

Grow, Pray, Study for the Week of October 5, 2025

Weekly Prayer

Gracious God, You are the One who goes before me, walks beside me, and will never let me go. In seasons of certainty and in times of wandering, help me trust that no time is wasted in Your hands. Open my heart by Your Spirit, that I may hear Your Word, receive Your grace, and take the next faithful step with You today. Through Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Monday, October 6

Scripture: Exodus 16

The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Sin desert, which is located between Elim and Sinai. They set out on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had left the land of Egypt. The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. The Israelites said to them, "Oh, how we wish that the LORD had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you've brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I'm going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I'll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "This evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you will see the LORD's glorious presence, because your complaints against the LORD have been heard. Who are we? Why blame us?" Moses continued, "The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning because the LORD heard the complaints you made against him. Who are we? Your complaints aren't against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole Israelite community, 'Come near to the LORD, because he's heard your complaints.'" As Aaron spoke to the whole Israelite community, they turned to look toward the desert, and just then the glorious presence of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses, "I've heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat. And in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" They didn't know what it was. Moses said to them, "This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Collect as much of it as each of you can eat, one omer per person. You may collect for the number of people in your household.'" The Israelites did as Moses said, some collecting more, some less. But when they measured it out by the omer, the ones who had collected more had nothing left over, and the ones who had collected less had no shortage. Everyone collected just as much as they could eat. Moses said to them, "Don't keep any of it until morning." But they didn't listen to Moses. Some kept part of it until morning, but it became infested with worms and stank. Moses got angry with them. Every morning they gathered it, as much as each person could eat. But when the sun grew hot, it melted away. On the sixth day the people collected twice as much food as usual, two omers per person. All the chiefs of the community came and told Moses. He said to them, "This is what the LORD has said, 'Tomorrow is a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. But you can set aside and keep all the leftovers until the next morning.'" So they set the leftovers aside until morning, as Moses had commanded. They didn't stink or become infested with worms. The next day Moses said, "Eat it today, because today is a

Sabbath to the LORD. Today you won't find it out in the field. Six days you will gather it. But on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be nothing to gather."

On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather bread, but they found nothing. The LORD said to Moses, "How long will you refuse to obey my commandments and instructions? Look! The LORD has given you the Sabbath. Therefore, on the sixth day he gives you enough food for two days. Each of you should stay where you are and not leave your place on the seventh day." So the people rested on the seventh day.

The Israelite people called it manna. It was like coriander seed, white, and tasted like honey wafers. Moses said, "This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Let an omer of it be kept safe for future generations so that they can see the food that I used to feed you in the desert when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.'" Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar, and put one full omer of manna in it. Then set it in the LORD's presence, where it should be kept safe for future generations." Aaron did as the LORD commanded Moses, and he put it in front of the covenant document for safekeeping. The Israelites ate manna for forty years, until they came to a livable land. They ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. (An omer is one-tenth of an ephah.)

Observation

The Israelites were only a short time out of Egypt when they began to grumble. They feared they had been led into the wilderness to die, forgetting how God had already delivered them from slavery. God responded not with punishment, but with provision: manna from heaven. Yet this gift came with a condition — they were to gather only what they needed for the day. God was teaching them to depend on God daily, not hoard security for the future. Their wandering was not wasted time; it was training time — learning trust, faith, and reliance on God's timing and provision.

Application

How often do we want God to show us the whole plan instead of just enough for today? In seasons when you feel like you're wandering, perhaps God is teaching you to slow down and trust God's daily provision rather than your own ability to control the future. What "manna" has God placed in your life right now? It could be a person, an opportunity, or even a word of encouragement. The invitation is to notice it and give thanks. What is one way you can shift from worrying about tomorrow to receiving God's provision for today?

Prayer

Lord, help me to see your daily bread in my life. Teach me to trust you one day at a time, knowing that no moment with you is wasted. Amen.

Tuesday, October 7

Scripture: Proverbs 8:22-31

The LORD created me at the beginning of his way,
before his deeds long in the past.

I was formed in ancient times,
at the beginning, before the earth was.

When there were no watery depths, I was brought forth,
when there were no springs flowing with water.

Before the mountains were settled,
before the hills, I was brought forth;
before God made the earth and the fields
or the first of the dry land.

I was there when he established the heavens,
when he marked out the horizon on the deep sea,
when he thickened the clouds above,
when he secured the fountains of the deep,
when he set a limit for the sea,
so the water couldn't go beyond his command,
when he marked out the earth's foundations.
I was beside him as a master of crafts.
I was having fun,
smiling before him all the time,
frolicking with his inhabited earth
and delighting in the human race.

Observation

Proverbs describes Wisdom as present at creation, rejoicing and delighting in God's work. This is not dry, heavy wisdom but a playful, joyful wisdom that delights in humanity and in the created world. God's wisdom was woven into the very fabric of life, and it rejoices in us even as we wander. When we feel aimless, we forget that God has already set wisdom within creation and within us. Our task is not always to demand answers, but to tune our eyes and hearts to the wisdom already at work around us.

Application

Sometimes, in our striving for clarity, we miss the joy of simply walking with God. What if wisdom is less about having all the answers and more about learning to rejoice where God has placed us today? Pay attention to moments of wonder, beauty, and creativity — they may be whispers of God's wisdom leading you forward. Where in your life can you pause today to rejoice in God's wisdom instead of rushing toward answers?

Prayer

Creator God, open my eyes to see your wisdom woven into creation. Let me not rush past wonder but instead delight in your world and in your presence with me. Amen.

Wednesday, October 8

Scripture: Colossians 3:23

Whatever you do, do it from the heart for the Lord and not for people.

Observation

In this letter, Paul reminds believers that every act — whether mundane or monumental — can be offered to God. Work that may seem insignificant in human eyes takes on eternal significance when done in Christ's name. Even the smallest acts of faithfulness matter. Our wandering, our waiting, even our unseen labor is not wasted when it is directed to the Lord.

Application

Perhaps you feel like your work doesn't matter — the chores, the routine tasks, the unseen efforts. But when offered to God, they become part of God's kingdom work. God notices what the world ignores. What is one ordinary task you will commit to doing today as an offering to God?

Prayer

Lord, let all I do today, even the smallest task, be an offering to you. Remind me that no effort is wasted when it is done in your name. Amen.

Thursday, October 9

Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:12-20

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength because he considered me faithful. So he appointed me to ministry even though I used to speak against him, attack his people, and I was proud. But I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and without faith. Our Lord's favor poured all over me along with the faithfulness and love that are in Christ Jesus. This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I'm the biggest sinner of all. But this is why I was shown mercy, so that Christ Jesus could show his endless patience to me first of all. So I'm an example for those who are going to believe in him for eternal life. Now to the king of the ages, to the immortal, invisible, and only God, may honor and glory be given to him forever and always! Amen.

Timothy, my child, I'm giving you these instructions based on the prophecies that were once made about you. So if you follow them, you can wage a good war because you have faith and a good conscience. Some people have ruined their faith because they refused to listen to their conscience, such as Hymenaeus and Alexander. I've handed them over to Satan so that they can be taught not to speak against God.

Observation

Paul's story reminds us that no past is too broken, no wandering too far, for God to redeem. What others may see as wasted years, God can transform by grace. Paul's testimony assures us that God can use even our failures, once redeemed, for His purposes."

Application

When you look back, you may see mistakes, regrets, or wasted time. But God sees opportunities to redeem and repurpose those experiences for good. Your failures do not disqualify you; they can actually prepare you to serve others with compassion and authenticity. How might God be asking you to share your story — even the broken parts — to encourage or help someone else?

Prayer

Redeeming God, remind me that no part of my life is beyond your reach. Thank you for transforming even my mistakes and wanderings into opportunities for your grace. Amen.

Friday, October 10

Scripture: Romans 8:12-14

So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters.

Observation

Paul declares that we are no longer bound to live in fear, but as God's beloved children led by the Spirit. Even when we don't know the path, we can trust the One walking beside us. The Spirit doesn't always give us step-by-step instructions but offers guidance, nudges, and reassurance that we are not lost. Our wandering is not wasted when we let the Spirit lead.

Application

Instead of demanding a clear map, what if you simply asked God to guide you for today? Listen for the Spirit's prompting — in prayer, in Scripture, in conversations, or in quiet moments. Ask yourself: "What is one faithful step I can take today?"

Prayer

Spirit of God, lead me today. When I am unsure, remind me I am your beloved child. Even in wandering, I walk with you. Amen.

Saturday, October 11

Scripture: Galatians 6:9

Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up.

Observation

Perseverance is hard when results seem slow or invisible. The Galatian believers were weary, tempted to give up. Paul reminds them that faithful living is never wasted. God is always working beneath the surface, even when we cannot yet see the fruit. The harvest comes in God's timing, not ours.

Application

Where are you growing weary right now? In prayer, service, relationships, or waiting? Remember that your faithfulness is not in vain. Even if you don't see results yet, God promises that persistence will bear fruit in due time. What is one area where you feel weary — and how can you renew your trust that God is still at work?

Prayer

Faithful God, give me strength to keep going when I feel tired or discouraged. Help me to trust that you are at work, and that my labor in you is never in vain. Amen.