



Driven By Love

Monday-Friday: 5 Week Devotional

Overview

- Week 1: The Church: Begins with the Trinity
- Week 2: The Unified Church: It's Worth Fighting For. It's What the World Needs
- Week 3: The Kingdom Now: All Are Called, so Do Something.
- Week 4: The Fearless Faith: You're on Offense. The Need to Encourage and Pray for One Another.
- Week 5: The Firehouse Church: Now We Go Out. A Church That Burns Bright.





Introduction

Welcome to this special devotional journey as we begin to grow together as a unified body in Christ. Over the next five weeks, we will explore key themes that will challenge and inspire us as a church family. Each week, we'll dive into powerful scriptures, reflect on God's Word, and encourage one another in our faith.

These devotionals are designed to not only deepen our understanding of God's love but also to align our hearts with His purpose for the Church. Spending time with God through these devotionals is a way to intentionally invite His presence into our daily lives. When we do this, we grow more aware of His heart for unity, love, service, and mission.

How to Prepare

- Set aside 15-20 minutes each day to focus on God's Word. Find a quiet space where you can be still and open your heart to what God wants to say to you.
- Read the Scripture passage carefully and prayerfully. Take a moment to reflect on the words and their meaning in the context of your life.
- Allow the devotion to speak to you personally. Consider how the truths in each devotional challenge your current walk with God, your relationships with others, and your place within the body of Christ.

Faith In Action

- After reading each day's devotional, pause to reflect on the reflection question. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts and reveal areas where you can take action in your faith.
- Think about practical ways you can live out what you've learned. Whether it's pursuing unity, demonstrating love, or praying for the Church, God's Word is meant to transform us.
- Share with someone—whether a family member, friend, or fellow church member—how God has been speaking to you. Encourage one another in your journey of growth.

Driven By Love

As we walk through these devotionals together, remember that this is not just a personal endeavor but a community one. We are all part of the same body, and our time spent with God will help us be more aligned with His heart as a Church. May this time lead us to be more passionate about His mission, more committed to each other, and more confident in His love that unites us.

Let's dive into these devotionals with hearts ready to grow and serve—
together, in unity. – Pastor Eric Ruoff

THE CHURCH



- **Week 1: Begins with the Trinity.**

Theme: The Church flows from the life and love of the Triune God.

“The Church is nothing but a section of humanity in which Christ has really taken form.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

This quote reminds us that the Church doesn’t begin with us—it begins with Christ. Our life together as a Church is a visible extension of God's relational love within the Trinity.

Day 1 - Monday

Love Originates in God
Scripture: John 17:20–23

Reflection Question: Where in your life
do you see God inviting you to mirror
the self-giving love of the Trinity?

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Devotion:

In this prayer, Jesus reveals His desire for us to experience the same unity that He has with the Father. At the heart of this unity is divine love. The Church doesn't begin with programs or people—but with God Himself. The Trinity is a perfect expression of self-giving love. To be the Church is to reflect that love.

Day 2-Tuesday

Unity is Our Witness
Scripture: John 17:23

Reflection Question: How might your
unity with fellow believers help
someone see Jesus more clearly?

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Devotion:

Jesus prayed that the Church would be so united that the world would believe in Him. That's a stunning thought. Our witness doesn't begin with our words—it begins with our love for each other. Division distorts our testimony. Love validates it.

Day 3- Wednesday

God's Love Is a Gift,
Not a Reward
Scripture: John 17:24

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Reflection Question: Do you ever feel
like you need to “earn” God's love?
What would it look like to rest
in it today?

Devotion:

Jesus longs for us to be with Him—to see His glory and know the love the Father has for Him. This isn't a love we earn. It's a love we are invited into. Before we do anything for God, He wants us to abide in the love that's already been given.

Day 4 - Thursday

From the Inside Out
Scripture: John 17:25–26

Reflection Question: Where do you sense God growing His love within you? How is it changing the way you respond to others?

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Devotion:

Jesus made the Father known, and now He sends us to do the same. But the Church's mission isn't about appearances or behavior modification. It's about transformation from the inside out—love growing within us that overflows outward.

Day 5- Friday

We Love Because He First Loved Us

Scripture: 1 John 4:7–12; John 17:25–26

Reflection Question: Who is one person God is prompting you to love this week—not out of obligation, but out of response to His love for you?

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Devotion:

We are God's people not because of our love for Him, but because of His love for us. When we understand this, the Church becomes a place of grace, not guilt. A community of encouragement, not condemnation. Our love for others is simply our response to the love we've received.

The Unified Church



- **Week 2: It's Worth Fighting For**

Theme: Unity is not optional—it's foundational.

