

# DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

SMALL GROUP GUIDE & PRAYER JOURNAL



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# INTRO DUCTION

# HOW THE DPG WORKS

It just takes a few minutes. Set aside a small bit of your time for God. Every day, find a quiet spot—even if it's in your car before work or in bed before you close your eyes. Open this up and pray through the steps given for each day. Follow the easy instructions and focus as you read and pray.

## CONTENTS

### ***PRAYER***

There are guided steps to help you focus in prayer every day.

### ***WORD***

A daily glimpse of God's heart for us is included along with the guide.

### ***REFLECTION***

Poets and artists from our SHV community have contributed creative reflections for each reading.

### ***JOURNAL***

We provide space for you to reflect however you choose.

### ***SABBATH DAYS***

We've provided an opportunity each week to reset and recenter your life around God.

### ***CHECK INS***

Every few weeks, we want to hear from you. Your story and journey may just inspire others!

# A SIMPLE METHOD FOR HEARING GOD

Here are 6 simple steps to use as you're reading the Bible. Take your time and spend a few minutes on each step as you hear from God.

**RELAX** - Find a calm place and take a few deep breaths. Focus your mind on listening for God's voice.

**READ** - Read the word of God. It can be just a few verses or maybe an entire chapter.

**REFLECT** - Center your attention on the verses and ask God to highlight parts of the Scripture to you.

**RESPOND** - Write down or think about what the verses bring to mind and how they move you.

**REST** - Let your mind flow over the truth and goodness of God's word.

**RESOLVE** - With joy and reverence, choose to follow what God is saying through His Scripture.

This is something you can practice every time you make room to hear God. His desire is to speak to us every day and through the Bible. These steps can help you to focus on his voice.

**OCTOBER**

## 10.01.20 :: THURSDAY

Clear space in your mind and your surroundings for God to come in. Prepare to encounter His love in familiar or new ways.

**Invitation** • Jesus, I welcome You into my day and my life. Do what You will with this time.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for being my steadfast Father no matter what life throws at me. It is a blessing to know that I can always count on You.

**Review** • This past day and week have been a toil God, in more ways than one. I am glad to look back and see that You were with me every step of the way. (List moments you felt His presence.)

**Confession** • Holy Spirit, I know I struggle to do what You so clearly tell me to do. Forgive me, and please don't get tired of helping me. (Think of particular times you ignored the Holy Spirit.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 105:4-5*

*Seek the Lord and his strength;*

*seek his presence continually!*

*Remember the wondrous works that he has done,*

*his miracles, and the judgments he uttered*

*Luke 6:6-10*

*On another Sabbath, he entered the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and the Pharisees watched him, to see whether he would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find a reason to accuse him. But he knew their thoughts, and he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come and stand here." And he rose and stood there. And Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to destroy it?" And after looking around at them all he said to him, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored.*

**Pray** • God, empower me to follow You and lead others to You this week. I want to be transformed by You today.



## 10.02.20 :: FRIDAY

Make some quiet space around yourself and take a few deep breaths. Prepare yourself to hear the voice of God speaking into your life.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, I surrender control of this time to You. Please lead me into all that You have for me right now.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Holy Spirit, for never getting tired of helping and leading me. Your direction is a blessing. (Think of specific times He has guided you.)

**Review** • I reflect on today, and yesterday too, and give all the things that happened to You. (List the things you remember.)

**Confession** • Jesus, I am sorry for the mistakes I make each day. Teach me how to choose better. (Admit specific mistakes from the last day or two.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 102:18-20*

*Let this be recorded for a generation to come,  
so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord:  
that he looked from his holy height;  
from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,  
to hear the groans of the prisoners,  
to set free those who were doomed to die[.]*

*Luke 6:20-23*

*And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets."*

**Pray** • Jesus, thank You for coming to help us, not to judge us. Help me to model Your love to others every day.



## 10.03.20 :: SATURDAY

Settle your mind and your soul. Let go of any tension or hesitation that might stop you from fully encountering God in this moment.

