

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of May 26
Greater Things Can Happen
Week 4



Sunday May 26

Scripture: I Corinthians 12:12-13 Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink.

Morning Prayer: God, sometimes I feel all alone facing the challenges of life. Sometimes I just don't know where or to whom to turn. I need today's scripture to remind me that I am a part of something bigger; I am part of the Body of Christ. I am joined to others who also feel and wonder about the same things I do. But more importantly I need to remember that beyond the doubts and fears, the Body of Christ is where I am given strength and hope for today and tomorrow. Thank you for empowering us to be the Body of Christ to one another. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to be the Body of Christ to serve others with love, compassion and forgiveness in all the many places I go. By myself I am overcome with the needs and challenges of life. Yet, I am more than just myself, I am part of the Body of Christ. And the Body of Christ can do greater things with me, in me and in the world. May it be so.

Noon Text: You are not alone. Take in a deep breath while saying, I am not alone. Slowly release the breath saying, I am part of the Body of Christ. You are not alone.

Evening Text: God, I think of all the good that has happened today. I am grateful for _____. With gratitude in my heart, I can rest assured that all will be well.

Monday May 27

Scripture: Romans 12:4-6a We have many parts in one body, but the parts don't all have the same function. In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. We have different gifts that are consistent with God's grace that has been given to us.

Morning Prayer: God, I am astounded at the vast array of gifts and abilities that You have spread among all of humanity. Each person I meet is a beautiful reflection of some aspect of Your nature, the vital, living image of the body of Christ. I pray that we can work together to recognize and affirm the many gifts of each unique individual in order to protect, nourish, replenish and restore each other, and all of creation. I pray my eyes will be opened wider to recognize the value of everyone's gifts, including my own, because it is only when we connect and flow together that we can truly be transformed and transform the world. May it be so.

Noon Text: You are uniquely gifted, and a valuable part of the body of Christ. How can you partner with others combining your unique gifts & passions to change the world?

Evening Text: You are uniquely gifted, and a valuable part of the body of Christ. How can you partner with others combining your unique gifts & passions to change the world?

Tuesday May 28

Scripture: Hebrews 13:3 Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.

Morning Prayer: God, being imprisoned can be a scary and lonely situation. For some it means being incarcerated for crimes we were convicted of. For others it can mean being detained at the border, separated from the family whose lives you are trying to improve or even save. For some it is a prison of our own making, holding us hostage in our mind or in our spirit. No matter the circumstances it is a difficult situation made even more challenging because we often feel isolated, separated by our community. God, I know that my community of family and friends support and encourage me through difficult times. I don't always know, or sometimes lack the courage to act or to reach out to those who are imprisoned in any way. Help me to be aware and to have the courage to reach out, be an advocate or even simply to offer a kind word. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause to take in a deep breath, remembering that you are part of the Body of Christ. Release your breath with the reminder that together we can do great things.

Evening Text: God the day has ended and I am grateful to be part of something bigger than myself. Now I rest to prepare to do even greater things in Your name tomorrow.

Wednesday May 29

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:12 By yourself you're unprotected. With a friend you can face the worst. Can you round up a third? A three-stranded rope isn't easily snapped.

Morning Prayer: Lord, just as you found strength in surrounding yourself with disciples, I thank You for each and every friend who has found their way into my life, each one having their strengths, each one different, each having their role in my life. May I be a source of continuing strength to them and provide what they need at just the right moment using my gifts You have provided. Guide my words, deeds, and actions so that others see me as a key strand in their rope of life. May my "rope" and those I am part of be indestructible in times of need and continue to get stronger. May it be so.

Noon text: In times of joy and in times of need, friendships provide happiness and strength. Be there for others and they will be there for you.

Evening Text: Tonight I rest peacefully knowing I am surrounded by friends who love me for who I am just as You love me. I find strength daily from those in my path.

Thursday May 30

Scripture: I Corinthians 12:25-26 The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

Morning Prayer: God, thank you for teaching me that the meaning of church goes far beyond the four walls of the building. Thank you for opening my eyes to those members of my community who don't look like me, don't speak like me, don't pray like me and don't believe what I believe. Let me see and value their talents, strengths and passions as a crucial part of my community. Let me realize

that, without these brothers and sisters, our lives would not be as fulfilling as You want it them to be. May it be so.

Noon Text: God, I am grateful for community beyond the four walls of the church building, for community members that contribute to the richness and beauty of our lives.

Evening Text: God, help me to look beyond myself and see that those with different talents, strengths and passions are necessary for this broader community to flourish.

Friday May 31

Scripture: Ephesians 4:16 Christ makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Morning Prayer: God, when I become overwhelmed with all that is going on in this world, it helps to know that I am but one piece of a whole, that what I bring to the table becomes part of something bigger. When everyone comes together, as unique individuals with our own gifts then collectively we can do even greater things than we can do individually. Where I am weak, others are strong and can support me. I can use my gifts and talents to help others so that we don't have to try to make it alone, but can come together, weaving together our gifts and talents to accomplish even more in Your name. Help me to overcome fear or pride or whatever might try to keep me from working with others, knowing that together we are stronger and more able to share Your love in this world. May it be so.

Noon Text: Breathe in saying 'I am part of the Body of Christ'. Release your breath saying, 'The Body is healthy, whole and full of love'. Together we do great things.

Evening Text: God, the week is drawing to a close. Let me use the weekend before me to rest in Your love, to reinvigorate my mind, body and soul to serve You.

Saturday June 1

Scripture: Colossians 3:14-15 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

Morning Prayer: God, I am overwhelmed at times by what's happening in this world, or even what's happening just in my family, particularly when I try to think "what can 'I' do about it? Nothing I seem to do makes much difference." Help me, God, to remember that by opening myself up to the spirit of love within me, my interactions with those in my family, in my community, virtually everywhere, are more peaceful and productive. Love breeds love. If nothing else today, God, I pray from the moment I step out of bed to the moment I return to slumber that I lead with love. When I am challenged to react otherwise, help me God, to pause and take a breath. You have shown me, God, that when I lead with love, others tend to respond in kind and together we create a force of love for our families and the world. May it be so.

Noon Text: Take in a deep breath while saying, 'as I lead with love' Slowly release the breath saying, 'so too will others. Together we find peace.'

Evening Text: I am thankful for the opportunities provided me today to partner with others as a positive force for harmony and peace knowing that ripples out into the world.