



PURPOSE

LIVE OUT OUR FAITH IN JESUS AND INVITE OTHERS INTO LIFE WITH HIM

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DEVOTION

GOD AS PROVIDER

Sam Marcum, Associate Pastor
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Devotion to God is a commitment to continually deepen our relationship with God and orient our lives around that priority.

MATTHEW 6:10-12 ESV

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

MATTHEW 6:31-33 ESV

³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

We can grow in our devotion to God as we remember that God knows and promises to provide for our most basic needs.

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8 ESV

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into

many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

“Countries like ours are full of people who have all of the material comforts they desire, yet lead lives of quiet (and at times noisy) desperation, understanding nothing but the fact that there is a hole inside them and that however much food and drink they pour into it, however many motorcars and television sets they stuff it with, however many well-balanced children and loyal friends they parade around the edges of it. . . it aches!”
– Bernard Levin

We can grow in our devotion to God as we seek Him and His kingdom first. This leads to contented hearts around what He has already provided and a better perspective regarding our true needs.

We can grow in our devotion to God as we receive the forgiveness He provides and then offer that forgiveness to others.

continued ►

JAMES 2:15-17 ESV

¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

EPHESIANS 4:28 ESV

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

We can grow in our devotion to God as we realize that He will utilize us to be part of providing for others. We get to be part of the blessing.

JOHN 10:10 ESV

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

MATTHEW 4:4 ESV

It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

“Given the resurrection nothing is ultimately tragic.” – Peter Berger

We can grow in our devotion to God as we receive the greatest gift that He has provided: Himself. When we truly understand and appreciate this, we will seek provision and contentment from no other source.

DEVOTIONAL CHALLENGE 6: “ME, YOU, US”

Each day this week, let’s consider the following:

- 1. Me** - *What am I personally needing from God today?*
- 2. You** - *What might God be providing to me today in order to give to someone else?*
- 3. Us** - *How can I help be part of the Church providing for the needs around us from what God has given to me?*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In what ways have you seen God provide for a need recently (materially, relationally, emotionally, physically, and/or spiritually)? How did that provision affect your ongoing relationship with Him?
2. Other than God, where else do you sometimes seek to have your needs provided for? What can happen when we typically seek provision elsewhere?
3. What area of provision from God are you most grateful for? How might God be wanting to provide for someone else through you?

For more information about taking steps to draw near to God,
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