“Unity in Christ is not something we are to achieve; it is something we are to preserve.” – John Stott

This quote points us to Ephesians 4, the same anchor for this week's devotionals. Unity is a gift of the Spirit we are called to protect, nurture, and live into. It's What the World Needs! When we love one another well, the world will see Jesus through us.

Day 1 - Monday

Called to Unity

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1–3

Reflection Question: What does it look like for you to actively pursue unity in your church community this week?

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Devotion:

Paul urges the Church to live worthy of its calling. That calling is communal, not individual. It requires humility, gentleness, patience, and love—all essential ingredients for unity. These aren't passive traits; they are active choices that protect our bond in Christ.

Day 2 - Tuesday

One Body, One Spirit
Scripture: Ephesians 4:4–6

Reflection Question: Which of these
shared truths helps you feel
most connected to the
larger body of Christ?

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Devotion:

We are one body, filled with the same Spirit, grounded in the same hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who unites us all. These core truths are not just theology—they are the heartbeat of our identity as the Church. We don't manufacture unity; we preserve the unity already given to us by God.

Day 3- Wednesday

The Cost of Division

Scripture:

1 Corinthians 1:10–13

Reflection Question: Where might God be asking you to surrender pride or preference for the sake of unity?

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Devotion:

Paul addressed a fractured church in Corinth, pleading with them to agree in Christ. Division weakens our witness and distracts from our mission. Unity doesn't mean uniformity, but it does mean shared commitment to Christ and one another. It requires laying down pride for the sake of the Gospel.

Day 4 - Thursday

Love That Binds
Scripture:
Colossians 3:12–14

Reflection Question: How can you intentionally put on love today in your interactions and attitudes?

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Devotion:

We are God's chosen people, and we are to clothe ourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Over all of these, we put on love, which binds us together in perfect unity. Love isn't the last resort when everything else fails—it's the glue that holds us together from the start.

Day 5- Friday

Prayer for Oneness
Scripture: John 17:20–23

Reflection Question: How can you pray
specifically for unity within your
church family today?

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Devotion:

Jesus prayed that His followers would be one as He and the Father are one. This wasn't wishful thinking; it was Jesus' vision for His Church. Unity is spiritual warfare. It takes prayer, persistence, and the power of the Spirit. But when we walk in oneness, the world sees a glimpse of heaven.

The Kingdom Now

- **Week 3: Do Something. All Are Called.**



Theme: Kingdom urgency and participation in God's mission.

“Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God.” – William Carey

“The Church is not a place you come to; it is a people you belong to, sent into the world to love, serve, and bear witness to the Kingdom of God.” – Lesslie Newbigin

As Christ followers, we are actively engaging the world with urgency and purpose. We are called to embody a bold and active faith. God can do immeasurable more than we can imagine, therefore Don't Bet Against God!

Day 1 - Monday

Eyes of Compassion

Scripture: Matthew 9:35-36

Reflection Question: How might God be inviting you to slow down and truly see someone with the eyes of Christ today?

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Devotion:

Jesus didn't just see crowds, He saw individuals, each like a sheep without a shepherd. His response wasn't judgment, but compassion. When the Church lives with Kingdom vision, we learn to see people the way Jesus does: as beloved and in need of God's care. Compassion isn't optional, it's the starting point of mission.

Day 2-Tuesday

The Harvest is Now
Scripture: Matthew 9:37–38

Reflection Question: What area of life
has God been nudging you to step into
as a Kingdom worker?

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Devotion:

Jesus told His disciples that the harvest is plentiful—but the workers are few. That's still true today. God is always moving, always working, and He invites us to join Him. The clock is ticking, not in fear, but in urgency. The time is now.

Day 3- Wednesday

Equipped and Sent
Scripture: Matthew 10:1-5

Reflection Question: What gifts or experiences has God already given you that can be used for His Kingdom?

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Devotion:

Jesus didn't just call His disciples—He equipped them and sent them out. The same is true for us. God doesn't wait until we're perfect. He calls us now, as we are, and gives us what we need to fulfill His mission. You don't need to have it all together. You just need to say yes.

Day 4 - Thursday

The Time is Short

Scripture: Romans 13:11-12

Reflection Question: Are there distractions or comforts keeping you from living with urgency for God's Kingdom?

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Devotion:

Paul reminds us that the hour has come to wake from sleep. The night is nearly over. The urgency of the Kingdom should awaken us from apathy and distraction. We live in a world that desperately needs light. We are called to be that light.

Day 5- Friday

Your Mission Field is Here

Scripture: Acts 1:8

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Reflection Question: What's one specific step you can take this week to live as a witness in your current surroundings?

Devotion:

Jesus gave a clear mission before ascending: be His witnesses locally, regionally, and globally. That mission hasn't changed. The Holy Spirit empowers us, not just for church gatherings, but for everyday life—our homes, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces. You are already in a mission field.

