

DY'S fUNC tional

...AND YOU THINK YOUR FAMILY'S CRAZY?



ADULT VERSION

Hey church family! We are excited to introduce our newest devotional booklet. These booklets are designed to complement our current sermon series and foster deeper engagement within our church community. Each week features five reading and devotional days, carefully crafted to align with the themes of our weekly Sunday sermons. By journeying through these devotions together, we aim to create a unified church experience that enhances our collective understanding and application of God's Word.

Each devotional includes a corresponding scripture reading and a scripture memory verse, encouraging us to immerse ourselves in God's Word daily. To guide our study, we will be using the H.E.A.R. method, which stands for Highlight, Explain, Apply, and Respond. This method is explained in detail on the next page and provides a structured approach to help us reflect on and internalize the scriptures.

Additionally, each week's devotionals are designed to lead into the coming Sunday sermon. This allows us the opportunity to think through common themes and topics that will be explored in the sermon. By studying these themes throughout the week, we can come to Sunday services with a deeper understanding and readiness to engage with the main study of the text.

Our hope is that this devotional booklet will not only deepen our personal faith but also strengthen our collective bond as a church family. By engaging with the same scriptures and themes, we can support and encourage one another in our spiritual growth. Let's embark on this journey together, seeking to grow closer to God and to each other through His Word.

Highlight ➤ Explain ➤ Apply ➤ Respond

The H.E.A.R. Method is a great tool to study and explore God's Word. Explained below, you can use this method as a guide to your daily Bible reading each day.

H Highlight - As you read through each daily passage, several verses and words will stand out to you. Highlight them and consider writing them out. You can even give them a title that holds meaning for you.

E Explain. Explain what the text means. Why was it written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses before and after it? What does the Holy Spirit intend to communicate in this text?

A Apply. Write 2 to 5 sentences about how the text applies to your life. This bridges the gap between the ancient text and your modern life. Ask questions such as: How can this help me? What do these verses mean to us today? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What is God saying to me?

R Respond. Respond to the passage you have read. Your response may take different forms and change from day to day, based on your reading. It may be a prayer, either for your life or on behalf of someone else. You may write down a specific action step you need to take. You might describe how the passage convicts you to change. Keep in mind that your response to scripture is about you and you alone, not other people or society at large.

THE CALL TO GO

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1–20

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 16:9

When God called Abram to leave everything familiar and go to an unknown land, He wasn't simply inviting Abram on an adventure—He was forming a leader whose obedience would bless nations. Abram's leadership began not with titles or followers, but with trust. He left his country, his people, and his comfort because he believed God's promises were worth the risk. True leadership starts with surrender—stepping into the unknown when God says, "Go." The call of God often interrupts our routines and challenges our assumptions, but obedience opens the door to divine purpose. Yet even Abram's early steps show the tension of leadership. Fear led him to deceive Pharaoh about Sarai, revealing that leadership is rarely flawless. Leaders don't lead because they have it all together—they lead because they trust the One who does.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What might God be asking you to leave behind so you can lead with greater faith?
- How does Abram's imperfect obedience encourage you as a developing leader?

LEADING WITH WISDOM

Scripture Reading: Exodus 18:13–27

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 16:9

When Moses tried to carry the weight of leading Israel alone, Jethro, his father-in-law, stepped in with wise counsel: “What you’re doing is not good.” Moses was faithful but fatigued, sincere but stretched thin. Leadership requires humility not only to lead but also to listen. Moses didn’t reject Jethro’s advice out of pride—he embraced it, delegating responsibilities and empowering others to lead. Great leaders don’t hoard authority; they multiply it.

This passage teaches that wisdom in leadership is both spiritual and practical. Moses’ listening heart allowed God’s people to flourish through shared leadership. A wise leader recognizes that strength is found in community, not isolation. When we allow others to carry the load, we reflect God’s design for the body of Christ—many parts working together for one purpose.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- In what areas of your life or ministry are you trying to lead alone?
- How can you invite others into leadership without feeling like you’re losing control?

