

Devotions: November 1 to November 7

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

Monday: In The Grip Of Grace

John 8:32 - Then you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

Sin put you in prison....The Jesus came and paid your bail. He served your time; he satisfied the penalty, and set you free. Christ died, and when you cast your lot with him, your old self died too. The only way to be set free from the prison of sin is to serve its penalty. In this case the penalty is death. Someone has to die, either you or a heaven-sent substitute....And when Jesus died, you died to sin's claim on your life. You are free.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Tuesday: A Gentle Thunder

Matthew 7:8 - Everyone who asks will receive. Everyone who searches will find.

Once there was a man who dared God to speak: Burn the bush like you did for Moses....Collapse the walls like you did for Joshua...Still the waves like you did on Galilee, God. And I will listen. And so the man...waited for God to speak. And God heard the man, so God answered. He sent fire...for a church. he brought down a wall...of sin. He stilled a storm...of a soul...But because the man was looking at bushes...bricks and ...seas, he...asked. Have you lost your power? And God...said, Have you lost your hearing?

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Wednesday: Just Like Jesus

Hebrews 12:1 - Let us run the race that is before us and never give up.

The word race is from the Greek agon, from which we get the word agony. The Christian's race is not a jog but rather a demanding and grueling, sometimes agonizing race. It takes a massive effort to finish strong...By contrast, Jesus' best work was his final work, and his strongest step was his last step. Our Master is the classic example of one who endured....He could have quit the race. But he did not.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Thursday: In the Grip Of Grace

Psalm 8:3-4 - I look at your heavens, which you made with your fingers....But why are people important to You?

The loss of mystery has led to the loss of majesty. The more we know; the less we believe. Strange, don't you think? Knowledge of the workings should not negate wonder. Knowledge should stir wonder. Who has more reason to worship than the astronomer who has seen the stars?...We are more impressed with our discovery of the light switch than with the one who invented electricity....Rather than worship the Creator, we worship the creation.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Friday: The Great House of God

Psalm 26:8 - Lord, I love the Temple where you live, where your glory is.

When it comes to resting your soul, there is no place like the Great House of God.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Saturday: In The Grip Of Grace

1 John 4:19 - We love because God first loved us.

Untethered by time, he sees us all....From the hut-builders to the finger-pointers to the rock-stackers, he sees us. Vagabonds and ragamuffins all, he saw us before we were born. And he loves what he sees. Flooded by emotion, Overcome by pride, the Starmaker turns to us, one by one, and says, "you are my child. I love you dearly. I am aware that someday you will turn from me and walk away. But I want you to know, I have already provided you a way back."

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Sunday:

Just Like Jesus

Hebrews 12:3 - Think about Jesus' example. He held on while wicked people were doing evil things to him. So do not get tired and stop trying.

Jesus...is the only person to live on earth after he had lived in heaven. As believers, you and I will live in heaven after time on earth, but Jesus did just the opposite....And knowing what awaited him in heaven enabled him to bear the shame on earth....In his final moments, Jesus focused on the joy God put before him....By focusing on the prize, he was able not only to finish the race, but to finish it strong.

Take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou