All Saints Church
Good News Daily

Devotional readings for each day, parish birthdays and anniversaries

April 26-May 2, 2026

Sunday, April 26

1 John 2:18-29 *But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth.* (vv.20-21 NIV)

While searching for God many years ago, just before I committed my life to Christ, I subscribed to *The Plain Truth* published by the Worldwide Church of God. This was Ted Armstrong's sect that preached, among other things, that there were only two persons in God. I read it weekly thinking that it was truth. However, I remember that, in picking it up after I received Jesus as my Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit immediately witnessed to me that it was false teaching. I instantly knew it was wrong.

After becoming a Christian, I continued to attend the same church for a short time. However, I soon realized that the minister preached a gospel of works salvation instead of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ and works by the Holy Spirit. I would sit there waiting for him to tell the congregation how to live in the power of the Holy Spirit, but all we heard was to live a good life. I soon left that church and found a church where Christ was preached from the pulpit.

I am learning, over the years, to trust the Holy Spirit to lead me to truth, and I use God's word, the Bible, as my final test.

Exodus 28:1-4, 30-38; Psalms 63, 98; Mark 6:30-44

Birthdays: Patrick Daniels, Elaine De Vuyst, Jim Fitch, Andrew Stewart
Anniversaries: Daniel & Sarah Chule, David & Linda Hughes

Monday, April 27

Exodus 32:1-20 *When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."* (v.1)

How easy it is to forget God. How easily we turn from God when things are difficult and when things are good.

Early in my Christian experience, when I read Exodus, I couldn't get over those Israelites complaining to God over and over again during their time in the desert. They even told Moses they wanted to return to Egypt. God was always there for them. First with sweet water from the bitter pool, then manna and quail from heaven, finally with water from the rock. Every time they needed something they complained, and God always answered their demands. I couldn't understand how they could be so unfaithful. They experienced miracle after miracle and still worshiped man-made gods.

I have come to realize that I am just like them. I seem to turn to God when things are difficult but turn from God when things are good. I still don't trust God for my daily needs. I lean on my bank account, stocks, and bonds for my security. I confess that material things are sometimes a god to me. But I am grateful that I recognize this character defect. God and I are working on it. Together, we are working it out.

Psalms 41, 52; Colossians 3:18—4:18; Matthew 5:1-10

Birthdays: Amelia Bilby, Elizabeth Li, Grey Noterman
Anniversaries: Marty & Ingrid Feeny, Devin & Savannah Moeller, Archie & Christy Woodruff

Tuesday, April 28

Matthew 5:11-16 *"Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* (vv.15-16)

When I first became a Christian, I wanted to tell everyone about Jesus and what he had done for me. So, I did. Just about everyone rejected me, and I turned a lot of people off because they knew me too well. That was many, many years ago and I am grateful that my life has radically changed.

Telling the story of Jesus is much more than words. We must live the story before we can share the story. If God's love shines through us, we'll help others; if we live in the power of the Holy Spirit, we'll be more free of sin; if the fruit of the Spirit is reflected in our lives, then, and only then, will people want what we have been given. When our lives are full of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and self-control, then Jesus is being glorified and his light shines forth.

Witness with your life...then your words. But, do both.

Exodus 32:21-34; Psalm 45; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Birthdays: Elizabeth Bondurant, Jim Fitch, Dick Yoho

Wednesday, April 29

Psalm 119:49-72 *Do good to your servant according to your word, LORD. Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands.* (vv.65-66)

I love Psalm 119. Over the past few decades, since I rededicated my life to Christ, my life just keeps getting better and better, and I love to praise my God. I spent much of my life playing god, but I got tired of creating pain for myself and others. I finally let go and am letting God run my life—most of the time. My life is less complicated, more focused on God with a lot fewer worldly distractions. I am learning to take care of myself, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I have also learned to say "no" when I fear I am getting over-committed.

All this new wisdom has come to me as I have learned to give myself to Christ as Lord each morning and renewed his Spirit during the day. Today, I have peace and joy and a road map for daily living. Thank You, Father, for making me Your child through Christ our Lord.

Exodus 33:1-23; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:17-20

Birthdays: Eloise Dymond, Mark Gauthier, Rod James, Katherine Montgomery

Thursday, April 30

1 Thessalonians 2:13-20 *For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy.* (vv.19-20)

Several years ago, I started working in the Kairos prison ministry. Each week I lead a Bible study in the prison with about a dozen inmates. What a blessing it has been for all of us, but especially it has been a blessing to me.

I know how Paul felt seeing people grow in grace and finding meaning in life. My ministry is to help the inmates find a life for themselves behind bars. I don't get involved in why they are there or if and when they may be released. My only concern is their life now.

Each week as I enter the prison chapel and see their eyes of gratitude as they see me, I thank God for the opportunity of being used by Him. Yes, the "men in blue" (inmates) are my crown. They are my pride and joy.

Exodus 34:1-17; Psalm 50; Matthew 5:21-26

Birthdays: Sherry Andrews
Anniversaries: John & Sandi Cowart, David & Katherine Crabtree

Friday, May 1

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 *May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.* (vv.12-13)

A few years ago, when I made my Cursillo, I experienced unconditional love in a powerful way for the first time in my life. Cursillo is a Spanish word that means "a short course in Christianity." Over the Cursillo weekend, the participant experiences the best of Christian teaching within a framework of unconditional love.

I had been raised in a family of conditional love. I was praised when I did well in school, for instance; but I felt unloved when I did less than my best. Experiencing unconditional love on that Cursillo weekend changed my life.

We cannot give what we have not experienced; but, when we have been given the gift of love by the Lord in a special way, real fulfillment comes in the sharing of it. A year after I made my Cursillo, I worked as a team member sharing God's unconditional love. Then, I was led to the Kairos ministry where God breaks down prison walls with His unconditional love. I have seen "tough guys" cry and hug other inmates at the end of a Kairos weekend. Overflowing love carries everything in its pathway to God.

Exodus 34:18-35; Psalms 40, 54; Matthew 5:27-37

Birthdays: Alexander Braun, Bonnie Burkhardt, Marty Feeny, Doriana Atkinson-Fitch, Jenn Rodrigues, Eric Turner, Peter Wong
Anniversaries: Rod Jones & Wesley Ann Hunt, Lisa & Greg Lawrence

Saturday, May 2

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 *As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.* (v.1)

When I first committed my life to Jesus, God gave me a big brother in Christ. It was a Paul and Timothy relationship. I have never forgotten my first year as a baby Christian. The man who mentored me was on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ (now known as Cru). I spent time with him daily in Bible study and prayer. Charles really helped me grow in faith and godly wisdom. His name should have been Barnabas, the encourager.

I love to see people grow in Christ. I see the inmates at the prison growing in Christ. I see the men in our Tuesday morning Bible study growing in Christ. I am in a small group with some men and have the pleasure of watching them growing in Christ. My wife and I are helping each other along our spiritual journey. God wants us to be holy, and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to grow into the image of Christ. This is pleasing to God.

Exodus 40:18-38; Psalm 55; Matthew 5:38-48

Birthdays: Louise Buhrmann, Duke Marsh, Carole Rohr, Steve Simms
Anniversaries: Bill & Lynn Branner

by Michael O'Grody

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