**Invitation** • I invite You into this time, Holy Spirit. Give me eyes and ears to receive what You have for me today.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, God, for being in control at all times. I am so relieved to know that You direct my life. (List the things He has control of.)

**Review** • Looking back on the past day, I offer the contents to You. (Name the things that come to mind.)

**Confession** • Lord, I apologize for sometimes putting my will above Yours. Have mercy on me, today and every day. (Think of particular times in the past day that you did so.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 108:1-4*

*My heart is steadfast, O God!*

*I will sing and make melody with all my being!*

*Awake, O harp and lyre!*

*I will awake the dawn!*

*I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;*

*I will sing praises to you among the nations.*

*For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;*

*your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.*

*Luke 6:35-38*

*“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”*

**Pray** • Lord Jesus, help me to know You the way that You know me, and help me to show others that it is good to be known by You.



## 10.04.20 :: SUNDAY :: SABBATH

Allow the worries and distractions of the day to sink away from you.  
Hand control of this time over to God.

**Invitation** • Jesus, I am so happy to welcome You into my time of rest today.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Jesus, for coming to be near us. (Think of specific times you've been grateful for His presence.)

**Review** • It delights me, Jesus, to look back and see Your fingerprints on every moment of the past day.

**Confession** • Father, I apologize for the things I do that break Your heart. Please forgive me. (Name each thing you can remember from the last day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 145:1-9*

*I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.  
Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.  
One generation shall commend your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.  
On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,  
and I will declare your greatness.  
They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.  
The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The Lord is good to all,  
and his mercy is over all that he has made.*

**Pray** • Glorious God, give me courage to praise You before others, and to share You with them.



## 10.05.20 :: MONDAY

Breathe in, and out. Let your whole mind center on God and what He has to offer you today.

**Invitation** • I give my attention and my time to You, God. Please show that You are here as You guide me through this time.

**Give Thanks** • Thank you, Holy Spirit, for gently guiding me all the time. (Thank Him for specific moments when the Holy Spirit directed you.)

**Review** • Father, help me to look back over the past day once, and then to find comfort in knowing that You are with me all the time.

**Confession** • Forgive me, Holy Spirit, for the moments when I robbed You of control over my life. (Think of specific moments.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 106:1-3*

*Praise the Lord!*

*Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever!*

*Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord, or declare all his praise?*

*Blessed are they who observe justice,  
who do righteousness at all times!*

*Luke 6:46-49*

*"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great."*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, teach me to rest in Your presence and let You guide my choices and actions.



## 10.06.20 :: TUESDAY

Embrace God's invitation to rest in His presence. Let His glory and His goodness come before all else.

**Invitation** • I invite You into this moment, Jesus. Guide me as I concentrate on You.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Father, for all the glorious things You do and all the ways You shape my life.

**Review** • Today, and everything that happened in it, belongs to You, Father. I lay it all at Your feet.

**Confession** • Jesus, please forgive me by Your blood for the actions I have taken that were against Your Good News. (Admit each thing you can think of.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 123:2-3*

*Behold, as the eyes of servants  
look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a maidservant  
to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
till he has mercy upon us.  
Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt.*

*Luke 7:11-15*

*Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.*

**Pray** • Jesus, give me Your eyes for the people in my life. Allow me to see them as You see them, and to reach out accordingly.



## 10.07.20 ::WEDNESDAY

Ask yourself what you've allowed to distract you today. Release it before God, and allow Him to replace it.

**Invitation** • I welcome You, Father God. Help me to meet You with focus and intention.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, God, for Your enduring goodness and faithfulness.

**Review** • I think back over the past day, the good things and the bad, and I lay it all at Your feet, God.

**Confession** • I confess that I have fallen short of the standard You have set for Your followers, Jesus. Please, have mercy on me. (Name specific mistakes that you remember from the past day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 119:154-156*

*Plead my cause and redeem me;  
give me life according to your promise!  
Salvation is far from the wicked,  
for they do not seek your statutes.  
Great is your mercy, O Lord;  
give me life according to your rules.*

*Luke 7:18-23*

*The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, lead me into opportunities to show others Your love and power today.



