

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.



WORSHIP WITH YOUR WHOLE heart

Sunday

Your life is meant to be an act of worship. Every breath, action, and thought flows from God and can bring Him glory. Praise God everywhere and embrace the opportunities to regularly worship with your church family.

Remember to Rest and Reflect on God's goodness and how you can *Worship with Your Whole Heart* this week.



OH YES,
I'LL DANCE
TO GOD'S GLORY-MORE
RECKLESSLY EVEN THAN THIS.
AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED . . .
I'LL GLADLY LOOK LIKE A FOOL .
. . . 2 SAMUEL 6:22

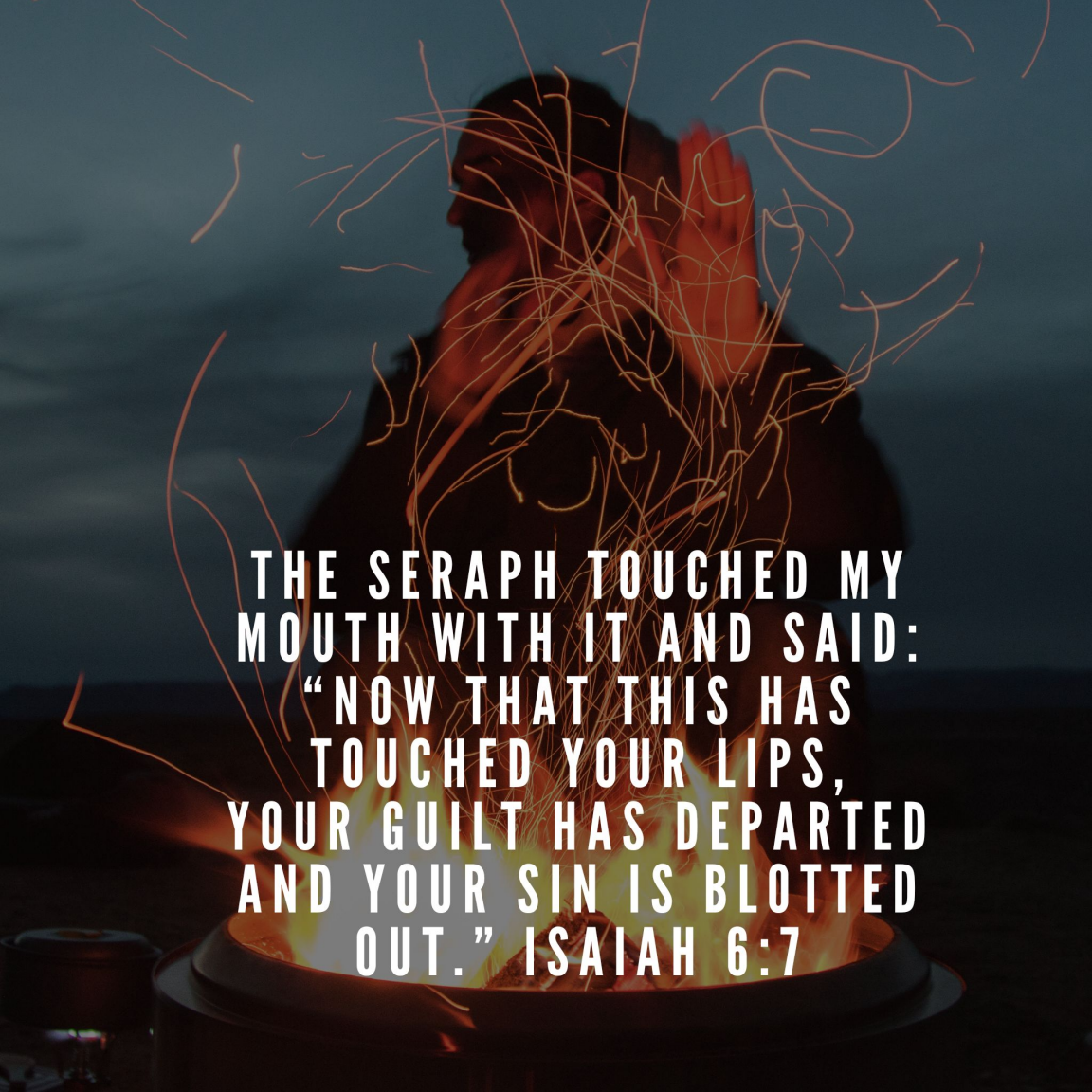
Monday

READ: 2 Samuel 6:12-23.

