

YOUR WEEKLY WALK DEVOTION: Mar. 4-10, 2024

Weekly e-mail devotion based on the sermons of the previous week and other select scriptures. These devotions are provided to help you in your walk with the Lord. This week's devotions:

Your daily walk with the Lord is based on four daily actions:

1. *READING* God's Word.
2. *THINKING* about God's Word.
3. *PRAYING* God's Word.
4. *APPLYING* God's Word.

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. (Eph. 4.11)

It is the vision of Bethel Baptist Church to be the life of Christ in the world through every ministry it is involved with, through every member who is part of the Bethel family of faith, and through every method it uses to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with a lost and dying world.

Monday, Mar. 4

READ: *2 Pet. 1.7: and in your goodness, brotherly kindness and in your brotherly kindness, love.*

THINK: Love has been described as wanting the best for someone else. Of all the characteristics of the Christian's life to be developed, as Peter wrote in vv. 5-7, love is the one that best describes God's actions towards us. Because of God's love, Jesus willingly went to the cross and paid out sin debt. Apart from the love of God we are hopeless and helpless. God's love towards us is our example of our love towards others.

PRAY: *Lord thank You for Your love that has no qualifications and has no end.*

APPLY: God's love toward you is your example of how to love others.

Tuesday, Mar. 5

READ: *EPH. 2.8-9: For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

THINK: *God's grace saves us.* The grace of God is God treating us better than we deserve. When a person places their faith and trust in Jesus, God saves them. God's salvation is based on the finished work of Jesus on the cross for sinful man, it has nothing to do with anything we have done.

PRAY: *Lord thank You for Your grace that is greater than my sins.*

APPLY: God's grace is why you are saved.

Wednesday, Mar. 6

READ: *EPH. 4.7: But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.*

THINK: *God's grace supplies us.* Every believer is filled with the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit enables us to serve God in a particular way that we were unable to before He saved us. The fact that we can even serve God is an act of His grace, His overwhelming goodness in our lives.

PRAY: *Lord thank You for giving me the ability, by your grace, to serve You.*

APPLY: Any ability you have to serve God is because of His grace in your life.

Wednesdays @ Bethel: the family place to be!

6:00 p.m.: family meal

6:40 p.m.: Elevate Kids

7:00 p.m.: Bible studies for men, women, youth, and co-ed

We are running our bus between the church and Vandalia. If you need a ride, please call the church no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon.

Thursday, Mar. 7

READ: *1 PET. 1.13: Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

THINK: *God's grace secures us. "The revelation of Jesus Christ" is the return of the Lord at the end of time. The grace of God not only saves us and supplies us, but God's grace keeps us saved to the day of the Lord's return. Think about it this way: if God's grace is strong enough to save us, and it is, then it is also strong enough to keep us saved until the day of the Lord's return.*

PRAY: *Lord thank you for the strength of Your grace that secures my salvation.*

APPLY: *The power of God's grace extends all the way to eternity.*

Friday, Mar. 8

READ: *1 COR. 15.9-10: For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.*

THINK: *God's grace summarizes our life. Before God saved Paul, Paul persecuted the church to the point of putting Christians in jail and giving his permission for their death. But after Paul was saved, he became one of the most powerful preachers and missionaries of the first century. But Paul could not erase from his life what he had done prior to God saving him, and God did not hold it against him. And just like Paul, we can all say, by the grace of God I am what I am: a saved sinner.*

PRAY: *Thank you, Lord, that your salvation keeps no record of wrongs.*

APPLY: *The salvation of God wipes the slate clean of the sin in your life.*

Saturday, Mar. 9

READ: *REV. 3.2: 'Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God.'*

THINK: *The church at Sardis thought it was a good and strong church; the Lord had another opinion: it was dead (v. 2)! So often we can have inflated ideas and views about the church that do not coincide with reality. Jesus warned the church to wake up and get going in their service to Him. Their faith was not dead but it was on life-support. The message for the church today is simple: the church must always be alert to signs they are coasting in their faith instead of being diligent to pray and serve.*

PRAY: *Lord help me not to be lulled into complacency in my faith.*

APPLY: *The cure for a complacent faith is getting back on track in God's Word and prayer, and asking God to keep you focused on serving Him.*

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed, daylight savings time begins tomorrow!

Sunday, Mar. 10

READ: *ISA. 53.5: But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him.*

THINK: *The prophet Isaiah wrote about the crucifixion of Jesus 700 years before Jesus came in the flesh. Isaiah wrote the coming Messiah would be the suffering servant, that His salvation would be through a cruel cross. Easter is the fulfillment of prophecy and the reality of God's plan for sinful man.*

PRAY: *Lord thank You for the lessons the prophets teach us about Jesus.*

APPLY: *Before you were ever born God already had a plan for your salvation.*

Sunday schedule:

9:00 a.m.: Coffee and donut fellowship

9:30 a.m.: Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m.: morning worship

Bi-monthly business meeting following the worship service.

11:30 a.m.: spaghetti dinner fund raiser for youth camp (dine in or take out)

6:00 p.m.: evening worship, youth, and children's Bible studies