

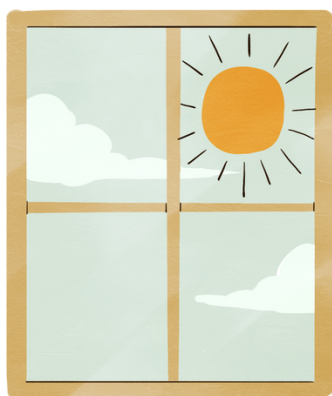
Creative Hearts Seek

in the morning

A 4-WEEK DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Mornings are meant for wonder. In Genesis 1:1-4, Scripture tells us in the very first day of Creation, God said "Let there be Light"! separating it from darkness and He saw that it was good. I thought it was so beautiful how the Lord was intentional about how we start our day. Now in the same way let us make room for Him by setting our hearts before Him. To Seek, To Hear, To Dwell, To Worship, To Behold our Beloved Jesus, First.



Let's Pray

Father, as we dedicate the start of our day to You, Encounter us. Encounter us with the weight of Your Glory. The weight of Your Love. Renew our reverence, intimacy, & desire for You alone. We repent if we've made our morning routine an idol. You are our God. Lord fill our cup & set our heart ablaze as we seek You first over the next few weeks together. In Jesus name, Amen.

It's something about the morning...

Have you ever started your day off in a crazy rush? Barely having time to make a run to Starbucks to grab your favorite drink or maybe you're like me trying to peel yourself off the bed, hitting the snooze button again and again hoping to get a little bit more shut eye. Yet, no matter how hard we try to get going, it's seems as if we just can't. Next thing you know, the way you started your morning starts to feel like it has trickled into your entire day. Moody. Frustrated. Impatient. Praying "Lord just help me get through this day"! Or saying "Is this work day over yet"?!



Been there. I know, it happens. But, what If I told you that the morning was created for so much more. That, in the very first part of your day, in the quiet, in the stillness, there's an invitation to draw a little closer, go a little deeper & offer up the first fruits of your morning to the One who made you.

How to Prepare

As we journey together using this weekly devotional & submitting the *first hour* of each *Monday Morning* this month.

Feb 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th.

(Add these dates to your calendar & set a reminder.)

Make this time uninterrupted and set aside for the Lord alone. For you to get the absolute most out of this weekly devotional/prayer time, here are a few practical ways to devote your time unto the Lord and prepare your heart:



1. Repent. Repent of every ungodly and offensive thing you may have done that goes against God. Ask the Lord to purify your heart, renew your mind. After we repent, there's a refreshing!

See Acts 3:19-21, Psalms 24:3-6

2. Conquer distractions. Place your phone on silent mode or set it on 'do not disturb'. Keep it in another room. No social media or responding to text or email, no idle conversations or calls. Just you & Jesus.

See Hebrews 12:1-2, Mark 1:35

3. *Grab your (physical) Bible.* It's just something about going through the word with your physical bible! Plus, it keeps you from falling into temptation to scroll, right?

4. *Grab your Pen & Paper.* Whether you receive revelation while studying or hear the Lord give you a word/instructions, keep a notebook nearby to write it down so you can go back and meditate on what the Lord ministered to you in these sweet intimate moments.

5. *Prayer & Worship.* As the Lord begins to move on your heart, begin to pray into the word that you receive. Take what the Lord is showing you whether in His word or as your hear & begin to declare it. Set the atmosphere. Turn on some worship music and minister unto Jesus. Adore Him. Pour out your love on Him and watch Him fill you. Don't feel rushed through it. You may even find that your time may run over too.
Let the Lord have His way.



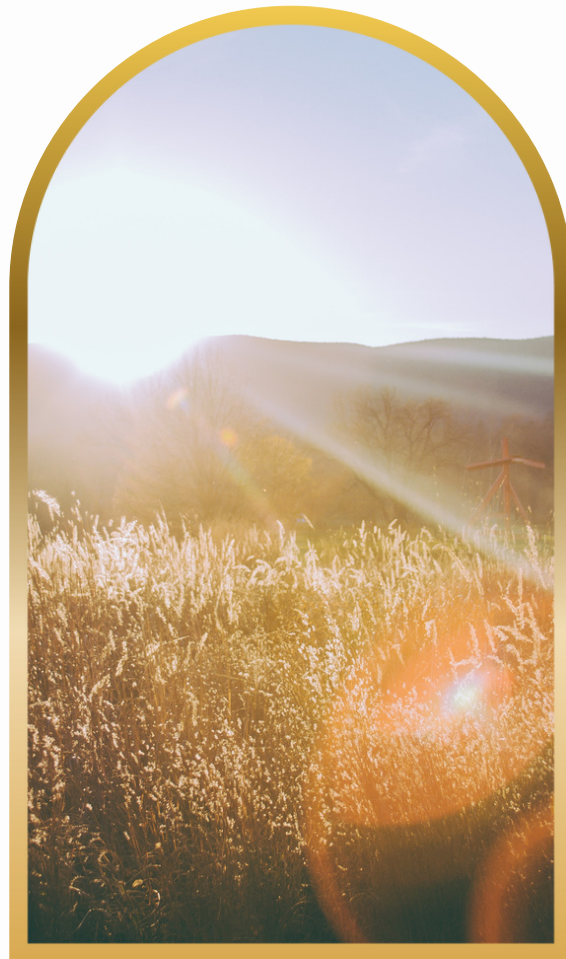
Now, are you ready! Let's go Deeper.

