

WAYS

DEVOTIONAL

What are the Ways?

From reflecting on Scripture and on lives lived with God, FPCM's Staff and Session have distilled 25 Ways that God calls us to live our faith in community and in devotion to Him.

These Ways are meant to help us create an "atmosphere thick with love," and a culture where God's character is evident in all we do. In short, they show who we aim to be.

How do I Devote?

1. Pick your Best Time and Space

Give God your best time, not your leftovers. Look for a time in your day when you are alert and uninterrupted. It can be helpful to find a location which feels prayerful to you.

2. Be Attentive to Yourself

Before you Devote, be attentive to your own heart and mind. Are you feeling preoccupied... disappointed... resentful? Your personal state will impact your prayer life. Make it known to God.

3. Be Attentive to God

This is your time with God. It is personal and relational. Jesus is listening and the Spirit is present with you. Be with God in this time. Even in silence you can know and enjoy His presence.

4. Read. Think. Pray.

Devoting yourself to God is simple. **Read** scripture, **Think** about what it means and means to you, and **Pray** about it. This can be a time to engage your heart and mind toward God's calling. Don't rush it. Savor your time in the word and in prayer with God.

5. Live it Out

Now do something about it.

Rest and Reflect

Each Sunday is an opportunity to Rest with God and Reflect on His presence and power in the previous week and how you will respond in the next.

Sabbath can be a powerful force in your life. Take a break and recline into God's grace. Let work take a back seat to joy and peace. Remember all that God has done for you this week. *God* is in control.



OWN OUR CHURCH

Sunday

The work of the church isn't defined by pastors and staff alone; it comes from each member actively participating in the life of Jesus Christ. Claim ownership of FPCM's mission, programs, and property. Each is an expression of how God is working among us! Support others. Be informed. Volunteer for a new role. Live like you're the church—because you are!

Remember to Rest and Reflect on God's goodness and how you can *Own Our Church* this week.

IF YOU WHO ARE EVIL KNOW HOW
TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS TO
YOUR CHILDREN,
HOW MUCH MORE WILL
THE HEAVENLY FATHER GIVE
THE HOLY SPIRIT
TO THOSE WHO ASK HIM?" LUKE 11:13

