourselves up” suggests deliberate effort. We grow by immersing ourselves in Scripture, worship, fellowship, and

obedience. Growth is not accidental; it comes from consistent spiritual practices.

Praying in the Holy Spirit is not a mystical technique but a posture of dependence. It means praying in harmony with God's will, guided and empowered by the Spirit. Such prayer shapes our hearts and aligns us with God's purposes.

To "keep yourselves in God's love" is to remain in the sphere of His love through trust and obedience. This does not mean we maintain His love by our efforts — His love is constant — but that we live in a way that stays connected to it.

Jude anchors all this in hope: we are waiting for the mercy of Jesus to bring us to eternal life. The Christian journey is both a present reality and a future promise, and our perseverance is sustained by keeping that hope before us.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Which of Jude's three instructions do you most need to focus on this week?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, teach me to build my life on Your truth. Help me to pray in the power of Your Spirit. Keep me rooted in the love of Christ. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE AND STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 24-25**

*To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and for evermore! Amen.*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Jude closes with one of the most beautiful doxologies in the Bible. He points us to the One who is “able to keep you from stumbling.” This is not about God keeping us from ever making mistakes, but about His power to preserve us in faith until the end.

God’s aim is not just that we survive but that we stand before Him “without fault and with great joy.” The gospel is not merely about forgiveness but about full restoration and transformation, culminating in eternal joy in His presence.

Jude’s praise reminds us that our security is not in our ability to hold onto God but in His ability to hold onto us. From before time began until eternity to come, God is sovereign and faithful.

Glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to Him. These truths anchor us when we feel weak, weary, or threatened by the pull of sin or falsehood. They remind us that the story of our faith is ultimately about His faithfulness. This doxology is not just a formal ending; it is a declaration of confidence. Whatever trials or spiritual battles we face, the final word is God’s — and it is a word of victory and joy.

**QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing that God is able to keep you change the way you face today's challenges?

**PRAYER**

Lord, thank You that You are able to keep me in Your grace.  
Help me to live with confidence in Your power and love.  
To You be glory forever. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

# MAY

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## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 5:13–15

*“Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.”*

### OPENER

Have you ever been in a situation where you assumed God was “on your side,” only to discover that the real question was whether you were on His side?

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

As Joshua stood before the fortified city of Jericho, he encountered a mysterious figure — the commander of the Lord’s army. Joshua’s natural question was: “Are you for us, or for our enemies?” The answer was startling: “Neither.”

This encounter reminds us that God is not a tribal deity bound to human agendas. The commander of the Lord’s army represents God’s sovereign purposes, which stand above all human claims of ownership. The real question is never whether God is on our side, but whether we are aligned with Him.

Many scholars see in this figure a ‘Christophany’ — an appearance of Christ before His incarnation. He comes not as a passive observer but as the divine warrior who fights for His people. Jesus is later revealed as the one who disarms powers and authorities (Col. 2:15) and leads heaven’s armies (Rev. 19:11–16). This moment in Joshua anticipates Christ as the Captain of salvation, who calls us to surrender, worship, and follow His lead.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Joshua's leadership marked a new era for Israel. After wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, God's people finally stood on the edge of Canaan, ready to inherit the land promised to Abraham. Jericho was the first obstacle — a fortified city representing the strength of Canaanite resistance. Joshua needed courage, assurance, and guidance.

It is here that the commander of the Lord's army appears, sword drawn. The encounter echoes Moses at the burning bush: Joshua is told to remove his sandals, for he is standing on holy ground. This parallel suggests the commander is more than an angel — He is divine. The act of worship offered by Joshua is accepted, further confirming this interpretation.

Theologically, this points us to the reality that the true leader of Israel is not Joshua but the Lord Himself. Joshua may be the human general, but the battle belongs to God. This anticipates Christ as the greater Joshua (the names are identical in Hebrew/Greek: Yehoshua/Iēsous), who leads His people into the ultimate promised land — salvation and eternal rest.

In the New Testament, Jesus is revealed as both Saviour and Warrior. He conquers not with the sword of steel but with the cross, disarming sin and death. At His return, He will come as the commander of heaven's armies, bringing final victory. Joshua's vision, then, is a shadow of the true Captain of our faith.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does this passage teach us about aligning ourselves

with God's purposes rather than asking Him to bless ours?

- How does seeing Jesus as the divine warrior and commander of God's army shape your faith and confidence?
- In what ways do we sometimes try to enlist God for our side, instead of surrendering to His?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 24**

Psalm 24 declares the Lord as the King of glory and the Lord mighty in battle. The psalm celebrates God as the true warrior who fights for His people and calls His people to holiness: "Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? He who has clean hands and a pure heart." This pairs perfectly with Joshua's encounter, where worship and holiness precede victory. Just as Joshua bowed before the commander, Psalm 24 calls us to open the gates of our hearts to the King of glory, who comes to reign and to win the battle.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, Commander of heaven's armies, we bow before You. Forgive us when we try to make You serve our plans instead of surrendering to Yours. Lead us in Your victory, fight our battles, and help us walk in obedience and faith. We trust You as our Captain, our Saviour, and our King. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 1:7-9

*“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you... Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

The book of Joshua opens with transition. Moses is gone, and the mantle of leadership rests on Joshua. The task is daunting: lead God’s people into the land promised to their ancestors, through battles and challenges that will test every ounce of faith.