## 10.08.20 :: THURSDAY

Breathe deeply as you transition into a time for encountering God. Let the weight and comfort of His presence envelop you.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, come. I have cleared a space for You to fill today.

**Give Thanks** • I am grateful, Lord, that You are always in control and I can rest in Your faithful grace.

**Review** • As I rest in Your presence, I reflect on the past day and hand it over to You, God.

**Confession** • I am so sorry, merciful God, for the ways that I have failed You in the past day. Please forgive me. (Admit the ways you can recall)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 135:5-7*

*For I know that the Lord is great,  
and that our Lord is above all gods.  
Whatever the Lord pleases, he does,  
in heaven and on earth,  
in the seas and all deeps.  
He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth,  
who makes lightnings for the rain  
and brings forth the wind from his storehouses*

*Luke 7:44-50*

*Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."*

**Pray** • Today, God, I ask that You would give me opportunities to be compassionate to others. Allow me chances to reflect You to others.



## 10.09.20 :: FRIDAY

Prepare your soul to go deeper into who God is today. Allow yourself to expect great things from Him.

**Invitation** • God, would You meet me here right now?

**Give Thanks** • I am always thankful for the countless ways You watch over and direct my life, Father.

**Review** • I look back on today (and yesterday, too), and I hand over all the parts that still linger in my mind. (Name each part.)

**Confession** • Holy Spirit, I'm sorry for when I let my instincts overtake me so that I tune You out. (Think of times in the last day when you should have yielded to God, but you didn't.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 140:6-7*

*I say o the Lord, You are my God;  
give ear to the voice of my pleas for mercy, O Lord!  
O Lord, my Lord, the strength of my salvation,  
you have covered my head in the day of battle.*

*Luke 8:9-15*

*And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.*

**Pray** • Lord, give me the wisdom to leave my striving behind and trust You in every moment.



## 10.10.20 :: SATURDAY

Begin to turn your attention toward what God has for you today. Ask yourself if you are prepared to receive His blessing.

**Invitation** • I welcome You, Father. I am ready to accept whatever You have for me today.

**Give Thanks** • You're my good and faithful God. Thank You for all You have done. (List specific things He has done for you.)

**Review** • I look back over the last day, and I mark all the moments I could feel Your presence. (List each moment as you remember it.)

**Confession** • I will be honest about the things I did that break Your heart, God. Please forgive me for each one. (List them as you remember them.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 104:2-4*

*Covering yourself with light as a garment,  
stretching out the heavens like a tent.  
He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;  
he makes the clouds his chariot;  
he rides on the wings of the wind;  
he makes his messengers winds,  
his ministers a flaming fire.*

*Luke 8:22-25*

*One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"*

**Pray** • Jesus, I want to share You with everyone I meet. Please give me opportunities to do so today.



## 10.11.20 :: SUNDAY :: SABBATH

Shake off any lingering anxieties and burdens that stick to you. Get ready to be honest with God, and for Him to be honest with you in return.

**Invitation** • Father, I make room for You today. Meet me here, please.

**Give Thanks** • My gratitude overflows at the thought of Your faithfulness, God. (Think of particular ways He has been faithful to you.)

**Review** • When I look back over the past day, Jesus, I can see Your presence in every moment. (List the ways you can see His presence.)

**Confession** • I know sometimes I do things that go against Your will, God. Forgive me for each one. (Name specific things.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 147:3-11*

*He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.*

*He determines the number of the stars;  
he gives to all of them their names.*

*Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
his understanding is beyond measure.*

*The Lord lifts up the humble;  
he casts the wicked to the ground.*

*Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;  
make melody to our God on the lyre.*

*He covers the heavens with clouds;  
he prepares rain for the earth;*

*he makes grass grow on the hills.  
He gives to the beasts their food,*

*and to the young ravens that cry.  
His delight is not in the strength of the horse,  
nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,  
but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who hope in his steadfast love.*

**Pray** • God, help me find tangible ways to reach out to those around me who need You.



## 10.12.20 :: MONDAY

Come before the Lord with expectation. He has been waiting for this moment with you, too.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, will You come and guide me through this time. I intentionally make room for You to take the lead.

