



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS
September 19-24, 2022

Monday, September 19, 2022 (by Marilyn Culler)

Acts 4:1-12 <https://tinyurl.com/53b4xccm>

PONDER: “Jesus is the stone the builders rejected.” We build a life, but with what stones? Do we include God and Jesus in everything we try to build in the big and small things in our lives? We can build our Creator and Savior into our waking with prayers of gratitude for a new day of possibilities. We can build God and Jesus into our strivings at work and in the world through our actions. We can build God and Jesus into our family time and relationships through love and kindness. We cannot reject the Author of our being and the One who forgives our sins and omissions without risking our peace.

PRAY: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, help me always build every moment upon your solid foundation of love, repentance and forgiveness. Amen.

ACT: Find a pretty stone on the ground and look closely. Why did others pass by without noticing? Is your foundation in Christ solid enough to withstand the tumults of life?

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 (by Jamie Douglas)

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 <https://tinyurl.com/28sxafhw>

PONDER: It’s all about the relationship. Paul reminds us in these verses of the importance of meeting people where they are and how they are and showing respect for their customs and beliefs. Paul makes it clear that he did not take on the life and customs of others – this was not, “when in Rome, do as the Romans”. He kept his bearings and remained rooted in Christ, but just as Jesus did, met people how they were and offered respect as he formed relationships.

PRAY: God of Grace and Respect, lead me in your ways. Remind me daily of the way Jesus served and loved and formed relationships when he walked this earth. Examine my heart, convict and guide me. Amen

ACT: Examine your relationship with Jesus and examine your relationships beyond the walls of the church. Where/how/why do you serve?

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 (by Anita Edenfield)

Proverbs 21:10-16 <https://tinyurl.com/2zp8ufst>

PONDER: This passage talks about gifts in secret, or bribes. Bribes are often used as a way of subduing anger and wrath. I have always viewed gifts as being given freely and without any strings attached. In courts of law “settlements” are done out of court saving the victim the stresses of a court case with a sum of money to soothe their anger. It also generally gives the person on the opposite side a lesser monetary penalty and often a way of avoiding the blame in public. However, when the day of judgement comes for us and we stand up in front in the court of our God, there will be no ‘out of court settlements’ to assuage any anger. We must stand solely on the understanding we get in communion; Jesus Christ’s blood was shed for us.

PRAYER: God of Love, we come to you with humble hearts thankful for your grace. We offer you our thanks for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, without whom we could never stand before you and ask forgiveness. We pray with your guidance we will live lives that are acceptable in your eyes. Amen.

ACTION: Should you find yourself in a disagreement look ways to solve the issue without escalating to anger. Kindness goes a long way and disagreements are not nearly as nice as hugs.

Thursday, September 22, 2022 (by Teddy Shuck)

Psalms 91 <https://tinyurl.com/2867c6yh>

PONDER: There is a sign in a yard that I pass quite often. It simply says, Psalm 91. No wording of explanation, just Psalm 91. I have had the good fortune of reading Psalm 91 several times. Every time I do, I feel "goose bumps" up my back or around my shoulders. It is one of most beautifully written psalms about the love of God. It reminds us of all the times He has been there when we needed comfort and/or help. Then God speaks, reaffirming what the psalmist has said. I guess, like the sign, nothing more needs to be said. Anytime You are needed, You are there. Thank you for the sign you have in your yard. Even though I do not know your name, I think I might have some idea about your love for God.

PRAYER: Thank you God for your reassurance of your love. May I be worthy of your belief in me. Amen.

ACTION: May I treat all people the way God treats us all.

Friday, September 23, 2022 (by Terry Noble)

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 <https://tinyurl.com/bd276b2y>

PONDER: Each time I read these familiar verses I am reminded that all happens in God’s time. However, it is up to us to discern the nature of the time and how we should act. Is it a time to be silent or a time to speak, a time to break down or a time to build up, a time to embrace or a time to refrain from embracing? It can be overwhelming figuring out what is the right thing to do. If our lives are centered on God and we walk through life in partnership with Christ, then we can be assured that we have the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to be humble and open, not jumping quickly to our own conclusions, but listening for God to show us the way.

PRAY: God, thank you for the time that is given to me. May the seasons of my life reflect your timing. Amen.

ACT: What have you gained from your hard work today? Reflect on how you used your time.

Saturday, September 24, 2022 (by Lisa Trigg)

Luke 9:43b-48 <https://tinyurl.com/2p99ezxb>

PONDER: Who is the greatest? A childish argument, indeed. I feel sort of sorry for Jesus in this story. His disciples are learning and growing, but they are still susceptible to petty rivalries that seem childish in comparison to their mission. That seems so frustrating. These days, the tendency to call someone a G.O.A.T., an acronym for Greatest Of All Time, has become popular. Often, G.O.A.T. is used in praise of exceptional athletes, musicians, and other public officials. Is it ironic that Jesus makes a distinction between humble sheep and stubborn goats when he explains how we should live as servants, rather than attention-seekers? In this passage, Jesus calls attention to a child, a gentle lamb, as an example for us to follow. May we all set aside any desire for greatness, and learn to live up to the humble status of sheep led by Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

PRAYER: Dear God, remove any foolish yearnings for attention and praise from my being today. Encourage my simple desire to be counted among your humble sheep. Amen.

ACTION: Practice serving others today while seeking no reward. In response to thanks, say something like, “It is my honor to be a servant of Jesus.”