DAILY DEVOTIONAL

A 5-Day Reflection Guide



SERMON SERIES:

Thanks for Giving

DATES:

NOVEMBER 23–27, 2026

This Week's Big Idea

Thanksgiving is more than a holiday. It is an opportunity to recognize God as the source of every good thing and to respond with grateful hearts.

We have so much to be thankful for—not simply the blessings we can see, but the things God has given us that are eternal: **forgiveness, freedom, His presence, His promises, and His Word.**

A thankful heart recognizes what God has done, receives what He is doing, and trusts Him for what is still to come.

Day 1: THANKS FOR GIVING FORGIVENESS



TODAYS SCRIPTURE

Psalm 130:3–4 (TPT) "Lord, if you measured us and marked us with our sins, who would ever have their prayers answered? But your forgiving love is what makes you so wonderful. No wonder you are so loved and worshiped!"

TODAY'S SEED

If God kept a record of every mistake, every failure, every wrong decision, and every sin, who could stand before Him?

Thankfully, that's not how God operates.

His forgiveness is available to everyone who calls upon Him. It is personal. It is everlasting. And it is transformative.

Forgiveness doesn't simply erase what happened yesterday. It gives us the opportunity to experience something new today.

God's grace is greater than our sin.

The story of the woman who forgave the drunk driver who took her daughter's life reminds us that forgiveness isn't always easy. Sometimes it is the hardest thing we could ever give.

But forgiveness has the power to transform not only the person receiving it, but the person giving it.

God has forgiven us through Christ.

And because we have received forgiveness, we can extend forgiveness.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Ephesians 4:31–32 reminds us to put away bitterness, anger, and unforgiveness and instead be kind, compassionate, and forgiving.

Notice the standard:

"In the same way God forgave you in Christ."

We don't forgive because the other person deserves it.

We forgive because we have received forgiveness.

DON'T MISS THIS

God's forgiveness is greater than your failure—and His grace is greater than your sin.

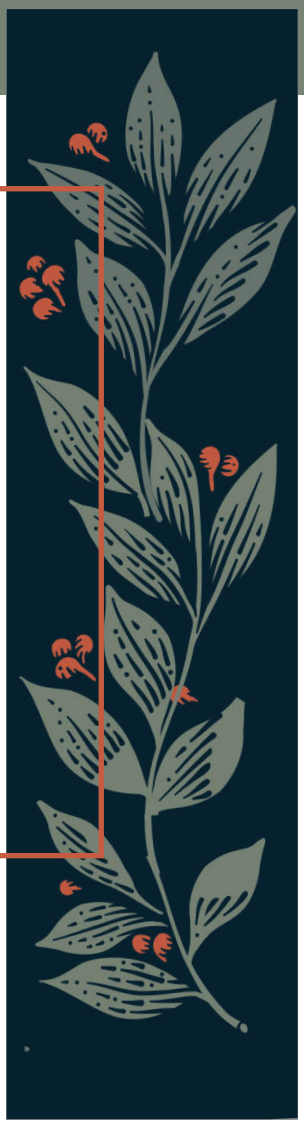
TEND THE GARDEN

Spend a few quiet moments reflecting.

1. Is there something from my past that I am still allowing to produce condemnation?
2. Is there someone I need to forgive?
3. How has God's forgiveness changed the way I see myself?

WATER THE SEED

Take a few moments today to thank God for His forgiveness. If there is someone you are struggling to forgive, bring that person before God. You may not be able to change what happened, but you can begin releasing the bitterness and allowing God to work in your heart.



GROW THIS IN ME

Father,

Thank You for Your forgiving love. Thank You that my past does not define my future and that Your grace is greater than my sin. Help me receive Your forgiveness fully and extend that same forgiveness to others. Remove bitterness and unforgiveness from my heart. Help me live in the freedom You have provided through Christ.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOD FORGIVES. *WE RECEIVE. WE EXTEND.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Day Two – Thanks for Giving Freedom

Forgiveness is the beginning. But God didn't simply forgive us—He set us free.