**Give Thanks** • You, God, have never once failed or faltered. I cannot thank You enough. (Thank him for specific times you remember.)

**Review** • Looking back over the last day, I am awed at how You constantly take care of me and stay by my side.

**Confession** • It burdens me to know that sometimes I let You down. God, help me to repent and receive Your mercy when I do. (Name times you remember letting Him down.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 1:1-2*

*Blessed is the man*

*who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,*

*nor stands in the way of sinners,*

*nor sits in the seat of scoffers;*

*but his delight is in the law of the Lord,*

*and on his law he meditates day and night.*

*Acts 26:13-16*

*At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you*

**Pray** • Lord, help me to keep my eyes open for Your will in every moment of my day.



## 10.13.20 :: TUESDAY

Relax in the knowledge that God is in control. Let yourself rest—truly rest—in His presence.

**Invitation** • Jesus, will You come into this moment. I want to spend time with You.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for providing the Holy Spirit to Your people. We would be lost without it. (List particular times you would have been lost without Him.)

**Review** • Over the past day, things have happened that distracted me from You, God. I redirect my attention to You now.

**Confession** • I apologize for each of the things I chose to do today that went against Your will. Forgive me, please. (Admit each one you remember from the past day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 5:11-12*

*But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;  
let them ever sing for joy,  
and spread your protection over them,  
that those who love your name may exult in you.  
For you bless the righteous, O Lord;  
you cover him with favor as with a shield.*

*Luke 8:50-55*

*But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well." And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat.*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, help me to hear You over the noise of the day so that I can do what You're leading me to do.



## 10.14.20 :: WEDNESDAY

Come before God with intention and expectation. Be ready for Him to meet you with the same.

**Invitation** • Father, I want to spend time with You right now. Meet me where I am.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Jesus, for always being more than enough and exactly what I need.

**Review** • Today and yesterday have had their own struggles and joys, Holy Spirit. I release all of it to You right now.

**Confession** • Sometimes, Holy Spirit, I ignore Your leading and follow my own will. Forgive me, and help me to follow You. (Think of moments when you followed yourself instead of God in the past day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 119:17-20*

*Deal bountifully with your servant,  
that I may live and keep your word.*

*Open my eyes, that I may behold  
wondrous things out of your law.*

*I am a sojourner on the earth;  
hide not your commandments from me!  
My soul is consumed with longing  
for your rules at all times.*

*Luke 9:13-17*

*But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." And they did so, and had them all sit down. And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.*

**Pray** • Jesus, I ask that You would guide me into chances to share Your love with others. I want to glorify You today.



## 10.15.20 :: THURSDAY

Breathe, and let your breath center you within yourself. Allow the noise within and around you to settle so that you can hear God's voice.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, as I settle into our time together today, I invite You to come and take over this moment and every moment after.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Jesus, for showing up in every aspect of my life.

**Review** • Looking back, Father, I can see that there are parts of the last day that still have a hold on me. I offer those things to You now.

**Confession** • I admit that sometimes I choose to do the wrong thing. Forgive me, Holy God, and help me to do better. (Think of specific choices from the past day or two.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 18:25-28*

*With the merciful you show yourself merciful;  
with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;  
with the purified you show yourself pure;  
and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.  
For you save a humble people,  
but the haughty eyes you bring down.  
For it is you who light my lamp;  
the Lord my God lightens my darkness.*

*Luke 9:18-20*

*Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" And they answered, "John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen." Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" And Peter answered, "The Christ of God."*

**Pray** • Father, give me chances to pass along the message of Your love. I want to help You spread the good news.



# CHECK IN

SHV is a catalyst for creative community. Email [dpg@shvchurch.org](mailto:dpg@shvchurch.org) to send in stories of how your new focus has affected you and your community! We want to share the beauty of devotion with others!

