

## **Grow, Pray, Study for the Week of September 21, 2025**

### **Weekly Prayer**

Loving God, as I begin this day, center me in what is true. I am who You say I am— chosen, not forgotten; Your beloved, not defined by fear; created with purpose, not by accident; a reflection of Your divine nature. Quiet every voice that tells me otherwise. Let me live today from the truth of who I am in You. In the name of Christ, Amen.

### **Monday, September 22**

#### **Scripture: Isaiah 40:9-11, 27-31**

Go up on a high mountain,  
messenger Zion!  
Raise your voice and shout,  
messenger Jerusalem!  
Raise it; don't be afraid;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
"Here is your God!"  
Here is the LORD God,  
coming with strength,  
with a triumphant arm,  
bringing his reward with him  
and his payment before him.  
Like a shepherd, God will tend the flock;  
he will gather lambs in his arms  
and lift them onto his lap.  
He will gently guide the nursing ewes.

Why do you say, Jacob,  
and declare, Israel,  
"My way is hidden from the LORD,  
my God ignores my predicament"?  
Don't you know? Haven't you heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the creator of the ends of the earth.  
He doesn't grow tired or weary.  
His understanding is beyond human reach,  
giving power to the tired  
and reviving the exhausted.  
Youths will become tired and weary,  
young men will certainly stumble;  
but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength;  
they will fly up on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not be tired;  
they will walk and not be weary.

### **Observation**

In this passage, the prophet Isaiah speaks to a people worn down by exile, fear, and uncertainty. He reminds them of God's vast power and tender care. God is both the mighty

Creator and the gentle Shepherd (v. 10–11). Though human strength fades, God never grows tired—and generously gives strength to those who depend on the Holy One.

### **Application**

We often rely on our own strength until it fails us. But God's strength is never exhausted. When I feel overwhelmed, discouraged, or spiritually tired, I am invited to hope in God—to trust, to wait, and to receive renewal. God's presence doesn't always remove the hardship, but it sustains me through it. Am I trying to fly on my own, or am I waiting on the One who lifts me?

### **Prayer**

Everlasting God, You never grow weary. You see me in my weakness and meet me with Your strength. When I am tired and discouraged, teach me to wait on You—not with anxiety, but with trust. Renew my spirit today so I may walk, run, or soar as You lead. Amen.

## **Tuesday, September 23**

### **Scripture: Acts 9:1-19; John 21:15-19**

Meanwhile, Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest, seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven encircled him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you harassing me?" Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. "Now get up and enter the city. You will be told what you must do." Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. After they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes but he couldn't see. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, "Ananias!" He answered, "Yes, Lord." The Lord instructed him, "Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands on him to restore his sight." Ananias countered, "Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. He's here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who calls on your name." The Lord replied, "Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. After eating, he regained his strength. He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days.

When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep." He asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love me?" He replied, "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another

will tie your belt and lead you where you don't want to go." He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, "Follow me."

### **Observation**

Both passages show Jesus' power to restore and repurpose broken people. Saul, a persecutor of Christians, is transformed into Paul, a bold apostle. Peter, who denied Jesus, is lovingly restored and recommissioned. God doesn't discard people after failure—He calls them into deeper service.

### **Application**

God can redeem your past and give your life purpose. No matter where you've been or what you've done, You are invited into God's mission. Are you willing to say "yes" to this call?

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for Your mercy that redeems and restores. Use my life for Your glory. Help me to walk in the calling You've placed on me, no matter my past. Amen.

## **Wednesday, September 24**

### **Scripture: Philippians 3:20**

Our citizenship is in heaven. We look forward to a savior that comes from there—the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Observation**

Paul reminds believers that this world is not our home. Our true identity and belonging are in heaven, not in earthly success, nationality, or possessions. We live as citizens of God's Kin(g)dom now.

### **Application**

Am I living with an eternal mindset? As a citizen of heaven, I am called to reflect the values of Christ. Today, I will focus on living with hope, integrity, and purpose, knowing my real home is with Christ.

### **Prayer**

Loving God, remind me daily that I belong to You. Let my life reflect heaven's values more than the world's. Teach me to live with eternity in view. Amen.

## **Thursday, September 25**

### **Scripture: 1 Peter 2:9**

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God's own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light.

### **Observation**

God sees God's people as chosen, royal, and holy—not because of our own worth, but because of God's love. We are called to represent God, to reflect the light of Christ, and to live set apart for God's purpose.

### **Application**

Do I live like someone chosen by God? When I embrace my identity in Christ, I no longer need to seek approval from the world. I am a beloved child of God. I belong. That changes how I treat myself—and others.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for choosing me and calling me Yours. Help me live like Your child, reflecting Your light into a dark world. Amen.

## **Friday, September 26**

### **Scripture: Ephesians 2:10**

Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.

### **Observation**

We are not accidents. We are God's masterpiece, designed with intention. Not only are we saved by grace, but we are also made for purpose—to do good works that God has already set in motion.

### **Application**

My life matters to God. Today, I will look for opportunities to do good, knowing I'm fulfilling what I was created for. Even small acts of kindness are part of God's divine plan.

### **Prayer**

Creator God, thank You for making me with purpose. Help me recognize the good works You've prepared for me today. Use my life as Your masterpiece. Amen.

## **Saturday, September 27**

### **Scripture: 2 Peter 1:4**

Through his honor and glory he has given us his precious and wonderful promises, that you may share the divine nature and escape from the world's immorality that sinful craving produces.

### **Observation**

God's promises aren't distant ideals—they are invitations to partake in God's divine nature. Through Christ, we are empowered to live differently, resisting the corruption of the world and growing in godliness.

### **Application**

God has equipped me with everything I need to grow spiritually. I don't have to rely on my strength. Today, I will cling to God's promises and allow the Holy Spirit to shape me.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for Your promises that give me strength and hope. Help me participate in Your divine nature and live in step with Your Spirit. Amen.