The Fearless Faith

- **Week 4: You're on Offense.**
Encourage and Pray for One Another



Theme: Courageous faith lived out in community.

“Faith is not merely a journey; it is a battle. But we do not fight for victory –we fight from victory.” – Watchman Nee

This quote aligns beautifully with Matthew 16:18. The gates of hell will not prevail against the Church because we stand on the offensive—bold, praying, and encouraged by one another.

Day 1 - Monday

Hold Fast Without Fear
Scripture: Hebrews 10:23

Reflection Question: What would it look like to hold fast to hope in a place where you're tempted to waver?

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Devotion:

Faith isn't about safety; it's about steadfastness. We are called to hold fast to our hope without wavering, not because we're strong, but because He who promised is faithful. Fearless faith begins when we shift our focus from our uncertainty to God's unshakable character.

Day 2-Tuesday

The Power of Encouragement
Scripture: Hebrews 10:24

Reflection Question: Who can you
encourage today—and how?

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Devotion:

Encouragement is more than compliments—it's spiritual fuel. When we consider how to spur one another on, we become catalysts for growth. A fearless Church is one where believers cheer each other toward love and good works, even when the world tries to intimidate or isolate us.

Day 3- Wednesday

Don't Neglect to Gather
Scripture: Hebrews 10:25

Reflection Question: How can you be more intentional in showing up—for worship, community, and others?

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Devotion:

The early Church knew something we often forget: gathering isn't optional for a strong faith—it's essential. Isolation weakens, but community strengthens. We gather not just to receive, but to give—to lift others and be lifted ourselves. In hard times, the Church gets bolder, not quieter.

Day 4 - Thursday

The Church on Offense
Scripture: Matthew 16:18

Reflection Question: Where is God calling you or your church to take new ground for His Kingdom?

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Devotion:

Jesus didn't say the gates of hell might fall—He said they will not prevail. Gates are defensive structures, which means the Church is the one advancing. We're not called to hide from culture—we're called to confront it with light, truth, and love. The Church thrives when it moves.

Day 5- Friday

Pray Boldly, Live Fearlessly
Scripture: Acts 4:29–31

Reflection Question: What bold prayer
can you begin praying today for
yourself and your church?

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Devotion:

When the early Church faced threats, they didn't ask God to take away the risk—they asked for boldness. And He answered with power. Fearless faith isn't loud arrogance; it's quiet confidence rooted in prayer and fueled by the Spirit. The most courageous believers are the ones on their knees.

The Firehouse Church

- **Week 5: Now We Go Out.**
A Church That Burns Bright



Theme: Missional living, ignited by the Spirit.

“The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.” – William Temple

Temple’s words cut to the heart of the Church’s mission. We are not a refuge from the world but a firehouse for it—sent out, burning bright with Gospel hope. In other words, We **EXIST** to **GIVE OURSELVES AWAY!**

Day 1 - Monday

Fire From Heaven

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

Reflection Question: Where is the Spirit inviting you to step out in boldness this week?

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Devotion:

The early Church didn't begin with a committee—it began with fire. When the Spirit descended at Pentecost, believers were ignited with boldness, power, and purpose. They didn't stay in the upper room; they moved out into the streets. The fire of God isn't meant to be hoarded—it's meant to spread.

Day 2-Tuesday

You Are the Light

Scripture: Matthew 5:14–16

Reflection Question: What's one way you can let your light shine before others today?

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Devotion:

Jesus didn't say you might be the light—He said you are. The Church is designed to shine. Not in arrogance, but in love. We reflect the light of Christ by the way we live, serve, and speak. Hiding is not an option. A fire that doesn't burn bright isn't doing what it was created to do.

Day 3- Wednesday

Spirit-Led, Mission-Driven
Scripture: Acts 1:8

Reflection Question: What is one step
you can take toward living more sent
in your everyday life?

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Devotion:

Jesus gave His disciples a clear directive: receive power and go. Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth. The Church is not a place to sit—it's a people sent. Our local impact should always ripple outward. When we're led by the Spirit, mission is not just a task—it's our identity.

Day 4 - Thursday

Hearts on Fire

Scripture: Luke 24:30–32

Reflection Question: How can you
nurture a burning heart for Jesus
today?

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Devotion:

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus until He broke bread. But their hearts burned within them as He spoke. When we open the Word and our eyes, Jesus reveals Himself. And when we truly encounter Him, our hearts burn—not just for knowledge, but for action.

Day 5- Friday

A Church That Goes
Scripture: Matthew 28:18–20

Reflection Question: Who is someone
God is placing on your heart to reach
out to, serve, or disciple?

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Devotion:

The Great Commission wasn't optional—it was the Church's launching point. Jesus sent His followers to make disciples of all nations, promising His presence as they went. A church that burns bright is a church that goes. We carry the fire, we carry the Gospel, and we carry His name to the world.