## 10.16.20 :: FRIDAY

Take a moment to settle into this space. Give yourself time to sink into God's presence as it permeates your awareness.

**Invitation** • God, I invite You to take control of this time today. Show me what You have for me.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, God, for the many blessings You give me, and for the ultimate blessing of Your presence in my life.

**Review** • Jesus, I lay the things from my day to day life that I'm still holding onto at Your feet. I don't need them as much as I need You. (Think of specific things.)

**Confession** • Father, I know I do things that break Your heart and go against Your will. Have mercy on me, and create a clean heart within me. (Name specific things.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 16:1-3*

*Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.*

*I say to the Lord, "you are my Lord;*

*I have no good apart from you."*

*As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,*

*in whom is all my delight.*

*Luke 9:32-35*

*Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!"*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, can You please nudge me into encounters with others so that I can show them Your love?



## 10.17.20 :: SATURDAY

Check in with what you're really thinking and feeling about the day. Bring it to God, and let Him meet you where you are.

**Invitation** • Lord, I turn my attention to You now. Please come into this moment and lead me into an encounter with Your love.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Father, for always providing for me. (Think of specific ways God has taken care of you.)

**Review** • As I remember the way You were with me over the past day, I realize that nothing else matters all that much. (Recall specific moments.)

**Confession** • God, forgive me for the wrong choices I have made recently, and even the wrong intentions I've allowed in my mind. (Think of particular actions.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 116:7-9*

*Return, O my soul, to your rest;  
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.  
For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from stumbling;  
I will walk before the Lord  
in the land of the living.*

*Luke 9:38-43*

*And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astonished at the majesty of God.*

**Pray** • Jesus, help me to see the world around me the way You do, and to value the people in my life the way You do.



## 10.18.20 :: SUNDAY :: SABBATH

Take a moment to concentrate on who God is, and what it means that He chooses to speak to us.

**Invitation** • Father, I call on You to meet me here. It's You I want to spend time with today.

**Give Thanks** • I am so thankful to call You the God of my life. Every day, You supply my every need. (Name specific needs.)

**Review** • I remember the moments of the last couple days that stood out to me, and I give them to You, Lord. (List them, one by one.)

**Confession** • Forgive me, God, for the moments when I give in to temptation. Strengthen my resolve by Your mercy. (Remember those moments individually.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 103:2-11*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all my benefits,  
who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,  
who satisfies you with good  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
The Lord works righteousness  
and justice for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.  
The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
He will not always chide,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.  
He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*

**Pray** • Today, God, I want to do something that puts Your Kingdom first. Help me keep my eyes open.



## 10.19.20 :: MONDAY

Close your eyes if you need to shut the world out for a moment. When you open them, be ready to seek and find the Lord.

**Invitation** • Father, please join me in this time. I am seeking Your presence and Your wisdom.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Father, for being a God of work and rest. Your rhythms guide my life, and I am grateful. (Thank Him for the ways He guides you.)

**Review** • I think back over my day and find You in every moment, God.

**Confession** • I admit, Jesus, that I have sometimes acted like I take Your grace for granted. Have mercy on me, please. (Think of specific times.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 25:2-4*

*O my God, in you I trust;*

*let me not be put to shame;*

*let not my enemies exult over me.*

*Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;*

*they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord;*

*teach me your paths.*

*Luke 9:57-60*

*As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."*

**Pray** • God, allow me to be Your hands and feet today. I want to help those in need, because I know that's what You're all about.



## 10.20.20 :: TUESDAY

Today, may the peace of God engulf you. Let Him minister to you today, and let go of your striving.

**Invitation** • Jesus, I desperately need an encounter with You today. Will you meet me here?

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for the way that You supply my every need. Nothing ever escapes You. (List particular needs He has filled.)

**Review** • As I go over the past day or so in my mind, I release the parts that I'm still clinging to. Fill their empty places, Father.

