

Faith Fight Podcast Episode 9 - Morning Devotionals

A morning prayer is a wonderful way to focus your time and attention on seeking God's plan for the day ahead. Whether you need encouragement, peace, strength, or rest, God can meet you in a very real and present way when you come before Him with a humble heart. Seek God's presence each morning before your energy and attention is pulled by all the tasks you have ahead.

*You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in You.- **Isaiah 26:3***

We can never avoid strife in the world around us, but with God we can know perfect peace even with turmoil all around us. Supported by God's unchanging love and mighty power, we are not shaken by the surrounding chaos. Set your mind on God in the morning and try to keep focused on Him as you go through your day. He will give you peace in all situations.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your mind in Christ Jesus. - **Philippians 4:6-7***

It seems like an impossibility to be anxious for nothing. This verse was written by Paul and he is encouraging us to turn our worries into prayers. During your morning devotional, turn everything that you are worrying about into prayers. God's peace is different from the world's peace. True peace comes from knowing that God is in control over everything and that our destiny is in his hands.

*Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a [a]solitary place; and there He prayed. - **Mark 1:35***

Jesus took time to pray. Finding time to pray is not easy for most but prayer is the vital link between us and God. Just like Jesus did, we must break away from others to spend alone time with God... Even if we have to get up early in the morning to do it.

Colossians 2:6-8

*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. - **Colossians 2:6-8***

When we wake up in the morning we have to guard our mind against the lies of the enemy. Apostle Paul is writing here to warn us against any false religion that may be taught to us. There are many man-made approaches to life's problems that totally disregard God. To resist these false teachings, you must use your mind keep your eyes on Jesus and study God's word for yourself.

*The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. - **Psalm 23:1-3***

As the Lord is the good shepherd so we are his sheep that are wise enough to follow him as he leads us into the right places. This verse focuses on the discipleship qualities of those who follow Jesus.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? - **Psalm 27:1***

Each day before you set out on your way, we should set out to defeat fear by using the bright liberating light of the Lord who brings salvation. To dispel the darkness of fear remember the light of God's salvation as promised in this verse.

*In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly. - **Psalm 5:3***

The secret to a close relationship with God is to pray to him earnestly in the morning. In the morning our minds are more free from problems and then we can commit the whole day to God. Regular communication with any person is necessary for a good relationship and it's certainly necessary for a strong relationship with God.

*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. - **Lamentations 3:22-23***

God's lovingkindness never ends and his compassion towards us never fails. God willingly responds to us when we ask for help. God's steadfast love and mercy are greater than any sin and he promises forgiveness every morning.

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. - **Ephesians 6:10***

Before we leave out for the day we need to be sure that we are covered from every possible side against the enemy's attacks. To withstand the attacks of the enemy we must rely on God's strength and use every piece of the armor.

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. - **Matthew 6:33***

To “Seek first His kingdom” means to turn to God first for help to fill your thoughts with His desires. To put his will and the plans of His kingdom above your own. In doing this and finding the will of God, you will see that everything that you need will find you right when you need it to.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. - Psalm 32:8

God longs to guide us with love and wisdom rather than punishment. He offers to teach us the best way to go. Accept the advice written in God’s word and don’t let your stubbornness keep you from obeying God.

Weekly Prayer Plan – Morning Devotionals

How to Use this Template:

Download and save this document to begin using at the beginning (Monday) of every week. Every Week will have different bible verses to meditate on based on the Faith Fight Podcast episode topic for that week. Determine the time and place that you will devote to prayer. The below structure is set for one hour and is only used as a guide. You can adjust your timing if necessary.

Time: _____

Place: _____

5 min – Drawing Near To God

5 min – Confession

10 min – God-Centered Petitions

10 min – Intercessory Prayer

10 min – Personal Petitions

15 min – Meditation

5 min – Praise, Thanksgiving & Closing

1. **DRAWING NEAR TO GOD** - Matt. 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”

God the Father is the focus of all our prayers. We should never forget what a privilege it is to bend our knees on earth and reach almighty God in heaven.

Psalm 95:6 - Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

Isaiah 6:3 - And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

Psalms 84:1-2 - How lovely are Your dwelling places, O LORD of hosts! My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

2. **CONFESSION** - Matt. 6:12 "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"

When we repent and forgive others, we maintain fellowship with God. But if we hold grudges, that fellowship is broken. God loves to answer our prayers when the lines of communication are not disrupted.

Psalms 51:1-2 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Acts 3:19 - Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

James 4:8 - Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

3. **GOD CENTERED PETITIONS** Matt 6:10 "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven."

Prayer should reflect a desire to align ourselves with God's goals and purposes, not to get Him to follow our plans.

Job 22:21 - "Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you.

Psalms 40:8 - I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart."

Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

4. **PERSONAL PETITIONS** Matt 6:11 "Give us today our daily bread."

We are dependent upon the Lord for our needs and He wants us to come to Him with our requests.

Matt 7:7-8 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matt 6:8 - Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

James 4:2 - You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. **You do not have because you do not ask God.**

5. **MEDITATION Joshua 1:8** “Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

Meditation is thinking about the word of God to understand what it means in the context of the scripture and how it can apply to your life today. The Word of God is powerful enough to still be relevant in your life today even though it was written thousands of years ago.

Read through the scripture passages for today as listed below:

Meditational Verses

Monday: Psalm 23

Tuesday: Psalm 5

Wednesday: Philippians 4:6-7

Thursday: Psalm 32:8

Friday: Matthew 6:25-34

Saturday: Psalm 27

Sunday: Isaiah 26:1-9

Once you have read the scripture for today, write down your answer to the questions below or any other insight/revelation that you receive in your prayer journal.

1. Is there a promise to claim?
2. Is there a lesson to learn?
3. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
4. Is there a command to obey?
5. Is there a sin to avoid?
6. Is there a new thought to carry with me?

6. **PRAISE & THANKSGIVING 1 John 5:14-15** “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

We can end our prayer time with confidence that God has heard our prayer and will answer in His perfect timing. Demonstrate your faith in Him by showing thanks before you see the answer to your prayers.

Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Psalm 103:1-5 - Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.