LEADING WITH INTEGRITY

Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 2:11–20

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 16:9

When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem to rebuild its walls, he didn't rush into action. He observed quietly, prayed deeply, and then cast vision boldly. His leadership wasn't built on impulse but on integrity. Nehemiah didn't seek personal glory—his heart broke for God's people and God's reputation. True leadership begins in secret devotion long before it's seen in public success. As opposition arose, Nehemiah stood firm. He reminded his people that "the God of the heavens is the one who will grant us success." Leadership that lasts isn't dependent on charisma or consensus—it's anchored in conviction. Nehemiah led through prayer, planning, and perseverance. His example shows us that leadership rooted in integrity inspires courage in others.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How does Nehemiah's example challenge your approach to preparation and prayer before leading?
- What does integrity in leadership look like for you in your current season?

LEADING THROUGH SERVICE

Scripture Reading: John 13:1–17

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 16:9

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus took a towel and basin and began washing His disciples' feet. It was a shocking act of humility from the One who deserved to be served. Yet Jesus redefined leadership—not as authority to be wielded, but as love to be poured out. "I have given you an example," He said, "that you also should do just as I have done for you." Leadership in God's kingdom is upside-down—those who lead must stoop low. Jesus didn't serve because He was weak; He served because He was secure. Knowing "the Father had given everything into His hands," He chose to use His power to serve others. That's the paradox of godly leadership: true power is found in humility. When leaders serve, they reflect the heart of Christ, who leads us not from a throne of comfort but from a cross of compassion.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How can you practice servant leadership in your home, workplace, or church?
- What fears or insecurities keep you from serving others freely?

LEADING WITH COURAGE

Scripture Reading: Acts 20:17–38

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 16:9

As Paul met with the Ephesian elders for the last time, he reflected on his ministry with tears and courage. “I did not shrink back from proclaiming to you anything that was profitable,” he said. Paul’s leadership was marked by bold truth and deep love. He knew suffering awaited him, yet his focus remained clear: finish the race and complete the ministry the Lord had given him. Courageous leadership embraces hardship for the sake of eternal impact.

Paul reminds us that leadership is stewardship—caring for God’s people and mission with faithfulness. His words challenge every believer to lead with conviction even when it costs something. Leaders who endure for Christ inspire others to keep going when ministry gets hard. True courage isn’t the absence of fear—it’s obedience in the face of it.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What “race” has God called you to finish, even when it feels costly?
- How can you lead others with both truth and tears, like Paul?

WHEN PATIENCE RUNS OUT

Scripture Reading: Genesis 16:1-16

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5-6

Sarai grew tired of waiting for God's promise to come true. Instead of trusting in His timing, she took matters into her own hands by offering Hagar to Abram. What began as an attempt to "help" God turned into a painful situation filled with jealousy, broken relationships, and regret. This story reminds us that impatience often pushes us into decisions that complicate our lives. God had already promised to bless Abram with descendants, but Sarai's lack of trust in His plan led to unnecessary heartache. We, too, can fall into the same trap—trying to force results rather than waiting on God's timing. When His promises seem delayed, we may look for shortcuts or human solutions that lead to deeper struggles. Yet God is faithful, even when we are not. Despite Sarai and Abram's missteps, God still saw Hagar's pain and fulfilled His promises in His own perfect way.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- In what areas of your life are you tempted to take control instead of waiting on God?
- How can you practice trust when God's timing feels delayed?

WHEN FEAR DRIVES OUT FAITH

Scripture Reading: Numbers 13:25–33; 14:1–10

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5–6

The Israelites stood on the edge of the Promised Land, but fear overpowered faith. After seeing the strength of their enemies, they forgot the strength of their God. Their lack of trust turned a moment of victory into one of rebellion, costing them decades in the wilderness. Instead of remembering the God who parted the sea, they focused on the giants before them. Fear has a way of shrinking our faith and magnifying our obstacles. When we allow fear to dictate our choices, we often forfeit the blessings waiting on the other side of obedience. God doesn't ask us to deny our fear—He asks us to trust Him through it. Like the Israelites, we can easily forget His past faithfulness when faced with new challenges. Yet trust reminds us that the same God who delivered us yesterday is capable of doing it again today. The question is not whether God can be trusted—but whether we will choose to trust Him when fear rises.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What fears have recently kept you from stepping out in obedience?
- How can remembering God's past faithfulness strengthen your trust in Him today?