**Confession** • I admit to the wrong things I've done, God. Please forgive me. (Admit each one you can remember from the past day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 28:6-7*

*Blessed be the Lord!*

*For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.*

*The Lord is my strength and my shield;*

*in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;*

*my heart exults,*

*and with my song I give thanks to him.*

*Revelation 7:9-10*

*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, guide me into opportunities to show others Your power today.



## 10.21.20 :: WEDNESDAY

Take a moment to strengthen your guard against the stresses of this life. Be fierce in protecting the quiet space that you and God cultivate together.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, You are welcome to break into this moment however You see fit. I want You to take the lead.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for being the answer to all my questions. You are more than enough for me.

**Review** • Parts of yesterday and today are still in the back of my mind, Jesus. I give them to You.

**Confession** • Father, have mercy on me for the ways I have acted against Your will. (Name specific actions.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 38:13-15*

*But I am like a deaf man; I do not hear,  
like a mute man who does not open his mouth.  
I have become like a man who does not hear,  
and in whose mouth are no rebukes.  
But for you, O Lord, do I wait;  
it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.*

*Luke 10:21-22*

*In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."*

**Pray** • Lord, help me to care more about Your Kingdom and Your people than I do about my own comfort today.



## 10.22.20 :: THURSDAY

Let the chatter of the everyday fade away. God Himself is meeting you, here and now.

**Invitation** • I invite You to take the lead today, Lord. My will and intentions can take a backseat to whatever You have for me right now.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for being my constant, faithful, loving God. I will never be done being grateful.

**Review** • Over the past day or so, I have let my mind get cluttered with the thoughts of this life. I hand them over to You now, God.

**Confession** • Jesus, I'm sorry for the things I've done that let You down. Forgive me, please. (Admit particular things you can remember.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 37:3-6*

*Trust in the Lord, and do good;  
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.  
Delight yourself in the Lord,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the Lord;  
trust in him, and he will act.  
He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,  
and your justice as the noonday.*

*Luke 10:25-28*

*And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."*

**Pray** • Father, give me the wisdom to know who in my life needs Your love today. Then give me the courage to help them encounter You.



## 10.23.20 :: FRIDAY

Breathe in deep, letting the air in your lungs pull you into the present moment. Allow yourself to be open to whatever God wants to say to you today.

**Invitation** • God, I submit myself into Your presence. My attention is Yours. I want to spend this time with You.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for the way that You are always bigger than my needs and fears.

**Review** • I hold the last day in my thoughts, and I remember all the ways that You helped and guided me, Holy Spirit. (List the ways you can remember.)

**Confession** • Holy Spirit, forgive me for the moments when I have ignored Your prompting. I'm sorry for letting temptation lead me astray instead of following You. (Think of specific moments.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 119:159-160*

*Consider how I love your precepts!*

*Give me life according to your steadfast love.*

*The sum of your word is truth,*

*and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.*

*Hebrews 12:18-24*

*For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*

**Pray** • Father God, give me courage to join in with what You're doing in my life. I don't want to miss You showing Yourself to those around me.



## 10.24.20 :: SATURDAY

Settle yourself before God in a posture of expectation. Receive His love and guidance with a ready heart.

**Invitation** • Jesus, I welcome You into my heart and mind, again and always. Use this time as You will.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for providing everything I could ever need, often before I even know I need it. Your ways are too perfect for me.

**Review** • I think back on today and yesterday, and I hand over the parts that weigh heavy on me. (Name each specific part.)

**Confession** • Father, I know sometimes even my intentions are not in line with Your will. Forgive me, and help me to be better. (Admit and renounce particular intentions you know you shouldn't have.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 30:4-5*

*Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,  
and give thanks to his holy name.*

*For his anger is but for a moment,  
and his favor is for a lifetime.*

*Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.*

*Luke 11:1-4*

*Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say:*

*"Father, hallowed be your name.*

*Your kingdom come*

*Give us each day our daily bread,*

*and forgive us our sins,*

*for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.*

*And lead us not into temptation."*

**Pray** • Lord, today would You give me an opportunity to show Your love to others. Help me to share what You've given me in this time with others.



