

UPCOMING EVENTS

Final Service Saturday: Check out the bulletin board outside the office to sign up for our final congregational service projects of the summer on **August 11**.

Be sure to join us in worship on August 18 & 19 as we celebrate the good news that **GOD IS ON THE MOVE** in our lives, our church, and our world. We'll share pictures and video from the Chicago trip and all the rest of the service projects we've been participating in as a congregation this summer.

Also mark your calendar for a special **outdoor worship service at Perrin Park on August 26** as we kick off the new school year! Regular Saturday worship will still be at 6:00 at church that weekend, then we'll have one joint Sunday worship at **11:00** at the park, followed by a church potluck for everyone. See you there!



St. Peter Lutheran Church

DAILY DEVOTION JOURNAL



A one-week devotional for the St. Peter congregation to accompany the Chicago Mission Trip team through Scripture readings, prayer, and reflection questions. May this journal be a blessing to you as you consider how **GOD IS ON THE MOVE** in your life this week right here in Greene, Iowa, as well as in Chicago and around the world.

SUNDAY: GOD MOVES IN PRAYER

Think: What does your morning routine look like?
How do you prepare for the day?

Read: Mark 1:35-39

Reflect:

- Why do you think Jesus would want to **PRAY**?
What do you think he might have been praying for?

- What does this story say about Jesus' priorities?

- How will you take time this week to rest and **PRAY**?

- What do you think the biggest challenge will be for you this week? At home? At work?

PRAY: Thank God for the opportunities to serve that will be put in your path this week! **PRAY** that God would open your heart and mind to notice how God is on the move in and around you. Also **PRAY** for those who have been called to serve on the mission trip this week, that they would grow in faith by seeing the work God is doing in Chicago.

FRIDAY: GOD MOVES IN YOU

Think: When was a time **YOU** were sent to do something? What was that like? Was it successful? What was easy/hard about it?

Read: John 20:19-21

Reflect:

- What was the mission the Father sent Jesus to do?

- How have your experiences or these devotion stories this week changed how you see God sending **YOU**?

- How does it feel to think about God working and moving through **YOU**?

- What are some of the things **YOU** have had to give up in order to answer Jesus' call to serve your neighbors? What might **YOU** need to give up or do differently to keep following Jesus' call?

Pray: As this week comes to a close, thank God for the opportunity to grow deeper in faith. Pray for the people you love and also for our Chicago trip team and the work being done there. Most of all, pray that **YOU** will continue to see God on the move in your life and around the world.

THURSDAY: GOD MOVES IN FIRE

Think: What is the farthest away from home you've ever traveled? What does it feel like to be a visitor?

Read: Acts 2:1-12

Reflect:

- What do you think the **FIRE** in this story is meant to represent?
- Most of the people you encounter today will speak the same English language you do. What other barriers might keep them from understanding you, or vice versa?
- The Pentecost event in this story is considered the birth of the Church. What does this story tell you about the Church?
- This week, where is the Holy Spirit moving you outside your comfort zone?

Pray: Pray that God's **FIRE** would break down barriers today. Ask that God would give you the language today to communicate with people to whom you wouldn't normally speak. Ask for help to see everyone you encounter today as a precious child of God and to love them like Jesus loves each of us.

MONDAY: GOD MOVES IN CREATION

Think: What are you nervous about this week? What is something you're looking forward to?

Read: Genesis 1:1-5

Reflect:

- In the very first words of the Bible, at the beginning of history, God is already moving. Where do you see evidence of God moving and working around you?
- Everything God makes in **CREATION**, God calls "good." Where do you have trouble seeing the good in this world?
- Why do you think light is the first creation in the story?
- What distractions might get in the way, or keep you from being fully present and taking time to notice God moving in **CREATION** and in the people you will encounter this week?

Pray: Ask God to show you the light present in the **CREATION** around you this week. Pray for God to remove any distractions that might get in the way. Ask God to calm your fears and to open your eyes to both the needs and beauty of the world around you.

TUESDAY: GOD MOVES IN FOOD

Think: What is your favorite **FOOD**? What is the most memorable meal you've ever eaten? Where was it? Who was there?

Read: John 6:1-13

Reflect:

- Where do you see fear in this story? What about hope? Doubt? Faith?
- Like the boy in the story, what gifts do you have to offer for Jesus to take and use? What keeps you from giving them?
- Have you ever been truly hungry or not sure where your next meal is coming from? What do you think that would feel like?
- Over and over in the Bible, God moves to provide **FOOD** for people in need. (See *Psalm 145:15-16, Phil. 4:19, Exodus 16*) How might God's call change how you think about **FOOD**? How does your **FOOD** this week connect to your faith?

Pray: Thank God for providing everything we need for daily life, especially **FOOD**. Ask for God to move through you to help provide for others. Watch today for where God is providing.

WEDNESDAY: GOD MOVES IN A WHISPER

Think: When in your life have you most clearly felt God's presence? Where were you? What was going on in your life?

Read: 1 Kings 19:9-13
Psalm 46:10

Reflect:

- How would you feel as Elijah in this story?
- Where do you think people expect to encounter God?
- Where have you seen God on the move so far this week?
- How would you this week answer God's question to Elijah? "What are you doing here?"

Pray: Thank God for all of the people in your life who help you to hear God. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help you identify God's **WHISPER** to you. Pray that God will help you today to listen.