WEEK ONE

Scripture Focus:

O God, You are my God; Early will I
seek You; My soul thirsts for You;
My flesh longs for You In a dry and
thirsty land Where there is no water.

Psalm 63:1 NKJV



Scripture Study: Read Psalm 63:1-8,
Psalm 139:23-24, Exodus 33:12-23,
Luke 10:42

In Psalm 63:1, we witness David deeply cry out to God in desperate need of a touch from Him again. To be filled. To be satisfied. When he declares *"Early will I seek you"*, It's like he's saying *"God, as soon as I wake up, I can't wait to meet/commune with you again"*. He expresses how his soul and body literally crave the living God. Recalling an intimate moment in the Presence of the Lord while in the wilderness, he meditates on how he beheld God's power and encountered His glory in the sanctuary, forever changed and never the same.

Our appetite.

That word means *"to have a natural desire to satisfy a bodily need, to hunger, to crave"*

I remember going to bed the night before the next day thinking about how I was going to make my coffee first thing in the morning.

Of course I got out the bed saying "Lord I thank you for another day" but my soul was thirsty for that first sip, not His heart, left still not satisfied.

I knew something was missing. I knew it was more than just me wanting "coffee". I was seeking comfort that only the Lord could fulfil in me. It wasn't until I began to turn my heart toward God, seek His face, and lay it all down before Him. My desire was renewed. My appetite reset.

I started waking up to Jesus. My daily bread. Before any business tasks, client meeting, social media posting, creative project launch, the greatest matter of importance was spending time with the Lord, seeking Him first.



Reflection: In your time today, what did the Lord highlight in your heart? What desires/ affection toward Him is being refreshed in this moment?

Activation: Pray into it.

WEEK TWO

Scripture Focus:

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there.

See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”

1 Kings 17:8-9 NKJV



Scripture Study: 1 Kings 17; Mark 16:17-19, Isaiah 6:8, Luke 4:18-19

Arise and Go. That was the instruction of the Lord after Elijah told King Ahab who was utterly leading people in idol worship and rebellion against God, to proclaim a 3 ½ year drought in the land. God told Elijah to go to Zarephath to be sustained. Yet, this widow he was sent to was literally preparing to make the last meal for her and her son to eat and then die. But what she didn't know is that right in the moment where she was about to give up, God had already prepared their miracle.

Scripture says that the Lord sent Elijah to a widow woman that He [commanded] to sustain him. That word commanded in the Greek is '*tsavah*' which means 'appointed, set in order, lay charge' which means, although it appears as if she was preparing her last, God had already appointed/set in order this moment for her life to be changed forever. And guess what? The same way the Lord sent Elijah, you are being sent. Yes, the Lord is sending you to be a miracle, sign, and wonder to your clients. To bring glory on earth as it is in Heaven through the business/work He's given you graced you to do.

It's more than a business, it's ministry.

I remember one time on set, a client shared with me that she was literally standing in a moment she had prayed for years ago. That not only was the photo session going to be used for her business, but also how God was showing her, who she was in Him and how He was sealing confidence, boldness, and a fire for the work at hand. I got in the car and started crying, worshiping the Lord, thinking "this what it it's all about"

This moment was a sign and wonder!

Not only did she have an amazing photo session, but also received an impartation of glory for the assignment & journey ahead.

May we see our business the way the Lord sees it. May we be the salt & light, the answer, the glory carriers in every aspect of our business. We come out of agreement with believing that any part of what we do is insignificant or that we are lacking.

This is the Lord's business and He's called YOU to it. In this season, may the ultimate client experience be an encounter with the Lord through you!





Reflection: Just like Jesus proclaimed in Luke 4:18-19, what has the Lord anointed you to do? In your business/ministry/creative work, who has the Lord called you to?