## 10.25.20 :: SUNDAY :: SABBATH

Make sure you're not holding on to any pretense before God. He wants you to come to Him exactly as you are, not as you think you should be.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, I open myself up to You in this time. Lead me where You will.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for Your continual sacrifice and abundant blessing over my life. I know I don't deserve You. (List particular blessings you're grateful for.)

**Review** • Father, I know the past day still lingers in my mind. I release it to You now. (Release specific parts that linger in your thoughts.)

**Confession** • I know sometimes I mess up and disobey You, God. I'm sorry. Please forgive me. (Think of moments from the past day or so.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 63:4-9*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!  
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody!  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!  
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who dwell in it!  
Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together  
before the Lord, for he comes  
to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.*

**Pray** • Father, give me opportunities to lead others into an encounter with Your goodness.



## 10.26.20 :: MONDAY

Let go of any fear you have about meeting God in your daily life. Remember He chases after you because He loves you.

**Invitation** • I surrender my attention and time to You, Father. You have my permission to say whatever it is You have for me today.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, God, for never getting tired of giving good things to Your children. Help me to see the ways You bless every moment of my life. (Get specific with the good things He gives you.)

**Review** • The past day or so have carried many worries, God. I lay them at Your feet. (Go through the worries one by one.)

**Confession** • I apologize, God, for the ways that I choose to let You down. May Your mercy make me new. (Name each choice from the last day that you remember.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 41:1-3*

*Blessed is the one who considers the poor!  
In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;  
the Lord protects him and keeps him alive;  
he is called blessed in the land;  
you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.  
The Lord sustains him on his sickbed;  
in his illness you restore him to full health.*

*Luke 11:20-23*

*“But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.”*

**Pray** • God, help me to have a right understanding of Your holiness and the way that You value each and every person on this earth. Give me chances to love them like You do.



## 10.27.20 :: TUESDAY

Today, allow yourself to sit back and take a moment to breathe. Let God be in control, and let yourself be in a position to merely listen and receive.

**Invitation** • I welcome You into this time, God.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Jesus, for going before and following behind each of Your people and always taking care of us. (List particular ways He has taken care of you today.)

**Review** • As I look back on the last day, I see all the moments You were with me. Help me to let the rest go.

**Confession** • Holy Spirit, Your conviction reminds me that I can always do better. Forgive me for the moments when I don't. (Admit particular moments.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 48:8-9*

*As we have heard, so have we seen  
in the city of the Lord of hosts,  
in the city of our God,  
which God will establish forever.  
We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,  
in the midst of your temple.*

*Luke 11:33-36*

*"No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light."*

**Pray** • God, help me to seek after You for Your eternal causes, and to show Your compassion to everyone I meet along the way.



## 10.28.20 :: WEDNESDAY

Acknowledge the fact that there are important things you can do with this time. Then remind yourself that God is essential, not important. Then, enjoy giving this moment to Him.

**Invitation** • Lord Jesus, I invite You into this moment.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Holy Spirit, for Your constant presence and providence over my life. I don't know where I would be without You. (Thank God for specific parts of your day.)

**Review** • I look back over the day and give it to You, almighty God.

**Confession** • Jesus, forgive me for sometimes making choices that take Your sacrifice for granted. (Think of specific choices.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 66:16-19*

*Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for my soul.  
I cried to him with my mouth,  
and high praise was on my tongue.  
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.  
But truly God has listened;  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.*

*John 14:15-19*

*"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live."*

**Pray** • Heavenly God, give me eyes to see everyone the way You see your children, and a heart to reach out and do what I can.



## 10.29.20 :: THURSDAY

Accept your current thoughts and feelings as they are. Expect that God will do a transformative work in you today, just by drawing near.

**Invitation** • Father, would You meet me here right now? I want to encounter You today.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You for being faithful in every aspect of my life. With You, I lack nothing.

