



5 Day Devotionals for I AM Worship Church

Bethel

Pastor Mark Ogletree • Sunday, June 21, 2026



Day 1: Running But Not Escaping

Reading: Genesis 28:10-15

Devotional: Jacob ran from the consequences of his deception, believing distance would solve his problems. Yet wherever he went, he took himself with him. How often do we try to outrun our mistakes through job changes, relationships, or geographic moves? The profound truth is this: you cannot outrun God's purpose for your life. Grace always gets there first—not to condemn, but to encounter. God met Jacob not when he had it all together, but when he was exhausted, guilty, and running. Today, stop running. God knows exactly who you are and still desires to meet you right where you are, mess and all.

Reflection Question: What are you running from that God is inviting you to face with His presence?

Day 2: The Ladder Already Exists

Reading: John 5:17-20; Genesis 28:12-13

Devotional: The ladder in Jacob's dream wasn't constructed in that moment—it already existed. Angels were already ascending and descending. Heaven's activity didn't begin when Jacob became aware; he simply tuned into what God was already doing. Jesus modeled this perfectly, saying He only did what He saw the Father doing. God is already moving in your marriage, your finances, your children's lives, your future. The issue is never God's absence but our awareness. Like a radio signal that exists whether we tune in or not, God's presence and activity surround us constantly. Wake up to what He's already doing.

Reflection Question: Where might God already be working in your life that you haven't recognized yet?

Day 3: Surely the Lord Was in This Place

Reading: Genesis 28:16-17; Psalm 139:7-12

Devotional: Jacob's revelation wasn't "God showed up"—it was "God was already here and I didn't know it." The greatest tragedy in Scripture isn't God's absence but His presence going unrecognized. Moses noticed the burning bush while other shepherds walked by. Samuel heard God's voice while others slept through it.



5 Day Devotionals for I AM Worship Church

Bethel

Pastor Mark Ogletree • Sunday, June 21, 2026



Elisha recognized the mantle moment while fifty prophets watched from a distance. God is present in your ordinary moments, your difficult seasons, your quiet mornings. Before assuming God is absent from your situation, consider this: maybe you're just asleep. God is patient enough and loves you enough to wake you.

Reflection Question: What "burning bush" moments might you have walked past recently?

Day 4: Build a Memorial

Reading: Genesis 28:18-19; Joshua 4:4-7

Devotional: Jacob didn't just feel something and move on. He built a physical memorial—a pillar to mark the encounter so he would never forget. We experience God's presence in powerful moments, yet let them dissolve in the noise of the next week. Write down your breakthroughs. Journal your revelations. Testify about what God has done. These aren't just memories; they're evidence of God's faithfulness that will sustain you in future battles. When you forget God's past faithfulness, present circumstances feel overwhelming. Build memorials—not monuments to yourself, but markers that declare "God met me here." Let your encounters become stories of His grace that encourage others and remind you.

Reflection Question: What recent encounter with God needs to be marked and remembered?

Day 5: Starting Point, Not Stopping Point

Reading: Genesis 28:20-22; Philippians 3:12-14

Devotional: Jacob's vow was conditional—"If you do this, then I'll serve you." Surprisingly, God didn't rebuke him because the promise was never conditional. God's commitment came with no strings attached. But here's the danger: Jacob let Bethel become a stopping point instead of a starting point. It took him twenty years to have another encounter of that magnitude. Salvation isn't the destination; it's the beginning of transformation. Answering God's call doesn't mean you've arrived. Don't let your last encounter with God be your last encounter. Let Bethel be what you walk through on your way to everything God has planned. Keep pursuing. Keep awakening. Keep encountering.

Reflection Question: Has your faith become a stopping point, or are moving forward in purpose?