

**5 Day Devotional**  
**December 14, 2025 AM Sermon**  
**“The Reason Why”**

**Day 1: When We Grow Weary**

**Reading:** Isaiah 7:13-14; Matthew 11:28-30

**Devotional:** Isaiah confronts a weary people with a startling truth: our brokenness burdens not just each other, but even tests God's patience. Yet God's response isn't rejection—it's Emmanuel, "God with us." When you feel like a burden to others or even to God, remember that His answer to your weariness is His Son. Jesus invites those who are heavy-laden to come to Him for rest. Your struggles, failures, and repeated sins didn't exhaust God's love; they activated His rescue plan. Today, identify one area where you feel wearisome—to yourself or others. Bring that burden honestly to God, remembering that His response to your heaviest load was sending Jesus.

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#### **Day 2: Love That Pursues**

**Reading:** Romans 5:6-8; 1 John 4:7-10

**Devotional:** God didn't wait for you to clean up your life before loving you. While you were still a sinner—actively rebelling, indifferent, or ignorant—Christ died for you. This isn't love that responds to worthiness; it's love that creates it. God is love, meaning every authentic expression of love in this world flows from Him. You cannot earn what has already been freely given. Today, you don't have to perform for God's affection or prove your value. You're already pursued, already loved, already valued. Reflect on this: if God demonstrated His love while you were at your worst, how secure is His love now? Let this truth sink deep, then consider: who in your life needs to experience this pursuing, unearned love through you?

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**Day 3: The Gift and the Response**

**Reading:** John 3:16-21; Romans 10:9-13

**Devotional:** Every gift requires a response—acceptance or rejection. God's gift of salvation through Jesus is the most valuable gift ever offered, yet it can be ignored, misused, or refused. The tragedy isn't that the gift is insufficient; it's that people love darkness more than light. Salvation isn't something you add to your life like a helpful accessory; it transforms your entire existence. Have you truly received this gift, or merely acknowledged it exists? Believing in your heart and confessing with your mouth aren't religious hoops—they're the natural response to encountering genuine grace. Today, examine your response to God's gift. Have you received it fully, or are you walking past it daily like unused exercise equipment in the corner?

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#### **Day 4: Now Faith Is**

**Reading:** Hebrews 11:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:7

**Devotional:** Faith isn't just for the future or about heaven someday—it's for now. God can heal now, restore now, deliver now, save now. Too often we relegate God's power to the past (what He did in the Bible) or the future (what He'll do in heaven), missing what He wants to do today. Faith is present-tense confidence in an invisible God who is actively working. Without faith, it's impossible to please God, because faith declares that He exists and rewards those who seek Him. What situation in your life needs "now faith" rather than "someday hope"? God isn't waiting for perfect circumstances to move; He's waiting for present-tense trust. Today, bring one impossible situation to God with now faith.

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**Day 5: Responding to the Wearisome**

**Reading:** Isaiah 30:19-21; Ephesians 4:29-32

**Devotional:** Just as God didn't respond to your wearisomeness with anger but with Jesus, you're called to extend that same grace to others. That difficult coworker, that frustrating family member, that person whose very presence exhausts you—God loves them too. He died for them just as He died for you. This doesn't mean ignoring sin or accepting abuse, but it does mean choosing compassion over contempt. Behind the scenes, God is working even when you can't see it, whispering direction to those who will listen. Your role isn't to be someone's Holy Spirit, but to reflect Christ's love even when it's costly. Today, identify the person who wearies you most. Pray for them specifically, asking God to help you see them as He does—loved, pursued, and worth the gift of His Son.