

Devotions 2023: June 5 to June 11

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

Monday: In The Eye Of The Storm

Colossians 1:16 - Through his power all things were Made; things in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen.

With one decision, history began. Existence became measureable....And on this earth? A mighty hand went to work....Look to the canyons to see the Creator's splendor. Touch the flowers and see his delicacy. Listen to the thunder and hear his power....Today you will encounter God's creation. When you see the beauty around you, let each detail remind you to lift your head in praise. Express your appreciation for God's creation. Encourage others to see the beauty of his creation.

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

Tuesday: He Still Moves Stones

Isaiah 46:4 – Even when you are old, I will be the same. Even when your hair has turned grey, I will take care of you.

Growing old can be dangerous. The trail is treacherous and the pitfalls are many. One is wise to be prepared. You know it is coming...If growing old catches you by surprise, do not blame God. He gave you plenty of warning. He also gave you plenty of advice. Your last chapters can be your best....It could be that all of your life has prepared you for a grand exit. God's oldest have always been among his choicest.

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Wednesday: In The Eye Of The Storm

2 Corinthians 4:18 - What we see will last only a short time, but what we cannot see will last forever.

For some of you, the journey has been long. Very long and stormy. In no way do I wish to minimize the difficulties that you have had to face along the way....And you are tired....You want to go on, but some days the road seems so long....Let me encourage you....God never said that the journey would be easy, but he did say that the arrival would be worthwhile.

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Thursday: A Gentle Thunder

James 4:4 - Anyone who wants to be a friend of the world becomes God's enemy.

John the Baptist....was a public relations disaster....His message was as rough as his dress: a no-nonsense, bare-fisted challenge to repent because God was on his way. John the Baptist set himself apart for one task, to be a voice of Christ....You do not have to be like the world to have an impact on the world....You do not have to lower yourself down to their level to lift them up to your level. Holiness does not seek to be odd. Holiness seeks to be like God.

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Friday: When Christ Comes

Isaiah 53:6 - We all have wandered away like sheep; each of us has gone his own way.

How could a loving God send people to hell?....God does not "send" people to hell. Nor does He send "people" to hell.... The word "people" is neutral, implying innocence. Nowhere does Scripture teach that innocent people are condemned. People do not go to hell. Sinners do. The rebellious do. The self-centered do. So

how could a loving God send people to hell? He doesn't. He simply honors the choice of sinners.

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Saturday: When God Whispers Your Name

Matthew 6:7 - They continue saying things that mean nothing, thinking that God will hear them because of their many words.

I love the short sentence....Keep the ones you like. Forgive the ones you don't. Share them when you can. Pray all the time. If necessary, use words....Greed I have often regretted. Generosity, never....No one is useless to God. No One! Nails did not hold God to a cross. Love did. You will never forgive anyone more than God has already forgiven you.

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Sunday: He Still Moves Stones

1Peter 5:7 - Give all your worries to him, because he cares about you.

Worry....makes you forget who is in charge. And when the focus is on yourself...you worry. You become anxious about many things....With time, your agenda becomes more important than God's. You are more concerned with presenting self than pleasing him. And you may even find yourself doubting God's judgement ...God has gifted you with talents. He has done the same to your neighbor. If you concern yourself with your neighbor's talents, you will neglect yours. But if you concern yourself with yours, you could inspire both.

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