God’s repeated command — “Be strong and courageous” — is not a call to bravado, but to trust. Joshua’s strength is not in military strategy or personal skill, but in the presence of God and obedience to His Word. This call echoes in the life of every believer. The journey of faith requires courage — the kind that steps forward even when the way is unclear, the kind rooted not in self-confidence but in God’s promises.

Jesus assures us of the same truth: “Surely I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). His presence turns fear into faith and discouragement into perseverance.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

Where do you need to hear God’s “Be strong and courageous” in your life right now?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, you are my strength and courage. Help me to trust your presence more than my fears. Lead me forward in obedience to your Word. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 2:10–11**

*“We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea... for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Before the conquest begins, two spies enter Jericho and meet Rahab, a woman whose life and reputation are far from spotless. Yet her words reveal a remarkable faith: she has heard of God’s works, and she believes He is the true God.

Rahab’s faith moves her to act — to hide the spies and align herself with God’s people. Her courage saves her family, and her name finds its way into the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5) and the “hall of faith” in Hebrews 11.

Her story is a reminder that God’s grace welcomes unlikely people. He delights to bring outsiders in, not because of their past, but because of their trust in Him. Rahab’s scarlet cord hanging from the window becomes a picture of salvation —

pointing to the blood of Christ that covers and saves all who trust Him.

If God can write Rahab into His story, He can write you into His story too.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where have you seen God's grace at work in unlikely places or people?

### **PRAYER**

God of grace, thank you for welcoming the unlikely into your kingdom. Help me trust you like Rahab did. Use my life to point others to your saving power. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 5:13–15**

*“Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

As Israel stands on the brink of the Promised Land, Joshua meets a mysterious figure—a divine warrior who calls himself the commander of the Lord's army. Joshua falls facedown, realising he is in the presence of holy authority. This figure isn't merely an angel; many scholars consider him a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ.

Throughout Joshua’s conquest, the people are reminded that victory belongs to the Lord. It is not Joshua’s strategy but God’s power that brings walls down and opens the land. And in Jesus, we see the ultimate Commander who brings us into the true rest— not merely a patch of land, but a kingdom without end. Jesus is the greater Joshua (Yeshua), whose name means “The Lord saves.” He defeats our greatest enemies—sin, death, and hell —and leads His people into everlasting inheritance.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where are you relying on your own strength, rather than following Jesus, your true Commander?

### **PRAYER**

Jesus, you go before me as the Captain of salvation. Help me to trust your power, not my own plans. Lead me in victory, grounded in grace. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 6:20**

*“When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted... and the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

The fall of Jericho is not a story of military brilliance — it is a

story of obedience and God’s power. The battle plan seems absurd: march in silence for six days, then shout on the seventh. Yet this is exactly what brings the walls down.

God’s ways are often unconventional because they are designed to show that the victory is His, not ours. The same God who brought down Jericho’s walls is able to break down the barriers in our own lives — walls of fear, unbelief, bitterness, or pride.

Hebrews 11:30 reminds us that “by faith the walls of Jericho fell.” Faith hears God’s command, obeys it even when it seems illogical, and waits for His power to act.

Jesus, too, wins victory in an unexpected way — not through force, but through the cross. And in His resurrection, every wall that separates us from God is brought down forever.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “wall” in your life do you need to trust God to bring down in His way and timing?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, your ways are higher than mine. Help me to trust and obey, even when I don’t understand. Bring down the walls that keep me from fully following you. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 24:14–15**

*“Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness...  
But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

At the end of his life, Joshua gathers the people and calls them to remember all God has done — His deliverance from Egypt, His faithfulness in the wilderness, His gift of the land. Gratitude fuels his challenge: choose this day whom you will serve.

The choice is urgent because divided hearts lead to disaster. Israel cannot serve the Lord and the idols of the surrounding nations. Joshua’s own decision is clear and personal: “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

In Christ, the call is the same. We are invited to a single-hearted devotion — to let every part of life, from home to work to relationships, be lived under His lordship. Choosing the Lord is not a one-time event but a daily commitment. Each morning is another opportunity to declare, “As for me, I will serve the Lord.”

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for your household to serve the Lord in a visible way this week?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you have been faithful to me. I choose to serve you with my whole heart. Let my home be a place where your name is honoured. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

# JUNE

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## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 21:25

*“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.”*

### OPENER

Can you think of a time when “doing what seemed right to you” didn’t actually turn out right? What happened?

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

The book of Judges ends with one of the most sobering summaries in all of Scripture: “In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.” It is both an observation and an indictment. Without godly leadership, the people spiralled into chaos, violence, and idolatry. Each cycle of the Judges begins with Israel turning from God, followed by oppression, a cry for help, God raising up a deliverer, and then a temporary peace — only for the pattern to repeat.

This refrain exposes the deep need for a true King. Earthly judges and deliverers could bring temporary relief, but they could not change the heart. The ultimate problem was not political but spiritual: without God as King, people sought their own way, and it led to ruin.

Christ fulfils the longing of Judges. He is not just another temporary rescuer but the eternal King who reigns in righteousness. He doesn’t merely deliver us from outward oppression but transforms our hearts by His Spirit. Where Judges highlights the failures of human leadership, the gospel proclaims the faithfulness of the true Judge and King who brings

lasting peace.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

The period of the Judges spans roughly 300 years between Joshua's conquest of Canaan and the rise of Israel's monarchy. Israel was a loose tribal confederation, without centralised leadership, surrounded by hostile nations and constantly tempted by idolatry.