THINK: When the presence of God returns, the king dances like a fool. He does not care if he is humiliated in his own eyes or in the eyes of those around him. What would it be like to worship with that abandonment? Do not let discomfort or propriety keep you from worshipping with everything you have. Kneel, clap, dance, wear a linen ephod if you want, but *Worship with your Whole Heart*.

PRAY: for the confidence to worship with abandonment.

Worship with Your Whole Heart today.



THE SERAPH TOUCHED MY
MOUTH WITH IT AND SAID:
“NOW THAT THIS HAS
TOUCHED YOUR LIPS,
YOUR GUILT HAS DEPARTED
AND YOUR SIN IS BLOTTED
OUT.” ISAIAH 6:7

Tuesday

READ: Isaiah 6:1-13.

THINK: When standing in the presence of God, Isaiah feels unclean and unworthy. Sometimes we don't *Worship with our Whole Heart* because our whole heart does not belong to God. Here then is the reason to worship: that though we are far from Him, God cleanses us anyway. Step towards Him in worship and He will purify you. In the act of worship itself, our hearts turn to Him.

PRAY: about places you have fallen short and ask that He take away your guilt.

Worship with Your Whole Heart today.



HOLY, HOLY,
HOLY IS THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY,
WHO WAS, AND IS,
AND IS TO COME.
REVELATION 4:8

Wednesday

READ: Revelation 4:1-11.

THINK: Even if you were to sit by yourself and sing a worship song, you never worship alone. We continually join the chorus of angels who are praising our Lord. At the seat of the throne they cry out, “Holy, holy. Holy is the Lord God almighty who was, and is and is to come.” When you choose to *Worship with Your Whole Heart*, you choose to join an angelic chorus to praise our mighty Lord.

PRAY: that God would give you a glimpse of the chorus.

Worship with Your Whole Heart today.

A row of Hindu deities, including Lord Krishna, in a temple setting. The deities are yellow-skinned with multiple arms, holding various symbolic objects. They are wearing white and gold attire. The background is a blurred temple interior.

YOU SHALL HAVE NO

Other gods

BEFORE ME.
EXODUS 20:3


Thursday

READ: Exodus 20:1-21.

THINK: We begin the ten commandments talking about what is due to our God. God is not just mighty. God is might. God is not just loving. God is love. God is goodness itself. Do not think for a second that since God is a friend, He is not still God. Sometimes you feel like worshipping, sometimes you don't, but that doesn't change the fact that worship and praise is what our God is due.

PRAY: God would help you *Worship with Your Whole Heart* even when you don't feel like it.

***Worship with Your Whole Heart* today.**



**BUT AN HOUR
IS COMING,**
AND IS NOW HERE.
WHEN THE TRUE
**WORSHIPERS
WILL WORSHIP**
THE FATHER IN SPIRIT
AND IN TRUTH.
JOHN 4:23

Friday

READ: John 4:19-26.

THINK: Don't you know that we live in the time when worship is not restricted to the temple or to the mountain. Yes, there is power when the Church gathers to worship, but there is power too when you hum to yourself, or you kneel in prayer, or you dance for his Glory. In all you do, *Worship with Your Whole Heart* because our God is too great to only worship Him once a week.

PRAY: and talk with God about what brings you to worship Him.

Worship with Your Whole Heart today.



AND MAY YOU HAVE

THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND,
AS ALL GOD'S
PEOPLE SHOULD,
HOW WIDE, HOW LONG,
HOW HIGH,
AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS.
EPHESIANS 3:18

Saturday

READ: Ephesians 3:14-21.

THINK: Worship is responsive and reflexive. When someone tickles you, you laugh, when you look at the sun, you sneeze, and when you are confronted by the splendor of God, you *Worship with Your Whole Heart*. Have you thought through how wonderful God is recently? Sit with His character, His deeds, or just sit in His presence. If you do, you won't be able to keep from worshipping.

PRAY: that you could begin to grasp the glory of your Father.

Worship with Your Whole Heart today.