**Review** • As I look back over the past day, Father, I give the parts of it that linger in my mind over to You.

**Confession** • God, forgive me for the things I've done lately that do not reflect Your image. (Name and release each thing you can remember.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 33:6-9*

*By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,*

*and by the breath of his mouth all their host.*

*He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;*

*he puts the deeps in storehouses.*

*Let all the earth fear the Lord;*

*let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!*

*For he spoke, and it came to be;*

*he commanded, and it stood firm.*

*Luke 12:6-7*

*Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is*

*forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all*

*numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

**Pray** • God, on this day, I will join in with all of creation and lift up praise to You. You deserve it.



## 10.30.20 :: FRIDAY

Take a few deep breaths and let yourself settle into a quiet moment. Approach God with as much honesty and openness as you can today.

**Invitation** • Holy Spirit, come. Fill this place with Your presence.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, God, for being the absolute standard of goodness. My life is enriched just from knowing You.

**Review** • There are moments from the past day that still have my attention. I give them to You now, God.

**Confession** • Lord, I know I fall short daily. Thank You for grace that never runs out. Please show me mercy today as I repent all of my shortcomings. (Admit specific shortcomings you know of.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 40:1-3*

*I waited patiently for the Lord;  
he inclined to me and heard my cry.  
He drew me up from the pit of destruction,  
out of the miry bog,  
and set my feet upon a rock,  
making my steps secure.  
He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear,  
and put their trust in the Lord.*

*Luke 12:27-31*

*“Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.”*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, I ask You to empower me to follow You, to live what You're speaking, and to reach out to those around me who don't know You. I want You to change me and my world today.



## 10.31.20 :: SATURDAY

Reach out to God, and don't be surprised to find that He has been reaching out to you as well.

**Invitation** • Father, would You come into this moment and meet me where I am today.

**Give Thanks** • Thank You, Jesus, for making a way for me to find You no matter what.

**Review** • Father, You know that the day has worn on me. I release the weight of it to You now. (Be specific about the parts that feel heavy.)

**Confession** • I admit to the wrong things I've done, God. Please forgive me. (Admit each one you can remember from the past day.)

**God's Word** • Read or listen to the passages, perhaps more than once.

*Psalm 34:11-14*

*Come, O children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
What man is there who desires life  
and loves many days, that he may see good?  
Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from speaking deceit.  
Turn away from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.*

*Revelation 19:4-5*

*And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" And from the throne came a voice saying,*

*"Praise our God,  
all you his servants,  
you who fear him,  
small and great."*

**Pray** • Holy Spirit, please continue Your work transforming my life and my world as I dwell on You. Help me to reflect Your light onto others.



# CHECK IN

SHV is a catalyst for creative community. Email [dpg@shvchurch.org](mailto:dpg@shvchurch.org) to send in stories of how your new focus has affected you and your community! We want to share the beauty of devotion with others!

# START THE JOURNEY

Maybe this month was filled with a connection to God that you've never experienced before, and you'd like to know more about who Jesus is and how he transforms lives. If so, we want to invite you to start the journey! Here's how:

## ***Hear the good news of the Gospel***

*John 3:16-17*

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

## ***Repent (meaning turn toward God and away from your old life) and believe***

*Mark 1:14-15*

*...Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe the gospel."*

## ***Believe and confess***

*Romans 10:9-10*

*...because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*

## ***And finally, tell us so that we can celebrate with you!***

Email [dpg@shvchurch.org](mailto:dpg@shvchurch.org) to let us know you've started the journey, or if you have any questions! Or, you can call us at 303.690.2520

# JUST THE BEGINNING

God is never done working. Everything He has done through the last month is just a taste of what He is about to do in us. Let's invite Him to speak into even more of our lives. Here are some ways to connect with what Jesus is doing in our community.

Sign up for the next issue of the DPG

***<https://www.shvchurch.org/prayerguide/>***

Find a small group at SHV

***<https://www.shvchurch.org/groups/>***

***Download the SHV Church app***

Serve and grow at SHV

***<https://www.shvchurch.org/serve/>***