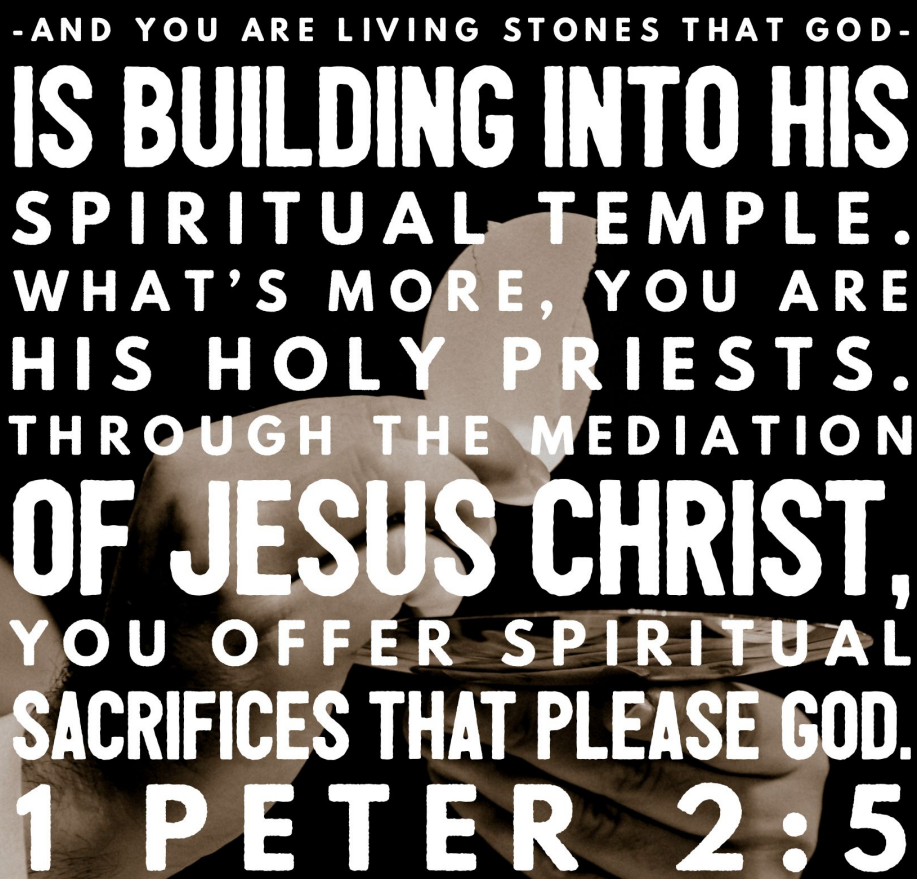
Monday

READ: Luke 11:1-13

THINK: *Owning our Church* starts with the presence of the Spirit in your own life. It is the job of the Spirit to gift and empower us for the work at hand. When you ask, God will grant you His Holy Spirit. Don't skip this step and just try to work harder. Ask for His Spirit.

If you have never asked, **PRAY** that God would gift you with the presence of His Holy Spirit. Once you have, **PRAY** for the Spirit to show you how you are needed here at FPC.

Own Our Church today.




-AND YOU ARE LIVING STONES THAT GOD-
**IS BUILDING INTO HIS
SPIRITUAL TEMPLE.
WHAT'S MORE, YOU ARE
HIS HOLY PRIESTS.
THROUGH THE MEDIATION
OF JESUS CHRIST,
YOU OFFER SPIRITUAL
SACRIFICES THAT PLEASE GOD.
1 PETER 2:5**

Tuesday

READ: 1 Peter 2:4-10

THINK: You are a priest. That doesn't mean you wear a little white collar. It means that you are a mediator between people and God. All Christians are priests and called to show who God is and connect others to His love and grace. *Own Our Church* and live out your priesthood. Be the person at your work, gym, grocery checkout line, or pickup soccer team who connects people to God.

Own Our Church today.