Day 2: THANKS FOR GIVING FREEDOM



TODAYS SCRIPTURE

John 8:36 (NIRV) "So if the Son of Man sets you free, you will really be free."

TODAY'S SEED

Freedom is something we celebrate.

But freedom is also something we must learn to live in.

When Jesus sets us free, we are no longer defined by our past, our failures, our sin, or the things that once held us captive.

We have been given a new identity.

But freedom doesn't mean we simply do whatever we want.

Luke 9:23 reminds us that following Jesus involves daily decisions—putting aside our own desires and conveniences, carrying our cross, and keeping close to Him.

Freedom has responsibilities.

We are free from sin's power, but we are called to live in obedience to Christ.

We are free to make choices—but those choices should reflect the One who set us free.

Our freedom is not an invitation to return to the things that once held us captive.

It is an invitation to live differently.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

You were bought with a price.

Your freedom wasn't free.

Jesus gave His life so that you could have a new life.

That means our choices matter. Our lifestyle matters. The way we treat others matters. The way we live our everyday lives should reflect the freedom we have received.

We go from forgiveness to freedom—and freedom to a new way of living.

DON'T MISS THIS

Jesus didn't set you free so you could return to what held you captive.

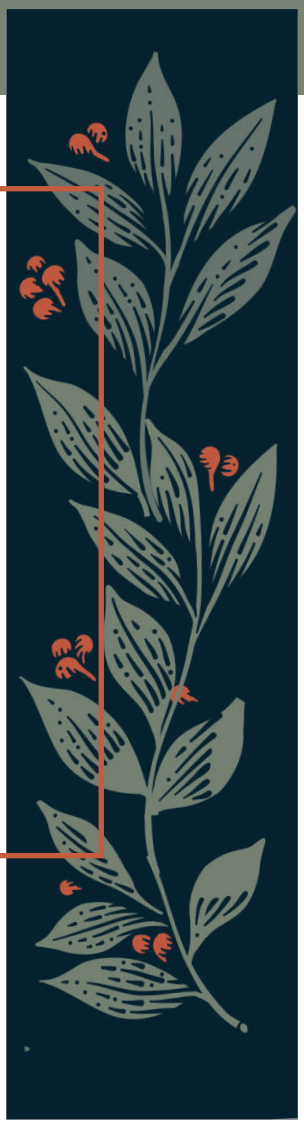
TEND THE GARDEN

Spend a few quiet moments reflecting.

1. What does freedom in Christ mean to me personally?
2. Is there an area of my life where I am still living as though I am not free?
3. What daily decision could help me live more closely to Jesus?

WATER THE SEED

Today, pay attention to your choices.
Ask yourself:
"Does this choice reflect the freedom Jesus has given me?"
Make one intentional decision today that honors God and reflects your new identity in Christ.



GROW THIS IN ME

Father,

Thank You for the freedom I have through Jesus. Help me remember that I was bought with a price. Teach me to make daily decisions that honor You. Help me walk away from the things that once held me captive and live fully in the freedom You have given me.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOD FORGIVES. *WE RECEIVE. WE EXTEND.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Day Three – Thanks for Giving Your Presence

God didn't simply forgive us and set us free. He gave us His presence to help us live this life.

Day 3: THANKS FOR GIVING YOUR PRESENCE



TODAYS SCRIPTURE

Galatians 4:6 (NIRV) "Because you are his children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts. He is the Holy Spirit. By his power we call God Abba. Abba means Father."

TODAY'S SEED

One of the greatest gifts God has given us is His presence.

The Holy Spirit isn't simply something we experience during a church service.

He lives within us.

He guides us. He comforts us. He teaches us. He helps us recognize truth. He gives us wisdom when we don't know what to do.

Sometimes we experience dry seasons.

We feel distant from God. We don't seem to hear Him as clearly. Our peace feels interrupted.

When that happens, it's worth asking:

What has changed?

Am I working with the Holy Spirit—or against Him?

Am I making room for His presence in my daily life?

God has not left us alone to figure out this life on our own.