WHEN IMPULSE LEADS THE WAY

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 13:5-14

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5-6

King Saul's impatience cost him everything. Faced with mounting pressure and fear, Saul took matters into his own hands and offered a sacrifice meant only for the prophet Samuel. His decision to act impulsively revealed a lack of trust in God's process and authority. Saul's actions teach us that disobedience often begins with good intentions—he wanted God's favor—but ends in disaster when done outside of God's will. In our own lives, impulse can lead us to make hasty choices that bypass prayer and wisdom. We might act out of anxiety, frustration, or the need for control, thinking we can manage outcomes better than God can. But true leadership, faith, and maturity are shown in restraint—in waiting, trusting, and obeying even when pressure mounts. Saul lost his kingdom not because of one rash act, but because that act revealed a heart that trusted more in himself than in God.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- When have you acted too quickly instead of seeking God's direction?
- How can patience and prayer help prevent impulsive mistakes in your life?

Highlight ➤ Explain ➤ Apply ➤ Respond

WHEN DOUBT CLOUDS FAITH

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:22–33

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5–6

Peter had the faith to step out of the boat—but when he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink. His story shows how easily trust can fade when we focus more on the storm than on the Savior. Doubt creeps in quietly, whispering that God might not come through this time. It can turn moments of bold faith into moments of panic. Yet even as Peter began to sink, Jesus reached out His hand. God's grace doesn't abandon us when our trust wavers—it rescues and restores us. Trusting God doesn't mean we'll never struggle with doubt. It means choosing to fix our eyes back on Him when fear, confusion, or uncertainty set in. The wind and waves may not stop immediately, but our perspective changes when our focus shifts from the problem to the presence of Christ. Peter's sinking didn't disqualify him—it reminded him of who held him up all along.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What circumstances cause you to take your eyes off of Jesus?
- How can you remind yourself of God's presence when your faith begins to waver?

WHEN SELF-RELIANCE REPLACES SURRENDER

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11–24

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5–6

The prodigal son believed he could handle life better on his own. His lack of trust in his father's wisdom led him down a road of rebellion, waste, and regret. Like the son, we often believe that independence will bring freedom—but apart from God, it only brings emptiness. Yet the beauty of this story is not just in the son's return but in the father's response. The father didn't meet him with condemnation but with compassion, running to embrace him and restore him fully. This parable reminds us that when our trust falters and our choices lead us away from God, He still stands ready to welcome us home. Surrendering to God means admitting we cannot live rightly without His guidance. True freedom comes from dependence on the Father, not distance from Him. Even when we've fallen into mistakes, grace makes the way back open—every time.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- In what ways have you tried to live independently of God's guidance?
- How does the Father's compassion in this story encourage you to return to Him daily?

Highlight ➤ Explain ➤ Apply ➤ Respond

REPEATING PATTERNS

Scripture Reading: Genesis 26:1–30

Scripture Memory: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Isaac's story mirrors his father Abraham's in striking ways. Both faced famine, both went to foreign lands for safety, and both lied about their wives out of fear. Genesis 26 shows us that generational tendencies often repeat themselves when faith is replaced with fear. Isaac had seen God's faithfulness to his father, yet he still fell into the same deception. It's a sober reminder that spiritual inheritance includes both blessing and brokenness. Unless confronted and surrendered, unhealed behaviors pass from one generation to the next. However, God's grace is greater than our generational weakness. Despite Isaac's failure, God still prospered him, reminding us that His covenant promises are not canceled by our flaws. God calls us to trust Him enough to change the pattern and write a new legacy.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What patterns or behaviors have you noticed repeating in your family story?
- How can trusting God in your current struggle prevent the cycle from continuing?

