

Higher Purpose Church | Pastor Lawrence Williams

IS YOUR GOD ON DEMAND?

A 5-Day Devotional

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

Exodus 32:1–6

Israel got tired of waiting for Moses, so they built a god they could control. This week, take five days to name your altar, embrace the wait, submit your will, trust God's work behind the scenes, and receive the new thing He's doing.

DAY 1: Everybody’s Got an Altar

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 106:19–20 — “At Horeb they made a calf and worshiped an idol cast from metal. They exchanged their glorious God for an image of a bull, which eats grass.”

DEVOTIONAL

Israel melted down their gold and bowed to a calf, and we look at that and say it was silly. But we worship somebody too — our jobs, our families, our money, our status. Wherever you invest your time, your worth, and your value, that’s the altar. The idol takes and takes. God gives.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where is most of your time, worth, and value going right now — and if you had to name that altar, what would you call it?

PRAYER

Lord, show me the altars I’ve built without naming them. I’ve made up my mind — I will serve You. Take first place in my life again. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 2: The Wait Is Worth It

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 27:14 — “Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.”

DEVOTIONAL

In Exodus 32:1, the Hebrew word for “so long in coming” comes from the root for shame — the waiting felt like humiliation. Nobody likes waiting, because it subjects you to someone else. But Moses’ 40 days, Israel’s 40 years, and Jesus’ 40 days were never wasted time; there was purpose in every one of them. You can download information, but you can’t download transformation.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What are you waiting on God for right now, and what might He be pulling out of you while you wait?

PRAYER

Father, I don’t like waiting, but I trust that the wait is worth it. Give me the strength to stay in the process until You finish what You’re forming in me. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 3: Who Outranks You?

SCRIPTURE

Luke 22:42 — “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

DEVOTIONAL

We’ll wait patiently on the boss but get irritated waiting on someone we think is beneath us — we wait for whoever we’ve decided outranks us. The calf never spoke back, so it never told Israel no; God did, which meant they had to be silent, listen, and subject their will. In the garden, Jesus placed His own will under the Father’s. God’s will is greater than my will, so I can throw my hands up and let Him cook.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Is there an area where you keep reaching for answers on your own schedule instead of submitting it to God’s leadership?

PRAYER

Lord, not my will but Yours be done. I give You control of the decision I’ve been trying to manage myself. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 4: Built While You Wait

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 31:1–3 — “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills.’”

DEVOTIONAL

While Israel was in the valley building a calf, God was on the mountain choosing a craftsman and filling him with His Spirit to build a place where He would dwell among His people. The people were busy making something that couldn’t talk, while God was planning their inheritance. Your heavenly Father may be working behind the scenes right now on something you can’t see yet. What He’s building is better than anything you could make on your own.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What might God be preparing for you that your impatience could cause you to miss?

PRAYER

Father, while I wait, help me trust that You are working. Fill me with Your Spirit and use what You’ve put in my hands to build what You’re building. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 5: God Doesn't Just Recycle

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:19 — “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

DEVOTIONAL

That calf was an hour old and Israel threw a party for it, but nothing about it was new — it was Egypt, melted down. God isn't looking at your past trying to guess what's next — if He were, 400 years of bondage would have predicted more bondage. God wants to do something fresh, which means you have to wait; we want something fast because we think fast is fresh. God doesn't just recycle. He reveals.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where have you settled for something familiar from your past when God may be inviting you into something new?

PRAYER

Lord, I want what You're revealing, not what I've recycled. Help me perceive the new thing You're doing, and give me the patience to wait for it. Amen.

NOTES

THIS WEEK: Your Household AI Policy

One page. Your house. Your name on it.

1. What will I never ask it to do?

Pray. Be my counselor. Replace a person.

2. What comes first — and what only comes after?

Some things God gives before the tool touches them.

3. Who can ask me how it’s going?

Name one person.

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” — Joshua 24:15