The book records a repeated downward cycle:

- Rebellion – Israel turns to idols.
- Retribution – God allows oppression by enemies.
- Repentance – Israel cries out for help.
- Rescue – God raises up a judge to deliver them.
- Rest – Peace lasts until the cycle starts again.

The refrain about “no king in Israel” points to both the political vacuum and the moral chaos of the era. The narrative is filled with disturbing accounts — violence, idolatry, abuse, civil war — showing how far God's people can fall when they abandon His rule.

Theologically, Judges demonstrates the insufficiency of human deliverers. Even the judges themselves are flawed: Gideon falls into idolatry, Jephthah makes a rash vow, Samson is undone by his lust. The book cries out for a king who is righteous, faithful, and able to lead God's people without failure. This points us forward to Christ, the King of kings, who rules not for selfish gain but in perfect justice and mercy.

Where Israel's temporary leaders faltered, Christ reigns forever.

He does not allow us to “do what is right in our own eyes,” but instead gives us new eyes to see what is right in His. Judges exposes the darkness of self-rule; Jesus brings the light of God’s reign into our hearts and communities.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think “doing what is right in your own eyes” so often leads to brokenness rather than freedom?
- How does the cycle of Judges reflect patterns we still see in human life and society today?
- In what ways does Jesus, as our true King, break the cycle of sin and bring lasting peace?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 2**

Psalm 2 presents a sharp contrast to the closing words of Judges. While Israel in the days of the judges had no king and everyone did as they pleased, Psalm 2 declares that God has installed His King on Zion, His holy hill. The nations may rage, but the Son reigns. The psalm calls for submission to God’s chosen King, warning that rebellion leads to ruin but blessing comes to those who take refuge in Him. This psalm answers the cry of Judges — humanity needs not just any king, but the King who rules with justice and offers mercy.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, true King and righteous Judge, we confess that when we do what is right in our own eyes, it leads us astray. Thank You for breaking the cycle of sin and defeat. Reign over our hearts, our choices, and our lives. Teach us to walk in Your ways and find life in Your rule. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 2:16–18

*Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the Lord's commands. Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them.*

### DEVOTIONAL

The book of Judges shows a repeating cycle: God's people turn from him, face oppression, cry out, and God sends a deliverer. These judges were raised up by God to save Israel, yet the people's hearts remained restless and prone to wander. Still, God's mercy was greater than their sin. He heard their groaning and acted in compassion.

The judges themselves were flawed and temporary — their victories faded with time. But their stories point forward to a greater Deliverer. Jesus is the Judge who not only saves for a season but brings everlasting salvation. He takes upon himself the judgment we deserve and sets us free from the oppression of sin and death.

Just as God raised up judges for Israel, he has raised up Christ

for us. And unlike the cycle of the book of Judges, Christ's deliverance is final, complete, and eternal.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where in your life are you tempted to look for temporary saviours instead of trusting Christ, the everlasting Deliverer?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, thank you for being the true Deliverer. Forgive me for turning to lesser saviours that cannot last. Help me rest in your everlasting salvation. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 4:4–9**

*“Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time... She said, ‘The Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

In a time when Israel was trapped in cycles of sin and oppression, God raised up Deborah — both a prophet and a judge. She led with wisdom, courage, and faith, showing that God chooses leaders not according to human expectations, but according to His purposes.

Deborah's story reminds us that God's deliverance often comes in unexpected ways. The victory over Sisera did not come

through military might alone, but through the obedience of those willing to act on God's word — Barak, who trusted God's promise, and Jael, whose boldness sealed the victory.

The pattern is clear: God delights to work through those the world might overlook, and He often uses collaboration among His people to bring about His purposes.

In Christ, we see the ultimate example of unexpected deliverance — victory through the apparent weakness of the cross, where God's power was made perfect.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How might God be calling you to lead or serve in a way that others might not expect?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you use the willing, not just the qualified. Give me courage to step into the role you have for me. Let my life reflect your power and your wisdom. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 6:14–16**

*“The Lord turned to him and said, ‘Go in the strength you have... Am I not sending you?’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Gideon's first reaction to God's call is hesitation. He feels weak, inadequate, and unqualified to lead Israel against the Midianites. Yet God's answer is not to reassure Gideon about his own abilities, but to remind him, "I will be with you."

This is the turning point of the story — and of our lives. God's presence transforms ordinary people into instruments of His will. The battle will not be won by Gideon's strength, but by God's power working through him. The same truth applies to us: God calls us not because we are strong, but because He is. And often, He will send us out with less than we think we need, so that our confidence rests fully in Him.

The cross reminds us that victory comes not from human resources, but from trusting the One who fights for us.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you feel weak right now, and how could God's presence change that perspective?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, I bring you my weakness. Remind me that your strength is enough. Help me to go in the strength you provide. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 13:5**

*"...You will become pregnant and have a son whose head*

*is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb; he will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

The birth of Samson is announced by an angel — a sign that God’s plan for deliverance is already in motion before Samson even draws his first breath. Samson’s calling is clear: set apart for God’s purposes from the womb.

Samson’s life is a mix of great strength and great weakness. His victories over Israel’s enemies show God’s power, yet his personal failings show the danger of self-reliance and moral compromise.

This tension points us forward to the true Deliverer, Jesus, who unlike Samson never wavered in holiness and obedience. Set apart from before His birth, Jesus fulfilled His calling perfectly, bringing salvation not just from earthly enemies, but from sin and death.

God’s plans for His people are always bigger than the immediate moment. Even flawed instruments can be used for His glory — but Christ alone brings complete salvation.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing God’s purposes are at work from the beginning give you confidence in your own calling?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, you set apart your people for your glory. Keep me faithful to the calling you've given me. Use my life to point to your perfect Deliverer, Jesus. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: JUDGES 21:25**

*“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

Judges is a sobering cycle of sin, oppression, crying out, and deliverance. Again and again, God raises up flawed saviours—warriors like Deborah, Gideon, and Samson—who rescue Israel temporarily, but cannot transform their hearts.

The refrain that echoes through the book is haunting: “Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.” The people didn’t just need rescuing—they needed reigning. A king. A righteous ruler. A deliverer who could change their desires, not just their circumstances.

Jesus is that Deliverer. He breaks the cycle by dealing with sin at its root. Where human judges fell short, He rules with justice, mercy, and truth. In a world that still does what is right in its own eyes, Jesus remains the hope of a better way.<sup>10</sup>

#### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where do you see the need for a true King—in your life, or in the world around you?

**PRAYER**

Jesus, I need more than temporary fixes—I need your Lordship. Reign in me with justice, grace, and truth. Break every cycle that keeps me from your best. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





# LifeHub Material

## SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 4:14

*“Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer.”*

### OPENER

Have you ever had someone step in to help or provide for you in a way you could not have managed on your own? How did it make you feel?

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

The story of Ruth is one of the most beautiful accounts of loyalty, kindness, and redemption in all of Scripture. From the sorrow of famine, exile, and widowhood, Ruth’s journey with Naomi moves toward surprising hope. At the heart of the story stands the concept of the guardian-redeemer (Hebrew: *go’el*). Boaz, acting as Ruth and Naomi’s redeemer, takes on their need as his own, restoring them to security, inheritance, and hope for the future.

The declaration of the women in Bethlehem in Ruth 4:14 captures the theme perfectly: “Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer.” God’s kindness shines through Boaz’s actions. Yet the story points beyond Boaz to a greater Redeemer. Through Ruth’s line comes King David, and generations later, the Messiah Himself.

In Christ, God has not left us without a Redeemer. He steps into our brokenness, takes responsibility for our sin, and restores us to God. Just as Boaz willingly paid the price for Ruth, Jesus pays the ultimate price for us. The book of Ruth reminds us that

God's redemption often unfolds in the ordinary faithfulness of His people, but its climax is found in Christ's extraordinary love.

## **HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

Ruth's story unfolds "in the days when the judges ruled" (Ruth 1:1), a time of moral chaos and instability. Against that dark backdrop, Ruth stands out as a tale of faithfulness, covenant love (hesed), and God's providential hand.

The role of the go'el (guardian-redeemer) was rooted in Israel's law (Leviticus 25; Deuteronomy 25). A redeemer was a close relative with the responsibility to rescue family members from poverty, slavery, or loss of land by "buying back" what had been lost. In Ruth's case, Boaz redeems both land and lineage. By marrying Ruth, he ensures Naomi's family line continues and that Ruth, the Moabite outsider, is grafted into the covenant people of God.

Theologically, Ruth points forward to Christ in profound ways:

- Christ as our Redeemer – Just as Boaz bore the cost to redeem Ruth, Christ bore the ultimate cost — His life — to redeem us from sin and death.
- Inclusion of the outsider – Ruth, a Moabite, becomes part of Israel and even enters the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5). In Christ, all nations are welcomed into God's family.
- God's providence in the ordinary – Ruth shows how God works through seemingly ordinary events (gleaning in a field, a family marriage) to accomplish His eternal purposes.

What began as a story of famine and death concludes with a genealogy leading to David — and ultimately, to Jesus Christ,

the everlasting Redeemer.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What does the idea of a guardian-redeemer teach us about God's character?
- How does Boaz's kindness point us forward to Jesus?
- Ruth was an outsider brought into God's people — how does this encourage us as Gentiles, and how might it shape the way we view others today?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 103**

Psalm 103 celebrates God as the Redeemer: “who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion” (v. 4). Just as the women praised God for not leaving Naomi without a redeemer, the psalmist praises the Lord who forgives sins, heals diseases, and redeems His people. Both Ruth's story and Psalm 103 call us to gratitude for God's redeeming love. Together, they remind us that redemption is not merely about being rescued but about being restored to life, dignity, and relationship with God.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Redeeming Lord, thank You that You have not left us without a Redeemer. In Jesus, You have bought us back at the highest cost and welcomed us into Your family. Teach us to trust in Your providence, extend kindness to others, and rejoice in the redemption we have in Christ. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 1:16–17

*“But Ruth replied, ‘Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.’”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Ruth’s words to Naomi are some of the most moving expressions of loyalty in Scripture. Though Ruth was a Moabite and free to return to her people, she chose instead the harder path of faithfulness. Her declaration is more than loyalty to Naomi — it is an embrace of Naomi’s God and people. Ruth stepped into covenant love, binding herself to Naomi and, in doing so, to the Lord.

