

Devotions 2026: August 17 to August 23

For daily devotions I am going to start using 60 days of prayer published by Guideposts.

Monday: Jesus Asked ...About Our Thoughts

Mark 2:8 - "Why are you thinking these things?"

Jesus sees beneath the surface, noticing the thoughts we carry. He asks this question not to shame but to invite reflection. Our thoughts shape our peace, and God calls us to bring our hidden doubts into His presence, where truth can replace fear.

Prayer: Dear Lord, make me aware of what fills my mind. Guide my thoughts toward You.

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

Tuesday: When God Fed Elijah

1 Kings 19:7 - The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you."

Elijah reached a moment when strength ran out and fear took over. God did not correct him or hurry him along. Instead, God acknowledged the weight of the journey and met Elijah with rest and nourishment. Before asking him to continue, God made sure he was cared for. Sometimes God's kindness comes in the simple assurance that your weariness is seen; and tended.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for meeting me when I am worn down. Teach me to receive Your care and trust that You understand my limits.

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Wednesday: God's Enduring Love

Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

God's love does not depend on how strong your faith feels or how well you think you are doing. It remains steady through mistakes, doubts, and difficult seasons. His love surrounds you when you feel undeserving or uncertain. Let this truth bring comfort and the quiet assurance that you are never alone.

Prayer: Gracious God, thank You for Your enduring love. Give me grace to rest in the assurance that it never fades.

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Thursday: Waiting for God's Timing

Habakkuk 2:3 - "For the revelation awaits an appointed time... Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."

Waiting can feel uncomfortable, especially when you are longing for answers or direction. But God's timing is never rushed and never late. Even when you cannot see what He is doing, He is aligning circumstances, preparing hearts, and shaping the outcomes with care. Patience is trusting that God knows exactly when something is ready to unfold.

Prayer: Dear Lord, give me patience and hope as I wait. Show me how to trust Your timing more than my urgency.

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Friday: Knowing When to Stop

Ecclesiastes 4:5 - It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person than to listen to the song of fools.

Sometimes God's guidance comes as permission to stop, to see limits not as failure but as grace. The inbox can wait. The argument does not need your voice. The project does not require perfection. Learning when to stop is also learning when to trust God with what you cannot finish today.

Prayer: Lord, open my eyes to when enough truly is enough. Give me the wisdom to honor holy boundaries when stopping feels like surrender.

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Saturday:**A Life Shaped by Focus**

Ephesians 5:15-16 - Be very careful, then, how you live....making the most of every opportunity.

So much competes for your attention each day, and it can be exhausting to feel pulled in every direction. God reminds you that your attention matters; that where you place your focus shapes how you experience life. When you choose what truly deserves your time and energy, you make room for peace, purpose, and presence.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to guard my attention today. Draw my focus toward what brings life, peace, and purpose.

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Sunday:**What God Actually Wants**

Mich 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of You? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Faith does not have to feel complicated or overwhelming. God calls you to simple, meaningful ways of living; showing kindness, choosing fairness, and walking closely with Him. These everyday choices matter more than perfection. When you focus on what truly matters, your faith becomes lighter and more grounded.

Prayer: Dear Lord, draw me to live in ways that reflect what matters most to You. Steady my steps as I walk with You in humility, mercy, and love.

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