



DAILY DEVOTIONS

THREE-STEP BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

GENESIS 9:18-29

Noah built the ark as the father of a new humanity and the head of a new covenant with God. But Noah was a sinner. Here, he got drunk and naked. His father's hopes of Noah being the one who would undo the curse (Gen. 9:29) would not come to pass. The promise of Genesis 9:29 would have to wait. Noah teaches us that past success does not guarantee future obedience. We are all just one day away from failure. Don't trust in your former obedience; rather, lean on God's grace for the strength to obey each day.

IN WHAT AREA OF YOUR LIFE HAVE YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN?

HOW HAS OVERCONFIDENCE LED TO MISTAKES IN YOUR LIFE?

HOW CAN YOU SEE EACH DAY AS A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO GROW AND OBEY JESUS?

DAY 02

GENESIS 10:32-11:4

HOW ARE YOU TEMPTED TO LIVE FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR OWN GLORY?

WHAT ARE SOME AREAS WHERE YOU ARE MOTIVATED MORE BY PRIDE THAN WORSHIP?

HOW CAN YOU PURSUE EXCELLENCE WITHOUT PURSUING MAN'S PRAISE?

When we read the story of Babel, it's easy to see the people's folly. But we shouldn't be so quick to judge. Modern people are tempted to the temptation to make a name for themselves instead of living for the joy of God. We see it every day. Our ambitions often displace our hearts to new, even places in the world. Even in our ministries and churches, you'll be tempted to make much of yourself. We are the play that only belongs to God. It's not our talents, resources, or abilities that will make a difference. It's only the Spirit of God.

DAY 03

GENESIS 11:5-9

When we are determined to rebel and go our own way, it always leads to self-destruction. When God intervenes, we experience His mercy. If not for God's grace, we would all continue down the path of self-glory. Thankfully, we don't have to stay on that path. God sends us out on a better mission that leads to life and joy. Just as He scattered the people in Genesis, God calls us to take His message to the ends of the earth. There's no greater mission. Live for God's glory today.

WHAT HAS GOD USED TO REDIRECT YOUR PATH?

HOW HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED THE GRACE OF GOD'S DISCIPLINE?

HOW CAN YOU LIVE FOR GOD'S MISSION IN THIS SEASON OF YOUR LIFE?

ISAIAH

ISAIAH 65:1-2

HOW HAS FOLLOWING YOUR HEART BACKFIRED IN YOUR LIFE?

HOW CAN OUR HEARTS BE CHANGED TO FOLLOW GOD'S HEART?

WHAT MIGHT IT LOOK LIKE TO RESPOND TO GOD'S OUTSTRETCHED ARMS?

From Moana to Frozen, the cultural message to follow your heart is all-consuming. But that is not the message we find in the Bible. Israel walked in the path that is not good (65:2) because they were following their own thoughts (65:2). Our hearts and minds often lead us down a path of sin. We need to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Rom. 12:2). This is an uphill battle, but it is the path we must choose if we are going to live in the will of God.

DAY 05

ACTS 2:1-24

At Babel, God confused the languages. At Pentecost, God brought clarity in the midst of many languages. At Babel, people gathered to speak their own name, but at Pentecost, the church created Jesus' name. God's purposes for humanity were restored through the gospel. Jesus has overcome the self-destroying evil of Babel and made us one people with one mission: to live for God's glory through the Great Commission.

WHAT DOES PENTECOST TEACH US ABOUT WHAT GOD CAN DO WHEN HIS PEOPLE COME TOGETHER FOR HIS NAME?

WHO IN YOUR LIFE STILL NEEDS TO "CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD" TO BE SAVED (2:21)?

HOW DO THE STORIES OF BABEL AND ACTS 2:23-24 GIVE YOU CONFIDENCE THAT GOD'S PURPOSES WILL SUCCEED?