**7 day Devotions from 2016-2022**

**Monday July 18**

### *2 Samuel 11:1 David and Bathsheba*

*In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king’s men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.*

How will you go to war when you get home?

**Tuesday**

*1 Samuel 17:33-35 Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth.”*

***34****But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock,****35****I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.*

What are the boring tasks that challenge you?

**Wednesday**

*1 Samuel 17:34-35* *But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock,****35****I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.*

What kinds of attacks have you experienced and how did/do you fair?

**Thursday**

*1 Samuel 14:8-14* Friends, like-minded people and Jonathan

Do you have the right kinds of friends?

**Friday**

*Psalm 32:1-4* Keep the list clean: When I kept silent

The Holy Spirit Guidance System

**Saturday**

*2 Samuel 6:13-15*

David Danced - Worship is a chance to say thanks and be revived

**Sunday**

*John 14:12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.*

Use what you have learned and experienced this week to continue writing your own chronicles

**Saturday**

### *Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.*

How often do you normally talk to strangers with a purpose?

**Sunday**

Sunday’s Message

Which of the six steps do you need to take next?

**Monday**

*Matthew 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

Describe some of the people you have already worked with or talked to.

**Tuesday**

*Matthew 9:37Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.*

What could we have done so far if there were twice as many of us?

**Wednesday**

*1 Corinthians 3:5-7What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 7So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.*

Do you tend to get frustrated if you don’t see results for your efforts?

If at some point you can learn to have the joy of obedience, that will take you farther and keep you stronger than being results oriented.

*Matthew 25:21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’*

**Thursday**

*Luke 10:16-18 16“Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.”*

*17The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”*

*18He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*

What are some things you can rejoice about after our outreach time?

Truth sets people free, as you were a part of sharing that with several communities, Satan has indeed fallen from the throne of some lives this week.

***Monday***

Read Acts 8:27-36, Acts 17:23 and Matthew 5:43-48

How does this contrast with Stranger-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

What is our comfort level on these kinds of things?

Read Acts 1:8

Is this a Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria or a to the ends of the earth opportunity?

***Tuesday***

Share your coolest Easter Egg Hunt story

What is the best thing you have ever found

Read Luke 19:10

What words would help describe “seek”?

***Wednesday***

Read Acts 11:26, Ephesians 2:10, and Colossians 3:23

Who do you think named them “Christians=little Christ’s” for the first time?

Which speaks louder; actions or words?

Has someone ever called you a Christian as a compliment?

How can we shout today as we go out to serve?

***Thursday***

Read Romans 12:3-13

What kinds of different gifts have you seen already in the team?

Do you find yourself comparing yourself to others or are you comfortable in your own skin?

Do you think you know what some of your gifts are and are not?

***Friday***

Read Matthew 19:13-14

How are children hindered from the Kingdom?

How can we be a blessing today to the kids who come?

How does that impact the parents when we bless their kids?

***Saturday***

Read Mark 6:31

What are we like without enough rest?

What kinds of things are the results of a lack of rest?

***Sunday***

Read Revelation 12:11

Here and at home how does that hold true?

Are you ready to share a testimony with those you meet?

Read 2 Timothy 4:2

How do we stay ready in and out of season?

What are some of the seasons we experience in life?

**Monday**

*Mark 12:30* ***Love******the******Lord******your******God****with all****your****heart and with all****your****soul and with all****your****mind and with all****your****strength.’*

How big is your box?

How do we get out of our comfort zone?

What this week may do that to you?

**Tuesday**

**HEART** *Matthew 12:34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.*

Why do we say what we say and do what we do?

Where does real faith come from?

Hebrews 11:1-6

**Wednesday**

**SOUL** *1 Corinthians 12:4-6 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.*

Mature and immature form of the gift

Learning to work with the other gifts

Learning to appreciate what you aren’t

**Thursday**

**MIND** *Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

What are some patterns of this world?

How does this renewing of the mind work?

Does God’s will seem like a mystery sometimes?

All the time?

**Friday**

**STRENGTH** *Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*

*Mark 14:38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The****spirit******is******willing****, but the flesh****is****weak.”*

If the heart, soul, mind and strength is like a four-legged table, what happens when one leg is shorter than the others?

Which of the four legs do you think is shortest in you?

How has that leg grown this week?

How can each of the four legs continue to grow when we get home?

**Saturday**

*John 14:12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even****greater******things****than these, because I am going to the Father.*

How is that possible?

What have I seen in others?

If your box is big enough, it’s possible for you too!

**Sunday**

Let’s go to church together and find out! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Monday**

*Nehemiah 1:1-4 The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:*

*In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.*

*They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.”*

*When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.*

What were your impressions as you drove around Phoenix today?

If this were your hometown, how would you have felt?

Can you see why Nehemiah wept?

Do you think some tears were shed here for Phoenix?

**Tuesday**

*Nehemiah 2:1-5* *In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before,**so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.”*

*I was very much afraid,**but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”*

*The king said to me, “What is it you want?”*

*Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.”*

What was your motivation for coming to Phoenix?

What did it take for you to get here, money, permissions, time off, etc.?

How much of a risk was it for Nehemiah to ask to go?

**Wednesday**

*Nehemiah 2:11-16* *I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days**I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.*

*By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Nehemiah%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-12321a)*] Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King’s Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate.**The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.*

Why do some people view the word, “work” as a four-letter word to be avoided?