This covenant commitment mirrors the faithful love of God himself. The Hebrew word *hesed* — steadfast love — runs like a thread through the book of Ruth. God’s love is loyal, committed, and unbreakable, even when life is marked by loss and uncertainty.

In Christ, we see the ultimate covenant loyalty. Jesus binds himself to us in love, promising never to leave or forsake us. At the cross, he declares with his own life, “Where you die, I will die” — and through his resurrection, he opens the way to everlasting life with him.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does Ruth's example of covenant loyalty challenge you to reflect the steadfast love of Christ in your relationships?

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, thank you for your covenant love that never lets go. Teach me to walk in faithfulness, even when the path is hard. Let my love for others reflect your steadfast love for me. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 1:20–21**

*“Don't call me Naomi,' she told them. 'Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty.’”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Naomi's words are heavy with grief. Loss has stripped her of husband and sons, and in her mind, even her name no longer fits. “Naomi” means “pleasant,” but now she calls herself “Mara,” meaning “bitter.”

The honesty of this moment is striking. She doesn't mask her pain or offer a polite religious answer. She names her sorrow, believing God has allowed it. This kind of lament is not faithlessness — it is bringing the full weight of our pain before the One who can bear it.

Ruth's quiet presence alongside Naomi models how we can walk with others in their grief. She doesn't argue Naomi's perspective or rush her through the pain. She simply stays.

In Christ, we see God's own willingness to meet us in our bitterness — not to condemn us for it, but to redeem it. The cross stands as the place where even the most bitter experiences can be transformed by resurrection hope.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

When have you been tempted to rename your life because of pain, and how might God want to meet you there?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you see my honest grief. Meet me in my bitterness and hold me close. Bring your comfort and redemption in your time. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 2:10–12**

*“May the Lord repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Boaz sees something remarkable in Ruth. She has left her

homeland and family to stand with Naomi and seek shelter under the wings of Israel's God. His blessing over her is a picture of God's own welcome to the outsider who trusts in Him.

This "under His wings" imagery evokes the shelter of a mother bird protecting her young — a tender, protective love.

Throughout Scripture, God is described as our refuge and fortress, but here we see His nearness, His personal care, and His readiness to shield His people.

For Ruth, this is not just poetic language; it is lived reality. In the fields of Boaz, she experiences safety, provision, and dignity. In Christ, the invitation to come under God's wings is extended to all — Jew and Gentile alike. Through His cross, we find the truest refuge from sin, shame, and fear.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What would it look like for you to live more fully "under God's wings" today?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you are my shelter and my shield. Draw me close under your wings of grace. Let me rest in your presence and protection. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 3:9**

*“Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family.”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

Ruth’s request to Boaz is bold and steeped in cultural meaning. To “spread the corner of your garment” over someone is to claim them as your own, to offer covenant protection and provision. Boaz is a kinsman-redeemer — a family member who has the right and responsibility to buy back land, rescue from poverty, and continue the family line. His role points forward to the greater Redeemer, Jesus, who not only claims us but also pays the price for our salvation.

What makes this moment so moving is Ruth’s vulnerability. She places herself in Boaz’s hands, trusting his character. That is the essence of faith — entrusting ourselves to the One who has both the right and the willingness to redeem us.

When we come to Jesus, we too are asking, “Cover me. Make me yours. Redeem my life.” And in His grace, He always says yes.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Where might God be inviting you to step out in bold, vulnerable faith?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, I place myself in your hands. Cover me with your grace and mercy. Redeem what is broken in my life for your glory. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

### **Devotional Day 5**

#### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: RUTH 4:14–17**

*“Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer... And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.”*

#### **DEVOTIONAL**

The story that began with famine, loss, and bitterness ends with joy, new life, and hope for the future. Naomi holds her grandson, Obed, in her arms — a tangible sign of God’s faithfulness and restoration.

This child is more than just a blessing for Naomi’s family. Obed will become the grandfather of King David, placing Ruth — a Moabite outsider — directly in the lineage of the Messiah. God’s redemptive plan stretches far beyond the immediate moment.

Ruth’s story reminds us that God is always weaving something greater than we can see. Even the most unlikely people and the most painful chapters can be threads in His grand design.

In Christ, the Redeemer’s work is complete. Like Ruth and Naomi, we are gathered into a story of grace that began before us and will outlast us — a story that ends in glory.

#### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How does knowing God is weaving a bigger story give you hope

in your present circumstances?

**PRAYER**

Lord, you are the God who restores. Thank you for drawing me into your redemption story. Help me to trust your work, even when I can't see the whole picture. Amen.

**CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





## LifeHub Material

### SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 2:10

*“He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”*

### OPENER

When you think of a leader you admire (in history, church, or your own life), what qualities stand out most?

### DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

The book of 1 Samuel marks a turning point in Israel’s history: the transition from judges to kings. It is a story of longing, leadership, failure, and God’s sovereign plan unfolding. Our verse comes from Hannah’s prayer — a prophetic song of praise after God granted her a son, Samuel.

Remarkably, Hannah’s words reach far beyond her personal joy. She declares that God will strengthen His king and exalt the horn (symbol of power) of His anointed one (Messiah in Hebrew). At this stage, Israel didn’t yet have a king. Hannah, through the Spirit, foresaw God’s promise to raise up His chosen ruler.