We have been given the Holy Spirit.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

The Kingdom of God isn't just talk.

It is living by God's power.

The Holy Spirit helps us discern truth in a world filled with confusion. He provides comfort beyond what people can offer. He gives wisdom beyond our own understanding.

We need His presence—not just occasionally, but every day.

DON'T MISS THIS

You are never alone. God's presence is available to you every day.

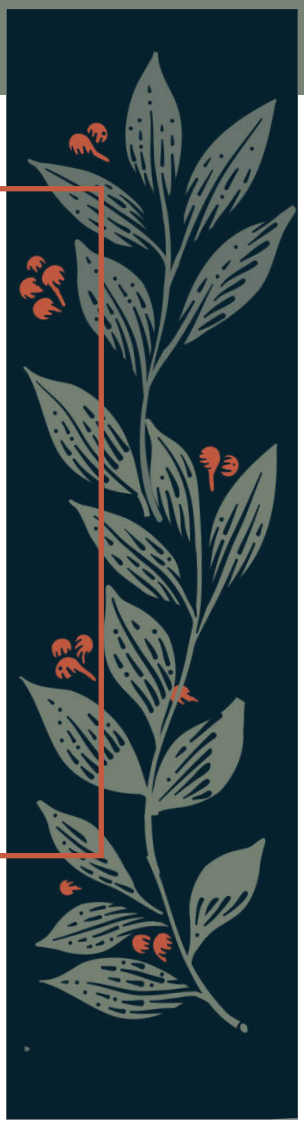
TEND THE GARDEN

Spend a few quiet moments reflecting.

1. When have I experienced the Holy Spirit's presence most clearly?
2. Am I making room for Him in my everyday life?
3. What might I be doing differently if I were working more closely with the Holy Spirit?

WATER THE SEED

Spend time with God today.
Read His Word. Pray. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts, decisions, and conversations.
Then pay attention.
God's presence isn't limited to the church building.
He is with you wherever you go.



GROW THIS IN ME

Father,

Thank You for the gift of Your presence. Thank You that I am not alone. Holy Spirit, guide me, teach me, comfort me, and help me recognize Your voice. Help me live by Your power instead of my own strength.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOD FORGIVES. *WE RECEIVE. WE EXTEND.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Day Four – Thanks for Giving Promises

God has given us thousands of promises. They reveal His heart and remind us that He is faithful.

Day 4: THANKS FOR GIVING PROMISES



TODAYS SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIRV) "God has made a great many promises. They are all 'Yes' because of what Christ has done. So through Christ we say 'Amen.' We want God to receive glory."

TODAY'S SEED

God is a promise-keeping God.

Throughout Scripture, we see His faithfulness over generations. His promises reveal His heart toward us.

There are promises that require our willingness and obedience.

There are promises that reveal His sovereignty and faithfulness.

But every promise reminds us of something important:

God can be trusted.

Sometimes we struggle to believe, trust, or rely on God's promises.

But our lack of faith does not make God unfaithful.

His promises are not limited by our circumstances, our failures, or the opinions of others.

God's Word is true.

And as we learn to trust His promises and act upon them, our lives begin to change.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Some promises invite us to respond.

" If My people..."

We humble ourselves. We pray. We seek His face. We turn from our ways.

Other promises reveal what God has already declared He will do.

The seasons will continue.

His covenant remains.

His faithfulness endures.

God's promises reveal both His heart and His character.

DON'T MISS THIS

God's promises are not dependent upon your circumstances. They are grounded in His faithfulness.

TEND THE GARDEN

Spend a few quiet moments reflecting.

1. Is there a promise from God's Word that I need to trust today?
2. Am I willing to obey God even when I don't understand the outcome?
3. What circumstance is challenging my ability to trust God's faithfulness?

