

Devotions: May 24 to May 30

For daily devotions I am going to start using Grace For The Moment by Max Lucado.

Monday: The Applause Of Heaven

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins, because we can trust God to do what is right.

“If we confess our sins...” The biggest word in Scriptures just might be that two letter one, if. For confessing sins, admitting failure, is exactly what prisoners of pride refuse to do...Justification. Rationalization. Comparison...They sound good. They sound familiar....But in the kingdom, they sound hollow....When you get to the point of sorrow for your sins, when you admit that you have no other option...then cast all your cares on him for he is waiting.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Tuesday: In The Grip Of Grace

1 Timothy 1:16 - I was given mercy so that in me, the worst of all sinners, Christ Jesus could show that he has patience without limit.

A Union soldier was arrested on charges of desertion...[and was] sentenced to die...His appeal found its way to the president [who] felt mercy for the soldier and signed a pardon. The soldier returned to service...and was killed in the last battle. Found within his breast pocket...close to the heart of the soldier were his leader's words of pardon. He found courage in grace. I wonder how many thousands more have found courage in the emblazoned cross of their heavenly king.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Wednesday:

He Still Moves Stones

Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, and he saves those whose spirits have been crushed.

“Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us,” (Romans 15:4)...These are not just Sunday school stories. Not romantic fables...They are historical moments in which a real God met real pain so we could answer the question, “Where is God when I hurt?...The God who spoke still speaks....The god who came still comes. He comes into our world. He comes into your world. He comes to do what you can’t.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Thursday:

Just Like Jesus

Psalm 42:1 - As a deer thirsts for streams of water, so I thirst for you, God.

Jesus did not act unless he saw his father act. He did not judge until he heard his father judge. No act or deed occurred without his father’s guidance...Because Jesus could hear what others could not, he acted differently that they did...Remember when everyone was distraught about Lazarus’s illness? Jesus was not...It was as if Jesus could hear what no one else could...Jesus had unbroken communion with his father. Do you suppose the Father desires the same for us? Absolutely!

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Friday:

When God Whispers Your Name

Philippians 1:6 - God began doing a good work in you, and I am sure he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again.

God is not finished with you yet. Oh, you may think he is. You may think you have peaked. You may think he has someone else to do the job. If so, think again....Did you see what God is doing? A good work in you. Did you see when he will be finished? When Jesus comes again. May I spell out the message? God ain’t finished with you yet.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Saturday: When Christ Comes

Daniel 12:2 - Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Does hell serve a purpose?...Remove it from the Bible and, at the same time. Remove any notion of a just God and a trustworthy Scripture....If there is no hell, God is blind toward the victims and has turned his back on those who pray for relief. If there is no wrath toward evil, God is not love, for love hates that which is evil....The Bible repeatedly and stoutly affirms...some will be saved. Some will be lost.

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Sunday: In the Eye of The Storm

Matthew 14:14 - He felt sorry for them and healed those who were sick.

Matthew writes that Jesus ‘healed their sick.’ Not some of their sick. Not the righteous among the sick....But “the sick.” Surely, among the many thousands, there were a few people unworthy of good health. The same divinity that gave Jesus the power to heal also gave him the power to perceive....Undoubtedly, there were those in the multitude who would use their newfound health to hurt others. Each time Jesus healed, he had to overlook the future and the past. Something, by the way, that he still does.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou