

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.

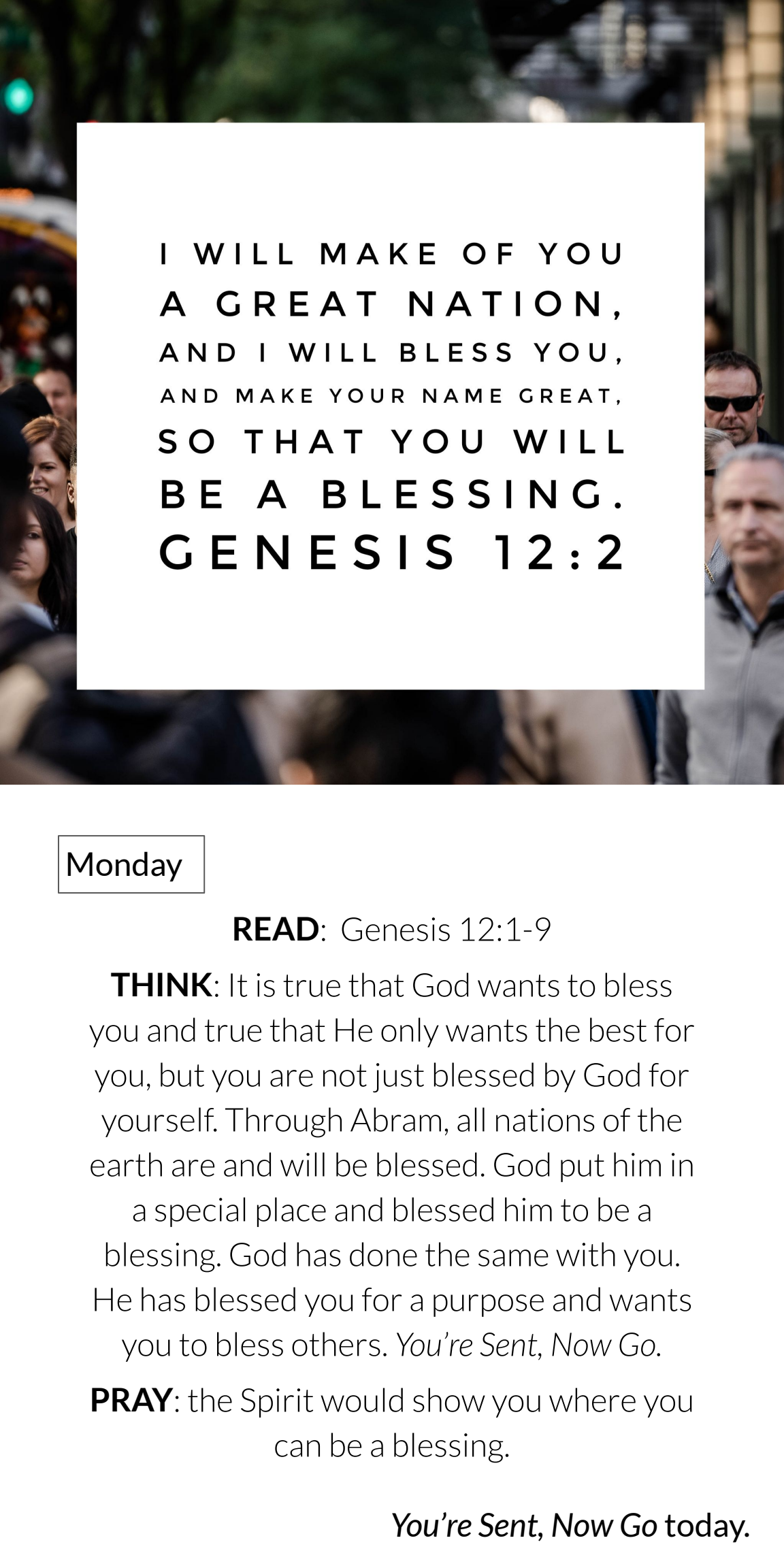
Sabbath can be a powerful force in your life. Take a break and recline into God's grace. Let work take a back seat to joy and peace. Remember all that God has done for you this week. *God* is in control.



Sunday

We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Remember to Rest and Reflect on God's goodness and how you can remember *You're Sent, Now Go* this week.



