

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of November 24
167 +1
Week 4
Collectively We Do Greater Things



Sunday November 24

Scripture: Luke 6:38 Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."

Morning Prayer: God, the words, "Giving, not getting is the way. Generosity begets generosity." speak to me. That's how I want to live my life, and yet that's not how I always live. Every time that I give I feel such a peace in my soul. So my prayer today is for help. Help me to practice what I know is true. Help those words about giving and generosity move from my head into my heart. Help me to have an abundance mindset. Help me to find my truest self by giving my life to being more generous. May it be so.

Morning Focus: Generosity begets generosity. Make generosity your intention today so you can experience the joy of giving.

Noon Text: Take a moment to breathe in, "Generosity". Breathe out, "Begets generosity". How can you practice generosity throughout the rest of your day?

Evening Text: God, the generosity of Your love and grace fills my heart with peace and joy. May that reality enable me to rest well tonight so I can rise up renewed.

Monday November 125

Scripture: Proverbs 22:1 Choose a good reputation over great riches; being held in high esteem is better than silver or gold.

Morning Prayer: God, I know that a reputation as a person of integrity and good character is far more important than material wealth. Money cannot buy a strong character and a steady moral compass. These qualities are rooted in a heart that seeks the things that Your heart seeks. The scripture speaks of humility and a contrite heart as qualities that are pleasing to You. My prayer today is to walk more closely with You each day so that I grow to be more like You, and my heart more closely reflects Your heart. May it be so.

Morning Focus: Your good reputation is built with each word you speak and each action you take. Be mindful of your words and actions today. They reveal your character.

Noon Text: Life is not a contest, it's an experience to be savored and shared. If need be, refocus your intention for the day. Can you savor this moment and all it brings?

Evening Text: Today has been God's gift of love to you, and your life is God's gift to the world. In God's eyes, you are deserving of this love gift. Rest now in that love.

Tuesday November 26

Scripture: Matthew 6:21 Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Morning Prayer: God, I am always so grateful for this scripture. It is like a check on my heart and soul. It prompts me to evaluate my priorities. It is easy to get caught up in the culture of more is better or that my possessions define me. So it is time to search my heart and reassess where my focus is; what are my priorities, especially at this time of year. This week we pause to celebrate Thanksgiving, and there is so much to be thankful for. But looming right after is Christmas and it is all too easy to get caught up in the anticipation of Christmas, so much so that we don't even pause to spend meaningful time with family or friends on Thanksgiving. So today let my focus be on all that I have to be thankful for, the many blessings that I take for granted. Let me prepare my heart and soul, orient myself and my focus on the meaning of the upcoming Advent season – a time of anticipation of the birth of Jesus. May it be so.

Morning Focus: As I go about the day I will try to continually refocus as needed so that the desires of my heart reflect the love and grace of God.

Noon Text: Take a moment to take stock of your true treasures – faith, friends, family, and the unconditional love of God. Whisper words of gratitude.

Evening Text: God, I come to rest tonight with my heart overflowing with gratitude. My greatest treasure is Your love and grace. I will rest well because You are with me.

Wednesday November 27

Scripture: Acts 20:35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Morning Prayer: God, here it is the day before Thanksgiving and I am working hard to get ready. There are so many things to do, so many last-minute details to follow through with. Help me to see that all my work to prepare is preparing a gift to be given to those who will be gathering with me tomorrow to show our gratitude for all we have been given. In this light I see my tasks today as a blessing. I am not giving my time to be blessed, it just happens naturally. I am thankful for Jesus' words, it is more blessed to give than to receive. May it be so all day long.

Morning Focus: Today will be full of many things. Work at seeing your acts of serving as a way to bless those you meet today. In seeing your day this way you will also see how you will receive more than you give.

Noon Text: Have you taken the time to care for you today? Take a breath. Find a way to celebrate you. Make it as important as any other thing you have to do.

Evening Text: God, tomorrow is Thanksgiving. Tonight I prepare by saying "thank you" to You. Thank You for all I have been given. Thank You for the night to rest. I'm blessed.

Thursday November 28

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Morning Prayer: God, help me to see that the riches of this world are not the traditional trinkets that are gathered for commerce and status, but rather the relationships and stories that we experience and share, that the money and treasure we attain in this world are merely a tool that can be used for good and that these gifts are provided abundantly when needed. Give me the confidence to know that with all the gifts that You give, we do not gain security by keeping them for ourselves. That the treasure we build is the sharing of all that we are blessed with in the spirit of abundance. I pray that You help me see that generosity with my time and treasure is the only way to truly experience the life of purpose I aspire to. May it be so.

Morning Focus: Today, I will think of all of the treasures I have been blessed with and consider how I have shared and can share even more with an attitude of abundance.

Noon Text: Have I shared my treasure with others? Have I remembered that even though I may have little, that the faith I show in giving will start a flow of abundance?

Evening Text: I now rest knowing that I have shared freely that which I have received. That the giving has created a treasure of Hope that all will be well.

Friday November 29

Scripture: Luke 12:15 "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

Morning Prayer: God, it is easy to get caught up in the culture that I am defined by my possessions. Living in the affluence of this area, it is too easy to believe that my own worth is less about who I am as a child of God, than what material things I have. Remind me that I have enough. Remind me that to be a good friend or to serve those on the margins has so much more value than the stuff I accumulate. I don't need the biggest, the best, the shiniest, the latest release or upgrade. I have enough. You are enough. May it be so.

Morning Focus: On this Black Friday, I will focus on what I have rather than yearn for more just because there are many good deals to be had. In truth I have so much more than so many, certainly more than I need. So today I will be deliberate in counting my blessings instead of all the good deals.

Noon Text: Take a moment and take stock of your blessings. Before you rush out to buy something new, reflect – do you really need it? Be grateful for what you have.

Evening Text: God, I come to rest tonight remembering that You are enough; You have provided all that I needed today. I can sleep peacefully surrounded by Your love.

Saturday November 30

Scripture: Hebrews 13:5 Don't be obsessed with getting more material things. Be relaxed with what you have. Since God assured us, "I'll never let you down, never walk off and leave you."

Morning Prayer: God, on this last day of the week I realize how blessed I am. I also realize how tired I am after such a full week. So my prayer is that I can relax in what I have. Instead of being stressed about Christmas being just around the corner and with my inbox filling up with Christmas deals, help me to find a way to not be obsessed with so much to get done, and instead see this time of year as a gift to be cherished in my heart. Help me to remember that in and through it all You are with me to find the inner peace that Jesus was born to give. May it be so starting today.

Morning Focus: Make it your intention to find the time to relax after such a busy week. There is enough to get things done. And it begins with taking care of yourself.

Noon Text: Take a moment to pause and check-in with yourself. What's your stress level? Make sure you are taking care of yourself. You are that important.

Evening Text: God, the week is closing down and I am in need of a good night's sleep. I prepare for it by breathing in, "I am loved". Breathing out, "There is enough".