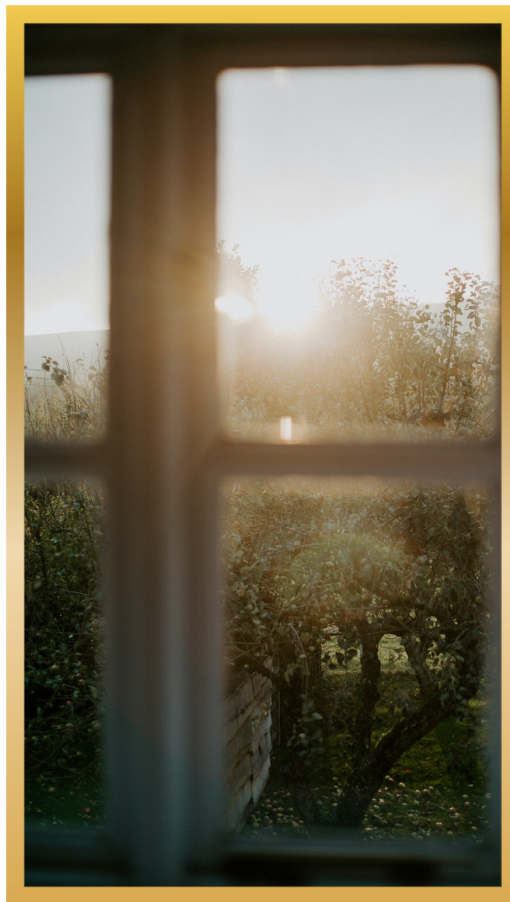
Activation: Spend time praying for your clients, customers, your team and all who work with you both now and in the near future. Ask the Lord what He wants you to declare over them, then pray that over them.

WEEK THREE

Scripture Focus:

Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary;
be strong, and do it.

1 Chronicles 28:10 NKJV



Scripture Study: 1 Chronicles 28,
Genesis 15:1-6, John 15:16, John 17:4

Chosen to Build. In the Old Testament, a temple was built for the Presence of God to dwell and for the people of God to encounter His presence. (2 Chronicles 6:1-2).

In this chapter we find that King David had set in his heart and even had already started working on blueprints to build the temple for the Lord, but because he was a 'man of war' and there was blood shed from battle, God did not permit him to build it. And just like David who among all his brothers was chosen to be anointed as King, so was his son Solomon.

Mandated from God to build the temple; finishing the assignment that his father could not carry out. Solomon didn't complain about it, he didn't question why he was called to do it, or try to disqualify himself based upon his abilities or by comparing himself to his brothers.

As soon as he received the instruction "*do it*", Solomon started to build.

Have you ever had a moment and thought “why me?” Maybe you come from a family where you are literally the first to do it. Or maybe when you think about some of your peers, you find that you’re the one that’s making a difference/impact in your community. But maybe, just maybe YOU are the one God has called, anointed, and graced for such a time as this!

Transparent moment.

I remember having a really frustrating season where I’d begin to dwell on certain generational strongholds, cycles, and behaviors I’ve seen in my family and ask the Lord “But why does it have to be me to break these generational curses?”



But in a moment of seeking the Lord in prayer,
He began to show me the beautiful, fruitful
harvest, generational blessings He'd prepared
on the other side of my "YES". A generation to
come after me, set free, healed, whole, wealthy,
& walking in so much joy! My heart filled with
praise! Shouting thank you Lord that it *is* ME!

May your obedience echo throughout
generations to come. May they eat/see the
fruit of your yes. May we live to please the
Lord and glorify Him in every area of our
life. May we carry out every assignment
trusting that He's ordered our steps from
glory to glory, beginning to the end.





Reflection: What are the generational cycles/curses the Lord has anointed you to break? What are the generational blessings/promises on the other side of your obedience?

Activation: Declare the promises/blessings of the Lord over your bloodline. Spend time in worship and allow the Lord to minister and speak to your heart about His plans for you. Let your 'yes' be refreshed. Let Him delight over you and receive His truth.

WEEK FOUR

Scripture Focus:

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For He is our God,
And we are the people of His pasture,
And the sheep of His hand.

Psalm 95:6-7 NKJV



Scripture Study: Psalm 95, Psalm 29:1-2,
Mark 1:35, Daniel 6:10

Created to Worship. This month we have journeyed together in studying the word, praying, declaring, rendering our hearts & our businesses before the Lord, *first*. As I was praying into our study for this week, all I kept hearing was “worship” and for us to make a prophetic declaration with our time today by doing what we were created to do.

Psalm 95:5, calls us to worship, bow down, & kneel. That word “worship” in the Hebrew is ‘shachah’ which means to literally *bow down & to lay prostrate*.

It's just something so beautiful that happens in worship when we bow. It's a sign of surrender, reverence, honor, intimacy in the Presence of our God & King. So today, *let's do just that.*

Find a space in your home where you can kneel, lay face down prostrate, or bow down before the Lord in worship with adoration, thanksgiving, pouring out your love before Him. Invite the Lord in. Ask to encounter His Glory like never before. And let the King of Glory come in. Let the weight of His presence (His person) be upon you in the mighty name of Jesus.