I WILL MAKE OF YOU
A GREAT NATION,
AND I WILL BLESS YOU,
AND MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT,
SO THAT YOU WILL
BE A BLESSING.
GENESIS 12:2

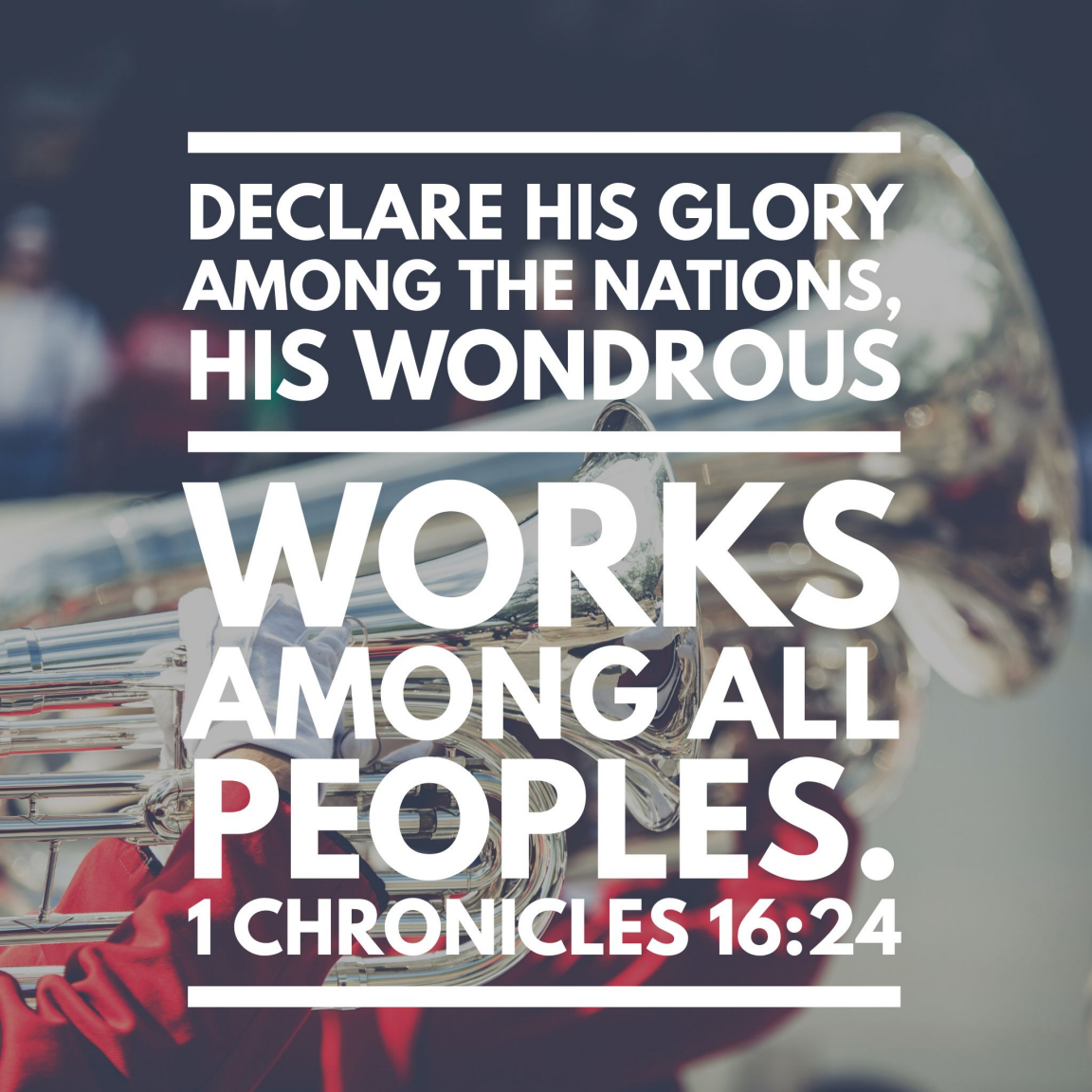
Monday

READ: Genesis 12:1-9

THINK: It is true that God wants to bless you and true that He only wants the best for you, but you are not just blessed by God for yourself. Through Abram, all nations of the earth are and will be blessed. God put him in a special place and blessed him to be a blessing. God has done the same with you. He has blessed you for a purpose and wants you to bless others. *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: the Spirit would show you where you can be a blessing.

You're Sent, Now Go today.