FOR WE HAVE HEARD
OF
YOUR FAITH IN
CHRIST JESUS
AND YOUR
LOVE FOR ALL
OF GOD'S PEOPLE,
COLOSSIANS 1:4

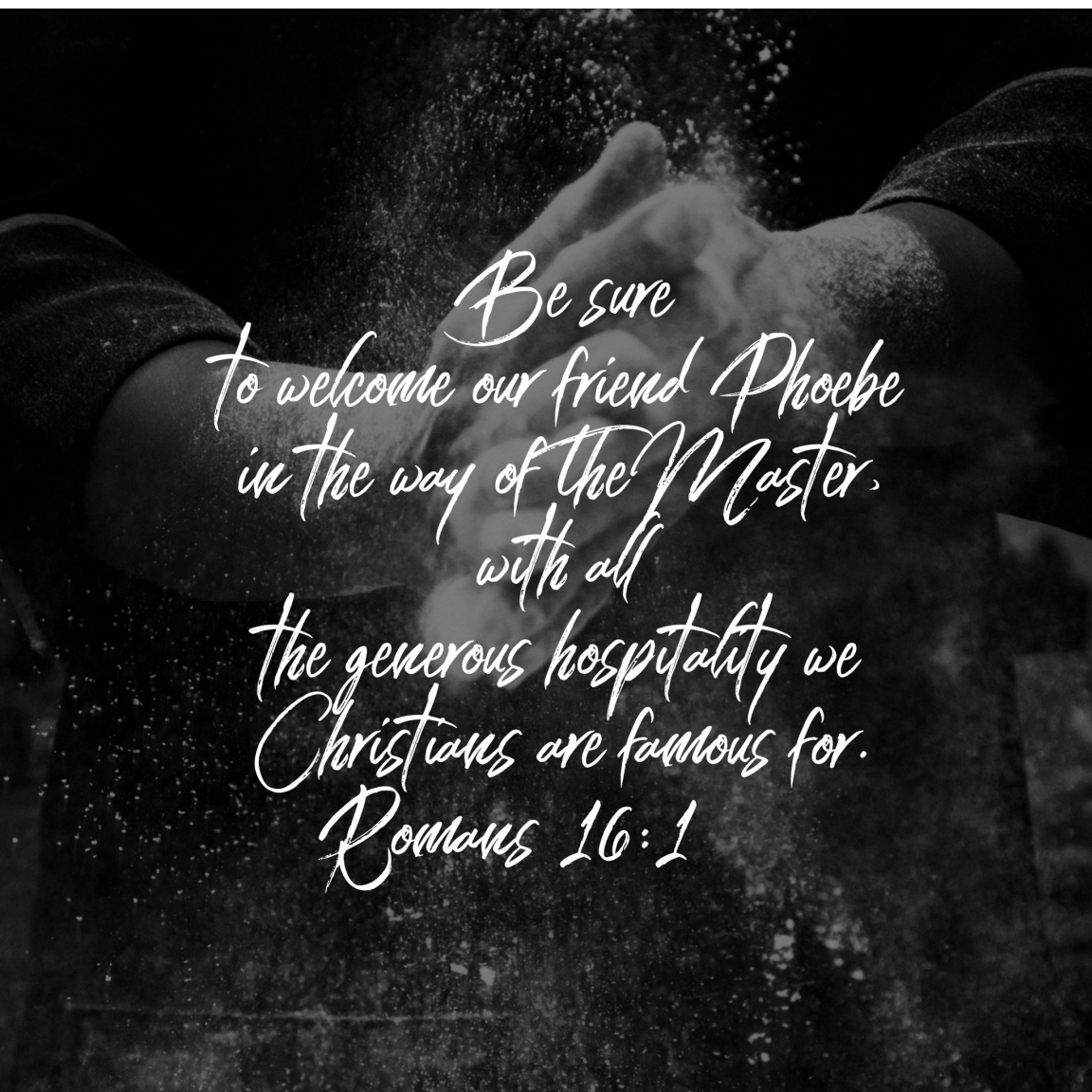
Wednesday

READ: Colossians 1:3-8

THINK: From far away, Paul heard that the Colossians were people of faith, love, and hope. Those words should be the first words that come to mind when others think of Christians. When people know you are a Christian, they will judge our faith by your life. Let them see faith, love, and hope. *Own Our Church* in all you do by letting people see our faith, love, and hope in Christ.

PRAY: that Jesus would give you more faith, love, and hope.

Own Our Church today.



*Be sure
to welcome our friend Phoebe
in the way of the Master,
with all
the generous hospitality we
Christians are famous for.
Romans 16:1*

Thursday

READ: Romans 16:1-16

THINK: Women didn't normally have leadership roles in the 1st century, but they did in the church.

Phoebe was deacon and a benefactor. Don't let anyone tell you that something about you keeps you from being able to serve. Especially if you feel like the world doesn't respect you, we need you to Own Our Church and be an example of what the Kingdom of God is like.

PRAY: that all types of people feel respected and empowered at our Church.

Own Our Church today.



**IF THE CLOUD REMAINED OVER
THE TABERNACLE FOR
A LONG TIME,
THE ISRAELITES STAYED
AND PERFORMED THEIR DUTY TO THE LORD.
NUMBERS 9:19**

Friday

READ: Numbers 9:15-23

THINK: Sometimes it feels like other people have a special relationship with God, special gifts, or a special call. Simply put: sometimes it feels like you are an Israelite in a book about Moses. Don't compare your faith to what you think someone else's faith is like. When it feels like your playing a small role in a larger plan, *Own Our Church* anyway. Don't let false comparisons keep you from serving however you can.

PRAY: God would show you how large the harvest is in Moorestown.

Own Our Church today.



I WILL DWELL AMONG
THE CHILDREN
OF ISRAEL,
AND WILL
NOT FORSAKE
MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.
1 KINGS 6:11-14

Saturday

READ: 1 Kings 6:11-14

THINK: While it is true that the Church is not the building but the people, the building still matters.

It is in our building that thousands of people have met and worshipped God. We make it holy ground because as the church gathers, God is there. We make it God's house because it is there that His family gets together. *Own Our Church* building as holy ground and celebrate the lives which have been changed there.

PRAY: God would continue to use our building as a place where He changes lives.

Own Our Church today.