THE WEIGHT OF THE FATHER'S SIN

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1–6

Scripture Memory: 2 Corinthians 5:17

When God gave the Ten Commandments, He warned that the consequences of sin could affect generations, “to the third and fourth generation.” This verse isn’t about divine cruelty—it’s about reality. The choices we make ripple through our families. A parent’s bitterness can breed resentment in their children; a history of addiction or dishonesty can become a silent teacher. Yet, this same passage also reveals God’s mercy: He shows faithful love “to a thousand generations of those who love Him.” Generational sin is powerful, but so is God’s redemptive grace. The moment we choose to follow Christ wholeheartedly, we begin rewriting the story. Obedience breaks the curse; love multiplies the blessing. God’s faithfulness far outweighs inherited sin, but we must be willing to acknowledge the patterns, confess them, and live differently. Repentance doesn’t erase history—but it does redefine legacy.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How does acknowledging generational sin help you move toward healing?
- What new patterns of obedience do you want to model for those who follow you?

HIDDEN BATTLES

Scripture Reading: Judges 6:1–31

Scripture Memory: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Gideon's story begins with fear and failure that reflect his family's past. Israel had fallen into idolatry again, and Gideon came from a family that worshiped Baal. When God called him, Gideon's first task wasn't leading an army—it was tearing down his father's altar. Before Gideon could lead others to freedom, he had to break the chains within his own home. Many believers try to fight external battles without facing their internal ones. God often calls us to confront the idols that have quietly shaped our family values—pride, control, addiction, or apathy. Like Gideon, we might feel unqualified or afraid. Yet God meets us where we are, calling us "mighty warrior," not because of our past, but because of His purpose. Breaking generational sin always begins with a personal surrender and a decisive act of obedience.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What "altars" in your life need to be torn down before you can move forward?
- How can you trust God to equip you for the battles that have existed in your family for generations?

NEW IDENTITY

Scripture Reading: John 8:31–36

Scripture Memory: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus spoke directly to those trapped in patterns of sin when He said, “Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin... but if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.”

Generational sin feels like a family chain—hard to name, harder to break—but Jesus came to destroy every link. The cross redefines identity, not by our family history, but by His redeeming grace. Freedom doesn’t mean pretending our past didn’t happen; it means it no longer defines us. In Christ, the family name that once carried shame can now carry testimony. Through forgiveness, healing, and spiritual renewal, cycles of anger, fear, or addiction can stop with you. The moment we accept Christ’s truth and walk in it, we begin to experience the generational blessing that only He can secure.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How does your identity in Christ give you power to break old cycles?
- What specific area of your life needs to experience the freedom Jesus offers?

BUILDING A NEW LEGACY

Scripture Reading: **Philippians 3:12–21**

Scripture Memory: **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Paul's words remind us that following Jesus is a continual process of letting go and pressing forward. Many of us spend years wrestling with the residue of our upbringing—habits we learned, fears we inherited, or wounds passed down. Paul reminds us to “forget what is behind and reach forward to what is ahead.” Our past can inform us, but it doesn't have to imprison us. Breaking generational sin isn't just about stopping what's wrong—it's about building what's right. As we pursue Christ, we model humility, forgiveness, and faith for the next generation. The finish line of faith isn't just for us—it's for those who will come after. Every act of obedience you take today lays the foundation for someone else's freedom tomorrow.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What steps can you take this week to begin establishing a godly legacy?
- How can your story of transformation inspire others to pursue freedom in Christ?

WRESTLING TOWARD PEACE

Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:1–33:11

Scripture Memory: Romans 12:18

Jacob's journey home was marked by tension and fear. Years earlier, he had deceived his brother Esau, and now he was returning to face the consequences of his choices. As he prepared for this encounter, Jacob wrestled with God through the night, a powerful moment of both physical and spiritual struggle. This wasn't just about his fear of Esau; it was about his need for transformation. When Jacob limped away with a new name, "Israel," it symbolized the breaking of pride and the birth of humility. Before reconciliation with Esau could happen, Jacob had to be reconciled to God. When Esau ran to embrace him, the moment revealed that true reconciliation begins with surrender. Jacob's limp was a reminder that peace with others often comes through pain, prayer, and persistence. The God who changes hearts had already softened Esau's long before Jacob arrived. If God can mend their broken bond, He can heal ours too.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What "limp" from your past reminds you of a time God changed your heart?
- Who in your life might you need to approach with humility and courage to seek peace?

Highlight ➤ Explain ➤ Apply ➤ Respond

A BRIDGE OF GRACE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:21–26

Scripture Memory: Romans 12:18

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus equates anger with murder—not because they are the same act, but because they spring from the same heart. He teaches that reconciliation is not optional; it's urgent. "Leave your gift at the altar," He says, "and first be reconciled to your brother." Worship that bypasses forgiveness is incomplete. We can't draw near to God while harboring bitterness against others. Jesus calls His followers to build bridges of grace rather than walls of resentment. Reconciliation is costly because it requires humility and honesty. It's easier to justify anger than to seek peace, yet Jesus reminds us that unresolved conflict poisons the soul. When we choose to forgive, we reflect the character of Christ, who made peace with us at the greatest cost—the cross. Reconciliation restores not only relationships but also worship, allowing our hearts to fully align with God's love and mercy.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- Is there someone you've avoided because of unresolved conflict? What step can you take toward peace?
- How might your worship deepen if you released the bitterness you've been holding onto?

HEALING WHAT'S BEEN BROKEN

Scripture Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

Scripture Memory: Romans 12:18

Years after his brothers sold him into slavery, Joseph stood before them as a ruler of Egypt. They came seeking food, unaware that the man before them was the brother they betrayed. When Joseph finally revealed his identity, emotion overcame him—he wept so loudly the whole household heard. What could have been a moment for revenge became a moment of redemption. Joseph saw God's hand even in the pain: "You planned evil against me; God planned it for good." His forgiveness was not denial of their sin but a recognition of God's greater purpose through it.

Reconciliation often begins when we shift our focus from the wrong done to us to the God who redeems it. Joseph's forgiveness freed his family from years of guilt and restored unity that only grace could accomplish. Like Joseph, we may find that God uses our deepest wounds to bring about His greatest healing. In every broken story, there's a chance for God to write a new ending.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How does Joseph's forgiveness challenge the way you view people who have hurt you?
- Where might God be inviting you to see His redemptive plan in a painful chapter of your story?

Highlight ➤ Explain ➤ Apply ➤ Respond

BARRIERS BROKEN

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:11–22

Scripture Memory: Romans 12:18

Paul reminds the Ephesian believers that Jesus Himself is our peace. Through His death, He tore down the dividing wall of hostility between Jew and Gentile, creating one new humanity. What once separated them—culture, religion, and prejudice—was replaced by unity in Christ.

Reconciliation here isn't just personal; it's communal. It reshapes how we see others, reminding us that we are all fellow citizens of God's household. Our world thrives on division, but the gospel calls us to restoration. The cross doesn't just reconcile us to God; it reconciles us to each other. When we allow Christ to heal old wounds, He transforms hostility into harmony and strangers into family. In every church, marriage, and friendship, reconciliation becomes a testimony that Christ's peace still reigns.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- Where do you see "dividing walls" in your relationships or community?
- What would it look like for Christ's peace to redefine those relationships?

A MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

Scripture Memory: Romans 12:18

Paul calls every believer an ambassador of reconciliation. Through Christ, God not only forgave our sins but entrusted us with the mission of extending that same forgiveness to others. Reconciliation isn't passive—it's a calling. When we choose forgiveness, when we build bridges instead of barriers, we display God's kingdom on earth. Living as agents of reconciliation means we see people through the lens of grace, not offense. It means our love becomes stronger than our wounds. As we reflect Christ's mercy, we offer the same invitation He offered us: "Be reconciled to God." True peace is not found in avoiding conflict but in allowing God to redeem it. Reconciliation turns our pain into purpose and our differences into displays of divine grace.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How can you live out your calling as an "ambassador of reconciliation" this week?
- What step can you take today to show Christ's peace in a relationship that feels broken?

CROSSING HANDS

Scripture Reading: Genesis 48:1–22

Scripture Memory: Romans 2:11

When Joseph brought his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, to his father Jacob for a blessing, he expected the older to receive the greater inheritance. Yet Jacob, led by the Spirit of God, crossed his hands—placing his right hand on the younger. Joseph was shocked, thinking it was a mistake. But Jacob’s action revealed a deeper truth: God’s blessings aren’t bound by human order, birthright, or expectation. Jacob remembered his own story—how the younger had been chosen over the elder—and he understood that God’s purposes often overturn our preferences. This passage reminds us that divine favor is never earned or deserved—it’s distributed according to God’s sovereign will. We often look at others and measure worth through status, seniority, or appearance, but God looks at the heart. He doesn’t operate by cultural favoritism or family traditions. Whether firstborn or overlooked, God’s blessing finds those He chooses to bless.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- When have you struggled to accept God’s blessing in a way that didn’t fit your expectations?
- How can you show gratitude even when God’s blessings seem to bypass your preferred plans?

EQUAL GRACE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1–16

Scripture Memory: Romans 2:11

Jesus' parable of the vineyard workers challenges our sense of fairness. Each laborer, whether hired early or late, received the same wage. Those who worked longer complained, but the landowner reminded them that his generosity was his right. God's blessings operate by grace, not merit. His favor toward others doesn't diminish His faithfulness toward us. This parable reveals how jealousy and comparison can distort our view of God's goodness. When we see others receive what seems "undeserved," it tests our humility. But grace by definition is undeserved. The latecomers' wages weren't about fairness—they were about the Father's generosity. When we rejoice in others' blessings, we align our hearts with His character. God's blessings are abundant enough for all—no one needs to compete for His attention.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- Do you find it hard to celebrate when others receive blessings you long for?
- What does this parable teach you about trusting God's timing and generosity?

NO PARTIALITY IN PROMISE

Scripture Reading: Acts 10:34–48

Scripture Memory: Romans 2:11

When Peter entered Cornelius's home, he broke cultural barriers between Jew and Gentile. Peter confessed, "Now I truly understand that God doesn't show favoritism." The Holy Spirit fell upon all who listened, confirming that salvation and blessing are available to every person who believes. This moment shattered generations of prejudice and opened the door for the global church. God's blessing in Acts 10 was radical—it refused to be confined by ethnicity, tradition, or background. Peter had to unlearn his biases and embrace God's larger plan. Likewise, we must confront any assumptions that limit who we think God can use or bless. The Spirit moves freely, crossing boundaries we create. Every believer, regardless of heritage or history, receives the same Spirit and the same access to God's promises.

- What is one thing that you saw in today's passage that you can apply to your own life?
- What biases might you need to confront to better reflect God's impartial love?
- How can your church or community better embody the inclusiveness of God's Spirit?

THE GOD WHO SEES BEYOND FAVORITISM

Scripture Reading: James 2:1–13

Scripture Memory: Romans 2:11

James warns believers against showing favoritism—a sin that often hides beneath polite smiles and social norms. In his example, a wealthy man receives a seat of honor while the poor man is told to stand. James rebukes this behavior, reminding the church that God’s kingdom doesn’t operate by worldly standards of worth. To honor one person more than another is to misunderstand the heart of Christ, who welcomed the marginalized, the forgotten, and the unclean with equal love and dignity. When we play favorites, we place human value where God has placed divine equality. Every person is made in His image and deserving of honor—not because of possessions, titles, or appearance, but because of who their Maker is. God’s blessings flow freely, not through favoritism, but through faith. The same mercy that saved you is offered to the person you might be tempted to overlook.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- Where might subtle favoritism show up in your relationships or ministry?
- How can you demonstrate God’s impartial love to someone who often feels unseen or undervalued?

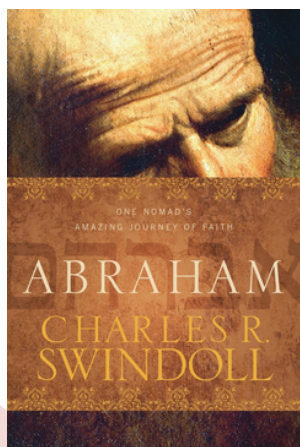
THE SAME SPIRIT FOR ALL

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4–27

Scripture Memory: Romans 2:11

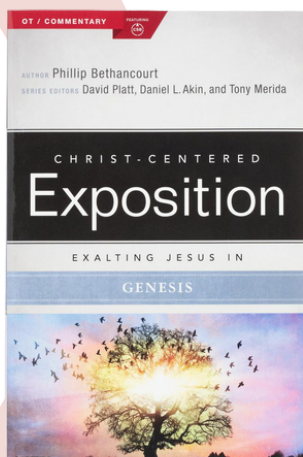
Paul reminds believers that though we have different gifts, “the same Spirit” empowers them all. No gift is greater or lesser—each serves the body’s good. When comparison creeps in, it fractures unity. But God designed diversity within equality. Every member, visible or unseen, carries significance and purpose. Unbiased blessings don’t erase individuality, they celebrate it under one Spirit. Whether you’re a teacher, servant, encourager, or intercessor, you are blessed with divine intention. The church flourishes when each person honors God’s design in themselves and others. True spiritual maturity is not seeking the most prominent gift but using whatever God has entrusted to you in love and humility.

- What is one thing that you saw in today’s passage that you can apply to your own life?
- How can you use your gifts without comparing them to others?
- In what ways can you affirm and encourage others in the body of Christ this week?



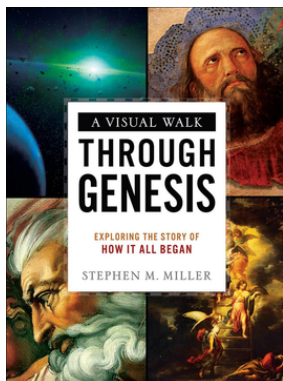
Abraham: One Nomad's Amazing Journey of Faith

In a world of false gods and fading empires, Abraham stood firm in faith. Pastor Chuck Swindoll explores his journey through Genesis, revealing timeless lessons on trusting God, living with integrity, and believing against all odds—faith that still transforms lives today.



Exalting Jesus in Genesis

Exalting Jesus in Genesis, part of the Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary series edited by David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, offers a practical, devotional look at Genesis. Each sermon-style chapter reveals Christ throughout the book, includes outlines, and ends with “Reflect & Discuss” sections—perfect for study, devotion, or sermon prep.



A Visual Walk Through Genesis

Genesis tackles life's biggest questions —Why are we here? What is God like? Why is there so much evil and pain? Yet modern readers often struggle with its ancient style and ask: Did Moses really write it? Are its stories scientifically accurate? How does it compare to other ancient accounts of creation and the flood? In this engaging, visually rich guide, seminary-trained journalist Stephen M. Miller explores diverse Christian perspectives with clarity, humor, and stunning graphics. Whether you're new to Scripture or a seasoned reader, this book helps bridge the gap between the ancient world and today's search for meaning.

All these books and more are available online at www.fitbooks.com or by visiting the Ocoee FIT Books store at 9567 W Colonial Dr. Ocoee, FL 34761

Worship Playlists, PDF booklets, and others



GATHERING TIMES

Traditional Service
8:30 am

Life Groups
9:45 am

Contemporary Service
11 am

Wednesday Groups
6:30 pm



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