**DECLARE HIS GLORY
AMONG THE NATIONS,
HIS WONDROUS**

**WORKS
AMONG ALL
PEOPLES.**

1 CHRONICLES 16:24

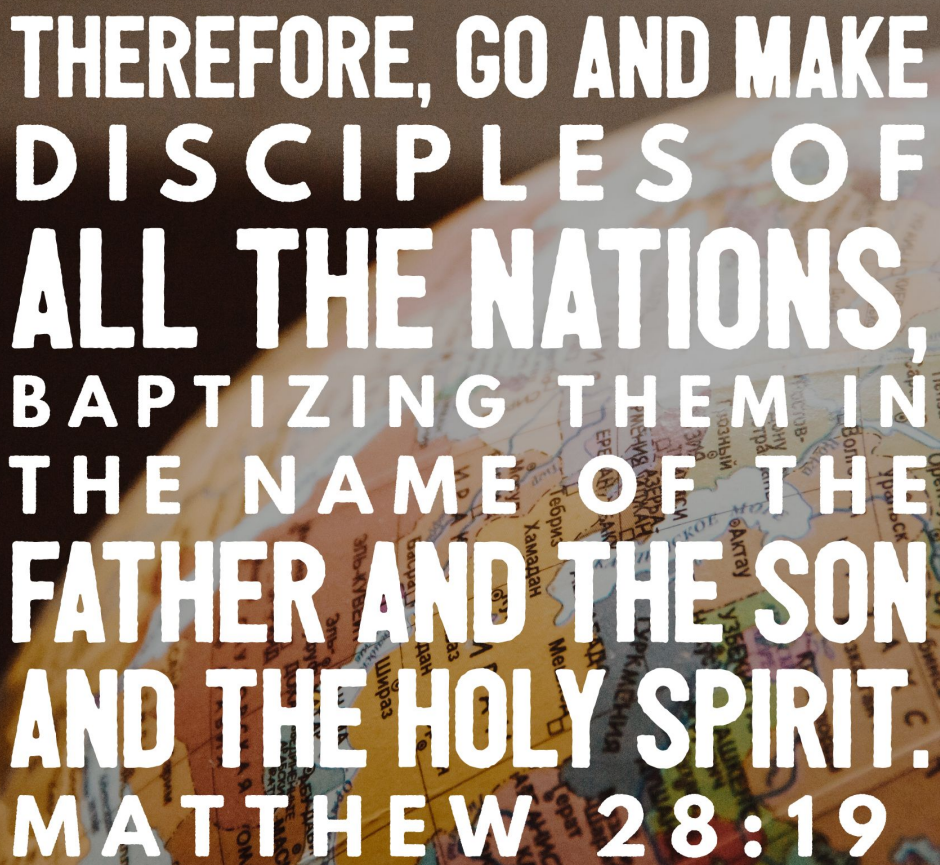
Tuesday

READ: 1 Chronicles 16:23-36.

THINK: Our Lord has done marvelous things. He walked alongside and guided the Israelites; He died on the cross for us; and the Spirit came to indwell and empower us. God's actions, though, are not relegated to the past. Each of us has a story to tell of God's goodness and grace that we can't keep to ourselves. Your stories of God's work could be just what someone needs. *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: and thank God for the places He has shown himself to be good, mighty, or caring.

You're Sent, Now Go today.



**THEREFORE, GO AND MAKE
DISCIPLES OF
ALL THE NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM IN
THE NAME OF THE
FATHER AND THE SON
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.
MATTHEW 28:19**

Wednesday

READ: Matthew 28:16-20.

THINK: We are sent because Jesus sent us. Just as He sent the disciples, He sends each of us to help people draw close to God and follow Him. You don't make disciples just in service days or missions trips; you make disciples in everyday life. Sent doesn't mean you need to go on a trip. It means you have to live your life, all of your life, as if God put you there for a reason. *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: the Spirit would alert you to any opportunity to make disciples.

You're Sent, Now Go today.



RELIGION THAT IS

Pure And Undefined

BEFORE GOD THE
FATHER IS THIS:
TO VISIT ORPHANS AND WIDOWS
IN THEIR AFFLICTION,
AND TO KEEP ONESELF
UNSTAINED FROM THE WORLD.
JAMES 1:27

Thursday

READ: James 1:19-27

THINK: The early church grew at an alarming rate because they took words like these to heart. People took notice because they cared for the sick and needy. What if we began to own needs? There are half a million orphans in the world and a million churches. If one family in every other church adopted a child, we could make a huge impact. It may not be adoption, but consider how God might be calling you. *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: for the Spirit to show you what needs God desires you to meet.

You're Sent, Now Go today.



ON HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO THEM,

“IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY
WHO NEED A DOCTOR,
BUT THE SICK.

I HAVE NOT COME TO
CALL THE RIGHTEOUS,
BUT SINNERS.” MARK 2:17

Friday

READ: Mark 2:13-17.

THINK: Jesus made friends and spent time with people others would normally avoid. Imagine what His ministry would look like if He only spent His time with “church people.” We are here for each other as a church, but we are also put in the lives of people who would never set foot in a church or might be openly hostile towards faith. You are called to be a blessing to them as well. *You’re Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: the Spirit would use you to care for people who far from faith.

You’re Sent, Now Go today.



don't strip your
VINEYARD BARE
or go back and pick up
THE FALLEN GRAPES.
leave them for the poor and
THE FOREIGNER.
leviticus 19:10

Saturday

READ: Leviticus 19:9-10.

THINK: Most would think the owners of the field should be able to do whatever they want with what they own and what they earn. God, though, has another plan. What is yours is not always for you, but often for you to give to those who need it. We make a mistake when we think God only blesses us for us. Have you considered how your job, your home, your stuff might be a gift for others? *You're Sent, Now Go.*

PRAY: the Spirit would show you opportunities to give to people in need.

You're Sent, Now Go today.