In the real world can you really avoid it?

What are some of the reasons why we do avoid it?

What are some of the benefits you have already seen from the “work” we have been able to do so far?

**Thursday**

*Nehemiah 2:19-20* *But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. “What is this you are doing?” they asked. “Are you rebelling against the king?”*

*I answered them by saying, “The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it.”*

What are some of the negative voices we hear when Father God asks us to do something for Him or others?

Is it easy to get past those voices and do what we know we can and should do?

What is your strategy for moving forward in obedience, or do you have one yet?

**Friday**

*Nehemiah 3:1-5* *Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel. The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them.*

*The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the next section. Next to him Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs, and next to him Zadok son of Baana also made repairs. The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.*

How many different people did Nehemiah say worked on the wall?

How many different people have you worked with here as we are ministering in Phoenix?

What are some of the challenges of working with others?

What are some of the benefits of working with others?

How have you seen God’s hand in the workers and work accomplished so far?

**Saturday**

*Nehemiah 4:6-13 So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.*

*But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem’s walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.*

*Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.”*

*Also our enemies said, “Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work.”*

*Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.”*

*Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.*

The *“strength of the laborers is giving out.”* Have you felt like that at some point this week?

What does it take to keep going and finish well on a week of ministry like this?

What are some life lessons you can apply to the rest of your life as you are following Jesus?

For Nehemiah they needed to post guards with swords and spears, how can we cover and protect ourselves now that Jesus has come and changed the way things work?

Can you see that the workers and the sword and spear barriers are of equal importance?

**Sunday**

*Nehemiah 4:14-15 After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.”*

*When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.*

Fear was a real challenge for the people rebuilding the wall. How big of an impact does fear have on you?

How do you overcome fear?

Today we head home, *“we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.”* What is our “*own work”* back in our hometown?

What is your biggest celebration from this week?

What has been your biggest challenge from this week?

What will you tell people first when you get home?

**Monday**

 *1 Corinthians 3:5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe--as the Lord has assigned to each his task. [6] I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. [7] So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. [8] The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. [9] For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.*

 Do you have to see results to keep doing what is placed in front of you?

**Tuesday**

*Matthew 25:21 "His master replied, `Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'*

 How would you describe the phrase, “The joy of obedience?”

**Wednesday**

*Ephesians 2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

 What do you think you might be designed for in God’s Kingdom?

**Thursday**

*1 Corinthians 12:14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. [15] If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. [16] And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. [17] If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? [18] But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. [19] If they were all one part, where would the body be? [20] As it is, there are many parts, but one body.*

 How have you seen other people’s gifts shine during outreach? How easy is it for all the different body parts to get along?

**Friday**

*2 Timothy 2:20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. [21] If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.*

 What could you do to prepare yourself for the next level of God’s work in your life? What could you cleanse yourself from?

**Saturday**

*Matthew 19:13 Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. 14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." [15] When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.*

How do you normally get along with kids? What makes kids so loveable and/or hard to deal with?

**Sunday**

*Mark 5:18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. [19] Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." [20] So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.*

How can you take some of these principles home and apply them there?

What should you do differently when you get home?

**Day One the first Gathering**

***Matthew 28:19-20*** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,**20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

Why was this one of the last thing Jesus said to His disciples?

Why don’t people do it?

**Day Two**

***Therefore GO***

Hey you did! Why did you go this time?

What is the hardest thing about going?

**Day Three**

*Make disciples*

Why not just tell them about Jesus?

How do you become a disciple?

**Day Four**

*Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*

How are they different? (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

How are they the same? (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

**Day Five**

*Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you*

Jesus 101 are the Gospels, find one right now!

What would it take to learn how to do that?

Could that take a while?

Might you need some help?

**Day Six**

*Surely I am with you always*

Surely is not a girl’s name …. It is more than a promise

How is HE (the THREE) with us?

**Day Seven**

*To the very end of the age*

Always is a big word … does this help describe it?

If HE (the THREE) are with us what did that look like this week?

What does that look like forever?

What is something you learned in your week here?

What will that look like at home?

**Monday or Sunday** **Start Day** Acts 17:23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

What kind of things do people believe that show they’re ignorant?

Why do they believe these things?

**Day Two** 1 Corinthians 9:19 Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 20To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law. 22To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. 23I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

What does this look like, “became like” to win people?

What doesn’t this look like “became like” to win people?

**Day Three** Luke 19:1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. 4So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. 5When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” 6So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. 7All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

8But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” 9Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Why didn’t Jesus just stay in one place and ask people to come to him?

What do we see when we are out “passing through” somewhere on foot that you don’t see when you drive through?

**Day Four** John 4:7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” 8(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+4&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26166a)]) 10Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

11“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?” 13Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

15The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” 16He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” 17“I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

How happy was this lady before she met Jesus?

What kinds of wounds had she experienced in life?

Does Jesus care and understand?

**Day Five** 1 Corinthians 3:6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 7So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 8The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. 9For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.

How does it feel to be a “co-worker in God’s service?”

Can we rejoice in obedience or do we have to see results?

**Day Six** Mark 5:18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. 19Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24385b)] how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

What have you learned from this week that others need to hear?

Are you bolder now in speaking out than you were before?

**Day Seven** Luke 15:7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

What causes a party in Heaven?

Does it work for us too?