

## **Devotions 2023: May 15 to May 21**

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

**Monday:**           The Inspirational Study Bible

*Romans 1:16 - The just shall live by faith.*

At the moment I do not feel too smart. I just got off the wrong plane that took me to the wrong city and left me at the wrong airport....Paul says we have all done the same thing....with our lives and God. "There is none righteous, no, not one." "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We are all on the wrong plane, he says....Every person has taken the wrong turn. And we need help....The wrong solutions are pleasure and pride; the correct solution is Christ Jesus.

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

**Tuesday:**           A Gentle Thunder

*John 15:19 – I have chosen you out of the world, so you do not belong to it.*

All of us know what it is like to be in a house that is not our own....they have beds. They have tables. They may have food and they may be warm, but they are a far cry from being "your father's house." Your father's house is where your father is....We do not always feel welcome here on earth...We should not. This is not our home. To feel unwelcome is no tragedy. Indeed it is healthy.

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**Wednesday:** Just Like Jesus

*1 Corinthians 3:9 - We are God's workers, working together.*

It is a wonderful day indeed when we stop working for God and began working with God....For years I viewed God as a compassionate CEO and my role as a loyal sales representative....Then I read 2 Corinthians 6:1: "We are God's fellow workers" (NIV).... Imagine the paradigm shift this truth creates. Rather than report to God, we work with God. Rather than check in with him and then leave, we check in with him and then follow. We are always in the presence of God....There is never a nonsacred moment!

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**Thursday:** In The Grip Of Grace

*Matthew 9:12-13 - It is not the healthy people who need a doctor, but the sick.... I did not come to invite good people but to invite sinners.*

*God did not look at our frazzled lives and say, "I will die for you when you deserve it." No, despite our sin, in the face of our rebellion, he chose to adopt us .... His grace is a come-as-you-are promise from a one-of-a-kind King....So trust your Father and claim this verse as your own: "God showed his love for us in this way: Christ died for us while we were still sinners" (Romans 5:8).*

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**Friday:** In The Grip Of Grace

*Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?*

The question is not simply, "Who can be against us?" You could answer that one...Disease, inflation, corruption, exhaustion....But that is not the question. The question is, I GOD IS FOR US, who can be against us? God is for you. Your parents may have forgotten you, your siblings may be ashamed of you; but within reach of your prayers is the maker of the oceans, God!

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**Saturday:** In The Grip Of Grace

*Colossians 3:5-6 - so put all evil things out of your life... These things make God angry.*

Many do not understand God's anger because they confuse the wrath of God with the wrath of man. The two have little in common. Human anger is typically self-driven and prone to explosions of temper and violent deeds...It is not, however, the anger of God. God does not get angry, because he does not get his way. He gets angry because disobedience always results in self-destruction. What kind of father sits by and watches his child hurt himself?

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**Sunday:** When God Whispers Your Name

*Isaiah 49:16 - I have written your name on my hand.*

Maybe you have seen your name in some special places. On an award or diploma...But to think that your name is on God's hand and on God's lips...my, could it be? Or perhaps you have never seen your name honored. And you cannot remember when you heard it spoken with kindness. If so, it may be more difficult for you to believe that God knows your name. But he does. Written on his hand. Spoken by his mouth. Whispered by his lips. Your name.

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