As the narrative unfolds, we meet Saul, the people’s choice for king, and then David, God’s choice, anointed by Samuel. Yet even David, for all his faith, could not fully embody Hannah’s prophetic vision. The ultimate fulfilment comes in Christ Jesus, the true Anointed One, who rules with strength, justice, and mercy. In Him, God’s kingdom is established forever.

### HISTORICAL & THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

1 Samuel is a book of transition. Israel moves from the loose tribal confederation of the judges to the centralised monarchy. This shift was not merely political but profoundly theological. The people's demand for a king (1 Samuel 8) was both a rejection of Samuel's leadership and, more seriously, a rejection of God's kingship: "They have not rejected you, but they have rejected me as their king" (1 Samuel 8:7). Yet God would use their request to bring about His own purposes.

Hannah's Prayer as Prophecy: Hannah's song (1 Samuel 2:1–10) is remarkable in scope. On one level it expresses her personal gratitude for God's gift of a child, but on another it functions as a prophetic declaration of God's purposes for Israel and beyond. Just as Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1 echoes Hannah's themes, so Hannah's prayer anticipates God's redemptive work through His anointed King.

Kingship in Israel: The idea of kingship was not foreign in the ancient Near East — surrounding nations were ruled by kings who claimed divine sanction. Israel's kingship, however, was to be different: the king was to rule under God's authority, covenantally bound to His law (Deuteronomy 17:14–20). Saul's failure highlights what happens when kings pursue their own agenda. David's rise, by contrast, shows God's choice of a man after His own heart.

The Anointed One (Messiah): The term *mashiach* ("anointed one") appears here in Hannah's prayer for the first time in Scripture in connection with kingship. Anointing symbolised divine election, empowerment, and consecration. While David became the archetypal "anointed king," Hannah's words stretch

far beyond him. She points toward the ultimate Anointed One — the Messiah, Christ Jesus.

**Christological Fulfilment:** In Jesus, Hannah’s prophecy finds its completion:

- Strength to His King – God raised Christ from the dead, vindicating His reign (Acts 2:24–36).
- Exalting the Horn – “Horn” symbolises power and victory. Christ’s exaltation at the right hand of the Father (Philippians 2:9–11) fulfils this.
- The Kingdom of God – Unlike Saul or David, Jesus’ reign is everlasting (Luke 1:33). He is the King who never fails.

Thus, the historical rise of kingship in Israel becomes the theological foundation for understanding Jesus as the true King, who not only rules Israel but the nations.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think Hannah’s prayer includes a prophecy about a king before Israel had one?
- How does David point forward to Jesus, and where does he fall short?
- What does it mean for us today to live under the rule of God’s anointed King, Jesus?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 2**

Psalm 2 is a royal psalm that speaks of God’s anointed King: “The Lord said to me, ‘You are my Son; today I have become your Father.’” (v. 7). It echoes Hannah’s vision: God installs His King despite the raging of nations. Just as Hannah declared God would exalt the horn of His anointed, Psalm 2 proclaims the

authority and ultimate victory of the Messiah. Together, they reveal that Christ's kingship is not just over Israel but over all the earth.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Sovereign Lord, thank You for raising up Your true Anointed King, Jesus. When human leaders fail, You remain faithful. Teach us to trust in Your rule, to live under Christ's authority with joy, and to proclaim His reign to the nations. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 1:10–11

*“In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. And she made a vow, saying, ‘Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant’s misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life...’”*

### DEVOTIONAL

Hannah’s prayer is raw, heartfelt, and without pretence. She doesn’t hide her longing or sanitise her sorrow; she brings them directly to God. In her barrenness, she has nowhere else to turn — and that desperation becomes the birthplace of deep faith.

Her vow reveals a profound truth: the gifts we receive from God are ultimately meant for His glory, not merely our comfort. Even before Samuel is conceived, Hannah has surrendered him to the Lord.

This kind of surrendered faith often grows in the soil of pain. God doesn’t waste our tears; He uses them to water seeds of trust and devotion. In Christ, we see God’s own willingness to enter our anguish and turn it toward life. Our prayers, like Hannah’s, are not wasted — they are heard by the God who remembers His people.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What deep longing in your life could you bring to God in honest prayer today?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, you hear the cries of the brokenhearted. Take my longings and make them yours. Let my life bring glory to your name.  
Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 2:10**

*“He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

As Israel transitions from judges to monarchy, the longing for a true king intensifies. The people choose Saul, tall and impressive—but his heart proves wayward. God then raises up David, a shepherd after His own heart, anointed in secret by the prophet Samuel.

Hannah’s song in chapter 2 prophetically anticipates this move: God will exalt His anointed. The Hebrew word is Messiah—a title pregnant with hope. David, Israel’s anointed king, becomes the prototype of the Messiah to come.

Jesus is the true Anointed One—rejected like David, yet victorious. He is the King not of outward stature, but of divine authority. His reign is marked not by self-preservation, but by sacrificial love. In every rising and falling ruler, 1 Samuel stirs our

hunger for Him.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Do you let Jesus be your King, or are you still tempted to choose the world's Saul-like alternatives?

### **PRAYER**

Messiah and King, anoint my heart with your Spirit today. Teach me to value your reign above all else. Shape my desires around your heart, not the world's. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 7:12**

*“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, ‘Thus far the Lord has helped us.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

After God gives Israel victory over the Philistines, Samuel sets up a stone of remembrance — an “Ebenezer” — as a tangible reminder of God’s faithfulness. The stone marks a specific point in history where God intervened for His people.

We often need such reminders. Our hearts are quick to forget past deliverances when new challenges arise. By naming the stone “Ebenezer,” Samuel creates a visible testimony that can

strengthen faith for the future.

For believers in Christ, the cross is our ultimate Ebenezer. It is the unshakable reminder that God has helped us — not just thus far, but forever. Every trial can be faced in the light of His proven faithfulness.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “stones of remembrance” could you set up in your life to recall God’s faithfulness?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you have carried me this far. Remind me daily of your past faithfulness. Help me trust you for the road ahead. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 16:7**

*“The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

When Samuel is sent to anoint the next king, he is tempted to judge by appearances. Jesse’s older sons look the part — strong, impressive, regal. But God reminds Samuel that His ways are different.

The Lord's focus is on the heart. Outward success, charisma, and human approval are secondary to inner devotion, humility, and obedience. This is why David, the overlooked shepherd boy, is God's choice.

The gospel tells us that God's gaze penetrates beyond our masks and self-presentations. In Christ, He sees us fully — our flaws, our fears, our failings — and still calls us His own.

This truth frees us from performing for the world's approval and calls us into authentic relationship with God, who delights in a heart that is fully His.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How might God be inviting you to shift your focus from outward appearance to inward devotion?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you see my heart as it truly is. Make it pure, humble, and wholly yours. Teach me to value what you value. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 17:45–47**

*“David said to the Philistine, ‘You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty... All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves;*

*for the battle is the Lord's...”*

## **DEVOTIONAL**

David’s confrontation with Goliath is more than a story of courage; it’s a declaration of where true victory comes from. He faces the giant not with superior weapons, but with unshakable confidence in God’s power.

This moment shatters the illusion that our battles are ultimately won by human strength. The “battle is the Lord’s” means that God Himself takes responsibility for the outcome when we stand in His name.

In Christ, we see the ultimate David facing the ultimate Goliath — sin and death itself. At the cross, Jesus wins the decisive battle on our behalf, and His resurrection seals the victory forever.

Our giants today — fear, temptation, despair — are real, but they are not ultimate. We fight them in the name of the Lord, trusting that He will bring the victory in His time and His way.

## **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What “giant” are you facing that you need to place fully in God’s hands?

## **PRAYER**

Lord, the battle belongs to you. Give me courage to stand in your name. Bring your victory into my life for your glory. Amen.

## **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**





# LifeHub Material

## OPENER

“If you could build one thing that would last forever — whether a building, invention, or even a legacy — what would it be, and why?”

## SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 7:12–13

*“I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”*

## DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

At the heart of 2 Samuel lies God’s covenant with David — one of the mountain peaks of the Old Testament. God takes David, once a shepherd boy, and promises that his descendants will carry an everlasting throne. While Solomon would build the physical temple, this promise stretched beyond bricks and mortar toward something eternal.

This covenant ties together the entire biblical narrative. From Genesis 3:15’s promise of a serpent-crushing offspring, to Abraham’s promise of a blessing to the nations, to now the pledge of a forever-king, we see God narrowing His promise through David’s line. The Old Testament story is not random; it is laser-focused on God’s plan to establish His kingdom through His anointed King.

In Christ, this promise is fulfilled. Jesus, the “Son of David,” is the true temple-builder (John 2:19–21) and eternal King (Luke 1:32–33). His cross looked like defeat, but the resurrection was

His enthronement, and His return will reveal His everlasting rule in fullness. For us, this means our hope is anchored in a kingdom that cannot be shaken, ruled by a King who never abdicates.

## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

2 Samuel records the rise of David's kingship after the tragic downfall of Saul. David unites the tribes, establishes Jerusalem as the capital, and desires to build God a permanent dwelling place. Yet, in a reversal of expectations, God insists that He does not need a house built by human hands (7:5–7). Instead, He promises to build David a house — a dynasty that will endure forever.

The Davidic Covenant: This is one of the great covenants of Scripture (alongside Noahic, Abrahamic, Mosaic, and New Covenant). Its key features are:

- A dynasty: David's line will continue.
- A temple-builder: Solomon fulfils this in part.
- An everlasting throne: Ultimately fulfilled in Christ.
- Divine sonship: "I will be his father, and he will be my son" (v. 14), language later applied directly to Jesus (Hebrews 1:5).

From this point on, Israel's hope is bound up in a Davidic king. The prophets continually return to this covenant: Isaiah 9 promises a son who will reign on David's throne; Jeremiah 23 speaks of a "righteous Branch" from David's line; Ezekiel 34 foresees a shepherd-king.

Christological Fulfilment: Jesus is introduced as the "Son of

David” in Matthew 1:1, showing continuity with this covenant. Unlike Solomon, who failed morally, or later kings who led Israel astray, Jesus rules in perfect obedience and righteousness. The promise of an everlasting throne is fulfilled in His resurrection and ascension (Acts 2:29–36). The “house” Jesus builds is His church — a living temple made up of believers (1 Peter 2:4–5).