WATER THE SEED

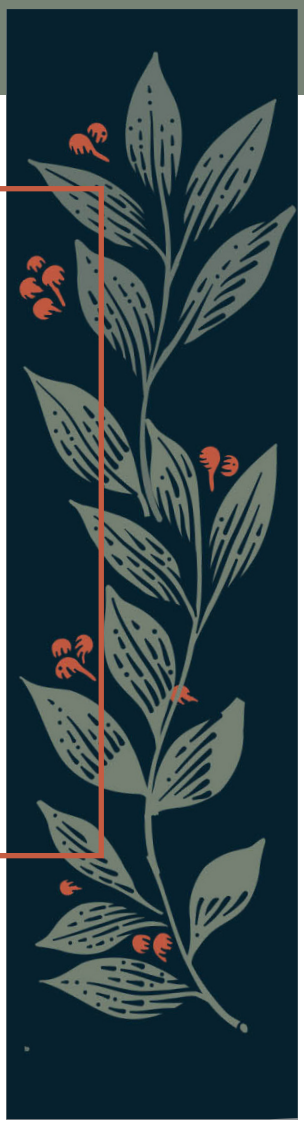
Find one promise in God's Word today.
Read it.
Write it down.
Speak it over your circumstances.
Then ask yourself:
"What would it look like to live today believing this promise?"

GROW THIS IN ME

Father,

Thank You for being a promise-keeping God. Help me trust Your Word even when circumstances are difficult. Give me the willingness to obey You and the faith to believe that You are working even when I cannot see it. Thank You for Your sovereignty and faithfulness.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



GOD FORGIVES. *WE RECEIVE. WE EXTEND.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Day Five – Thanks for Giving Your Word

God's Word doesn't simply tell us what He has done. It helps us discover how He wants us to live.

Day 5: THANKS FOR GIVING YOUR WORD



TODAYS SCRIPTURE

Psalm 33:4 (NLJV) "For the word of the LORD is right, And all His work is done in truth."

TODAY'S SEED

God has given us His Word.

The written Word—the Logos—provides truth, direction, wisdom, and instruction for our lives.

And God also speaks to us through His Spirit, bringing His Word alive in our hearts and helping us apply it to our circumstances.

The Word of God isn't simply something we read.

It is something we live.

It is something we believe.

It is something we allow to shape our decisions, our attitudes, our relationships, and our purpose.

Jesus gave us the example of a thankful heart.

He gave thanks before revealing the Kingdom.

He gave thanks before feeding the five thousand.

He gave thanks when He instituted the Lord's Supper.

Gratitude wasn't simply something Jesus expressed after something good happened.

Gratitude was part of how He lived.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

The Word of God is right.

It is straight. Upright. Correct. Pleasing to God.

But we must allow it to work in us.

We can know the Word without living the Word.

We can hear the Word without obeying the Word.

We can read the Word without allowing it to transform us.

The question is: **Am I letting the Word of God loose in my life?**

DON'T MISS THIS

Don't just read God's Word. Let God's Word shape your life.

TEND THE GARDEN

Spend a few quiet moments reflecting.

1. Am I allowing God's Word to influence my everyday decisions?
2. What is something God has spoken through His Word that I need to act upon?
3. How can I develop a more consistent attitude of gratitude?

WATER THE SEED

Today, read a portion of God's Word and ask: **"What is God saying to me through this?"**
Don't rush past it.
Take the time to reflect, respond, and apply it.
Then, throughout the day, look for opportunities to thank God for the blessings He has given you.



GROW THIS IN ME

Father,

Thank You for Your Word. Thank You for the truth, wisdom, direction, and promises You have given me. Help me not simply read Your Word but live it. Teach me to recognize Your voice and respond with obedience. Give me a heart that is continually grateful for everything You have given me.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOD FORGIVES. *WE RECEIVE. WE EXTEND.*

LOOKING AHEAD

This week, we paused to give thanks for five eternal gifts God has poured into our lives: His forgiveness, His freedom, His presence, His promises, and His Word. Gratitude isn't meant to be a once-a-year holiday—it is a daily posture of recognizing what God has done, receiving what He is doing right now, and trusting Him with what comes next. As you step into the weekend, carry these truths with you and let a thankful heart shape the way you live, love, and follow Jesus.