

5-DAY DEVOTIONAL

Is Your Chatbot Killing Your Community?

AI & Faith: The God of Creation vs. the god We Created — Message 3 of 4

Hebrews 10:19–25

Higher Purpose Church | Pastor Lawrence Williams

Real People. Real Life. Real Love.

One coal can't cook anything. But coals burn in a pile.

DAY 1: Pressure Moves You

SCRIPTURE

"Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings." — Hebrews 10:22

DEVOTIONAL

Pressure always moves you — the only question is which direction. When the weight comes, most of us slow down in the Word, slack off in prayer, and quietly pull back from people. But the psalmist says God is a very present help in trouble, which makes retreat the last thing that should make sense. Let the pressure that pushes you down press you in.

REFLECTION QUESTION

When the pressure came this week, which direction did it move you — toward God and people, or away from both?

PRAYER

Father, I don't want pressure to push me away from You. Draw me near with a sincere heart, and give me the will to press in when everything in me wants to pull back. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 2: On Fire, Not Phony

SCRIPTURE

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." — Hebrews 10:23

DEVOTIONAL

Being on fire has never meant being perfect. When you finally admit your struggles to people who struggle too, you stop performing and start growing. And once you share what God has shown you, your community holds you to it — your revelation becomes your expectation. That is not a trap; it is how iron sharpens iron.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What has God revealed to you that you have never said out loud to anyone who could hold you to it?

PRAYER

Lord, thank You that You are faithful even when I waver. Give me the courage to be honest with the people around me, and help me live up to what You have already shown me. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 3: Holy Friction

SCRIPTURE

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." — Hebrews 10:24

DEVOTIONAL

The word behind "spur one another on" is a friction word — the same sharpness that split Paul and Barnabas. A chatbot will never provoke you; it leans toward telling you what you want to hear, and it never has to sit in the room with you. Real people bring friction, and God uses it. But holy friction always has a destination: love and good works.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Who has God put in your life to sharpen you — and have you been avoiding the friction that comes with them?

PRAYER

God, keep me from choosing comfort over growth. Give me people who will tell me the truth, and make me the kind of person who stirs others toward love instead of away from it. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 4: Grace for the Mess

SCRIPTURE

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." — Romans 5:8

DEVOTIONAL

People are messy. They get on your nerves, and staying to yourself can look a lot like keeping the peace — but what keeps you at peace can keep you from making progress. Somebody had to have patience with you before you were easy to love. If He had grace for you, you can have some grace for them.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Who are you keeping at a distance because they are hard to deal with — and what would grace look like there this week?

PRAYER

Jesus, thank You for loving me before I was lovable. Give me enough grace for the people who wear me out, and help me love them too much to leave them alone. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 5: Coals Burn in a Pile

SCRIPTURE

"Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another." — Hebrews 10:25

DEVOTIONAL

One coal can't cook anything. Pile them together and the flame catches coal after coal until the whole rack heats up, and the charcoal changes form to release its heat. Isolation happens on its own, like a fire nobody tends — but community never happens by accident. Nobody drifts into community; "let us" is a decision.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What is the one decision this week that would put you close enough to other believers to catch and keep the fire?

PRAYER

Father, make me flammable and put me close to Your people. I choose community on purpose this week, and I'm asking You to use it to change me and everyone around me. Amen.

NOTES

You can catch fire alone, but you can't keep fire alone.