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think God reversed David’s plan — choosing to build him a house instead?
- How does the Davidic covenant help us read the Old Testament as one unified story pointing to Christ?
- What does it mean for us that Jesus’ throne is eternal — especially when worldly powers rise and fall?

### **REFLECTION: PSALM 89:3–4, 35–37**

*"I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, 'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.' ... Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness — and I will not lie to David — that his line will continue forever and his throne endure before me like the sun; it will be established forever like the moon, the faithful witness in the sky."*

This psalm poetically celebrates the Davidic covenant, yet also wrestles with the tension when Israel’s kings fail. It reminds us that the promise rests not on human faithfulness but on God’s. In Jesus, the psalmist’s hope is fulfilled — the sun has truly risen on the eternal King.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, Son of David, everlasting King, thank you that Your throne endures forever. Build us into Your living house, rooted in Your love and truth. Keep our eyes fixed on the eternal kingdom that cannot be shaken. Amen.

# Devotional Day 1

## SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)

### SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 5:4-5

*“David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.”*

### DEVOTIONAL

After years of waiting, running, and living as a fugitive, David finally steps into the role God had promised him. The journey was long and marked by difficulty, but God’s timing is perfect. His delays are never denials — they are often seasons of preparation.

David’s reign begins in Hebron over a divided kingdom. Only later is he crowned king over all Israel. Even in fulfillment, there is still a process of growth and consolidation. God’s promises are certain, but they often unfold in stages.

For the believer, this reminds us that Christ’s reign has already begun in our lives, yet its fullness will only be seen when He returns. We live in that tension — already under His lordship, but still waiting for the complete restoration of all things.

Faith is not just about receiving a promise; it’s about trusting God through the seasons between promise and fulfillment.

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What area of your life is still “in Hebron,” awaiting its fullness

under Christ's reign?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you are faithful through every season. Teach me to trust your timing. Help me walk patiently in your plan. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 2**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 6:14–15**

*“Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

David's uninhibited worship as the ark is brought to Jerusalem is a vivid picture of joy overflowing in the presence of God. His dignity is secondary to his delight in the Lord.

Not everyone approved. Michal, his wife, looked on with disdain. True worship often risks misunderstanding. When our hearts are captured by God's glory, we care less about what others think and more about honouring Him.

This moment points us to the greater joy found in Christ. Through Jesus, the presence of God is not carried in an ark but dwells within us by the Holy Spirit. Our response can be just as wholehearted — unashamed praise for the One who has

brought us into His presence forever.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What might wholehearted worship look like for you this week?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you are worthy of all my praise. Let my worship be wholehearted and unashamed. Fill me with joy in your presence. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 3**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 7:12–13**

*“I will raise up your offspring to succeed you... and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

David longs to build a house for God—but God turns the promise around: I will build a house for you. This covenant, recorded in 2 Samuel 7, becomes one of the most important messianic promises in all of Scripture.

A son of David will reign forever. His kingdom will not end. Though David’s descendants would stumble, the promise would hold. The prophets would keep pointing back to it—and when Jesus arrives, He is hailed as Son of David.

Jesus fulfils the covenant not by seizing a palace but by carrying

a cross. He reigns not from a throne in Jerusalem, but from a resurrection seat at the right hand of God. His kingdom is everlasting—and it is open to all who trust in Him.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

How do you live as a citizen of Jesus' everlasting kingdom in the world today?

### **PRAYER**

Jesus, Son of David, your throne is forever. Let my life reflect the rule of your grace and truth. May your kingdom come in me today. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 4**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 12:13**

*“Then David said to Nathan, ‘I have sinned against the Lord.’ Nathan replied, ‘The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.’”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

After his sin with Bathsheba and the arranged death of Uriah, David is confronted by the prophet Nathan. The parable Nathan tells pierces David's heart, and he confesses without excuse: “I have sinned against the Lord.”

Genuine repentance is not about defending ourselves but about agreeing with God's verdict on our actions. David's sin was

serious, and the consequences were real, but God’s mercy was greater still.

In Christ, this mercy is ours as well. At the cross, Jesus bore the judgment we deserved, so that God could say to us, “The Lord has taken away your sin.” Grace does not erase all consequences in this life, but it does remove condemnation forever.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

Is there an area where you need to respond to God’s conviction with honest confession?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you know my heart and my failures. Forgive me through the blood of Jesus. Restore to me the joy of your salvation. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

## **Devotional Day 5**

### **SILENCE & STILLNESS BEFORE GOD (2 MINUTES)**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: 2 SAMUEL 22:2–3**

*“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my saviour...”*

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Near the end of his life, David sings a song of praise for God’s

deliverance. He looks back and sees the Lord as his rock, fortress, shield, and savior. The imagery is rich — God is both a place of safety and the one who fights on his behalf.

We too are called to look back and remember God's faithfulness. Gratitude is a powerful weapon against fear and discouragement. When we recall God's past rescues, we are strengthened to trust Him in present trials.

This song finds its fullest meaning in Christ. He is the Rock on which we stand, the Savior who delivers us from sin and death, and the fortress that will never be shaken.

### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER**

What words or images best describe God's faithfulness in your life?

### **PRAYER**

Lord, you are my rock and my salvation. Thank you for your constant protection. Keep me secure in your love forever. Amen.

### **CONCLUDE WITH SILENCE (2 MINUTES)**

