



**GOBIN CHURCH**  
A United Methodist Community for All

### **Action**

Write down a “yes” or “no” question to God in prayer. Keep holding your pen to the paper as you pray. Or ask a close friend or spiritual mentor, without divulging the question, to respond “yes” or “no.” See what comes through. Try this for 30 days.

### **Saturday, July 4, 2020**

#### ***Luke 10: 21-24 CEB***

<https://tinyurl.com/ycq27qe9>

“Jesus overflowed with joy from the Holy Spirit,” Luke writes. Prophets and kings could have seen and heard Jesus, but they didn’t show up. A missed opportunity of life-changing proportions! How often do we miss opportunities to see and hear what God’s beauty has for us? As I was delivering things for church several weeks ago, I was told at one of my stops about a waterfall I didn’t know about. It was a beautiful morning, I had a schedule to keep, but a new waterfall was nearby! My adventure friend was with me, and she and I decided we had to take the opportunity and swerve from our morning route. What joy! The light was perfect and a rainbow danced across the water as we stood breathless in the presence of steep rock walls, rushing water, lush ferns and majestic trees. Finally we got back on the road, and only one person noticed we were a little later than usual on our route. Look around! Blessed are the eyes that see the beauty of God’s creation!

#### ***Prayer***

Holy God, You have blessed me with eyes and heart to see Your beauty. Open my whole being to Your loveliness so that I can share that joy throughout Your world. Thank You. Amen

#### ***Action***

As you go through your day, ask: “God, what am I missing?” “Where is the beauty?” “Where is the love?”

### **Monday, June 29, 2020**

#### ***1 Thessalonians 4: 9-12 CEB***

<https://tinyurl.com/ychjv4qj>

“Where is the love?” God pours out love into each person. We are to love, and encourage one another in God’s great outpouring of love. As I keep seeing all the hate and lies and oppression and disregard for others who are different from us, I keep asking “Where is the love?” If not me, then who? If not now, when? I’m reminded of the words of the beautiful hymn “The Gift of Love.” Our words have to be words of love. The gifts we give have to be given with a generous and humble heart. Every action must be done in love. Without love, we are empty.

#### ***Prayer***

God of love, fill me with your Truth. Let my words be love. Let my actions be pleasing in your sight. Change hard hearts into hearts of love. Pour out your love so that all creation sings your praises. Thank you. Amen

#### ***Action***

Find love being offered in your community and look for ways to encourage that outpouring.

### **Tuesday, June 30, 2020**

#### ***1 John 4: 1-6 CEB***

<https://tinyurl.com/y7przll9>

C.S. Lewis wrote in “Mere Christianity”: “If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.” Yet here we are, in a world struggling to discern real from fake, truth from lies, fact from fiction. The lines have become blurred. Perhaps they always were, if we look at this passage. Prophets – teachers and wise ones inspired by the Holy Spirit – will lead us down the path of righteousness.

False prophets inspire the errors of the world. We must communicate Truth inspired by God and given to us through the Holy Spirit as we introduce others to Jesus.

**Prayer**

Holy God, give me the Spirit's discernment so that I can recognize when someone I meet is close to you or invested in the trappings of the world. Thank You. Amen

**Action**

Who would you consider a modern day prophet? Do you recognize any false prophets – not inspired by God – who hold people captive and try to keep them away from God's Truth?

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

**Isaiah 51: 1-3 CEB** <https://tinyurl.com/yaovq26t>

The limestone rocks and quarries of Indiana are known worldwide. In buildings and museums, the rock is prized, sturdy and masterfully carved. And solid – just like divine assurance is solid for us. God multiplies abundance for those who are rock-solid in faithful obedience. The abundance may come in the form of gifts or money or a call to be by a dying friend's side. All the while we are being shaped and formed into the beautiful creation God sees in us. The "diamond in the rough" is made to shine. We don't always recognize the beauty in everything and everyone around us. But it's there. Slow down. Pay attention. Feel the strength of your foundation in Christ. Go into the world and shine God's light.

**Prayer**

God, I put my trust in You, for You are the Master Carver. Chisel away my fears and make me worthy of the strength of Your Presence. Thank You. Amen

**Action**

Find a rock and place it in your hand. Be still for a moment. Does the rock feel warm or cool? Who has been a rock for you? Tell them.

**Thursday, July 2, 2020**

**Romans 7: 1-6 CEB** <https://tinyurl.com/y9tcbvzz>

Laws are for those who live IN the world – a world of ego, disregard of others and desires not aligned with the fruits of the Spirit or Christ's example. New life in Christ is freedom from fear, dread and actions that have dire consequences. Giving up the things that anchor us to the ways of the world makes room for God to move and create in our lives. Fully trust you'll be able to pay a bill. Access God's love to be blessed by a conversation with a stranger. Jesus found out what it's like to be challenged about how he ate and how he worshipped God and who he hung out with and how money and power corrupt. Life in the Spirit frees us to spread God's love to all people.

**Prayer**

God, open my eyes to the freedoms of love, kindness, peace and joy of a life dedicated to following Christ. Thank You. Amen

**Action**

Find something of the world you can release from your life to allow room for Christ to move. How does that feel?

**Friday, July 3, 2020**

**Romans 7: 7-20 CEB** <https://tinyurl.com/y7zc6t9f>

We sometimes have to ask ourselves "Why did I just do that?" For a brief moment in time, people were wearing t-shirts and bracelets with WWJD on them. What would Jesus do? It's a way of life to always be discerning the higher call of what God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit want us to choose. It takes practice. A spiritual companion and I will often call or text each other with the words "Yes or No." We'll feel into the moment and the decision and ask the other person to respond "Yes" or "No" and release the decision to God. With very few exceptions we are in sync and follow through. Accessing the mind of God is an awesome and inconceivable task. If God is within each of us, why not begin?

**Prayer**

God our Creator, keep speaking to me. Keep nudging me. Keep telling me what Jesus would do. Help me to hear you in every decision I make, every word I choose to speak, every cry that falls on my ears. Thank You. Amen