Declare this with me: "Lord I ask for a fresh anointing, a fresh fire on my worship! Lord have your way in me, In Jesus Name"





Set the atmosphere. Here's a soaking prayer song if you feel led to play it during your worship time.
(click the icon below)



Activation: Spend time worshipping the Lord. Open your heart to receive in the mighty name of Jesus.

Reflection: What did you receive from the Lord in worship this morning?

BONUS

Scripture Focus:

For in the time of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of His tabernacle
He shall hide me;
He shall set me high upon a rock.

Psalm 27:5 NKJV



Scripture Study: Psalm 91:9-10, Psalm 18:2
Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Corinthians 16:13

He shall hide me. Have you ever started to play a worship or praise song while cleaning up? Then all of a sudden what meant to be only "background music" turned into an intimate moment of worship with the Lord. Well that was me today. While I was putting up groceries the song that was playing declared:

"The Rock that never fails, let us hide in you"

This reminded me that in every moment, in every season, day in and out, we have access to God as our refuge, our hiding place. I love the way *The Barnes' Notes Commentary* breaks our scripture focus verse down & I had to share it with you here:

"In his pavilion - The word "pavilion" means "tent" or "tabernacle." The Hebrew word - סכּה sukâh - means properly a booth, hut, or cot formed of green branches interwoven: ...



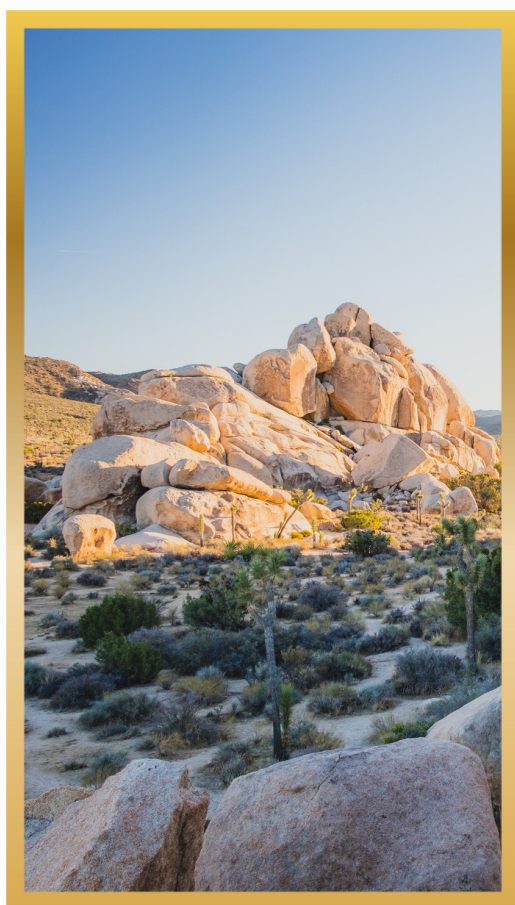
In the secret of his tabernacle - In the most retired and private part of His dwelling. He would not merely admit him to His premises; not only to the vestibule of His house; not only to the open court, or to the parts of His house frequented by the rest of His family; but he would admit him to the private apartments - the place to which He Himself withdrew to be alone, and where no stranger, and not even one of the family, would venture to intrude.



Nothing could more certainly denote friendship; nothing could more certainly make protection sure, than thus to be taken into the private apartment where the master of a family was accustomed himself to withdraw, that he might be alone; and nothing, therefore, can more beautifully describe the protection which God will give to His friends than the idea of thus admitting them to the secret apartments of His own dwelling-place.

He shall set me up upon a rock - A place where I shall be secure; a place inaccessible to my enemies."

Didn't that bless you?! In the secret place, in His Pavilion, God literally tucks us away, conceals us from all harm, we are undetected, covered on all sides. Let this be a reminder to you today, that He is your hiding place.



Reflection: How do you need God to cover you in this season of your life?

Activation: Write it down & begin to pray over every area where you need God to Hide you.

FINAL WORDS

Quiet time will never be the same...

God has truly met us in the most sweetest way during this time of devotion, prayer, & worship together. yes, we are creatives, leaders, entrepreneurs, & so much more. But the most important call over any gifting, passion, purpose or title is that we are sons & daughters of the Living God.

May you find rest in that alone. I pray that each day, however and whenever, that in your quiet time with the Lord you encounter His love, His glory, His Revelation, and His power. I can't wait to share this time with you again soon! Please send me a message & let me know how I can continue to pray for you & your business this year! I'm believing God that we will witness more of His miracles, signs, and wonders through the work of our hands.



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Thank you!
