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Daily Devotional - Monday, September 27, 2021 - Our Dependence Upon God

SEPTEMBER 27TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

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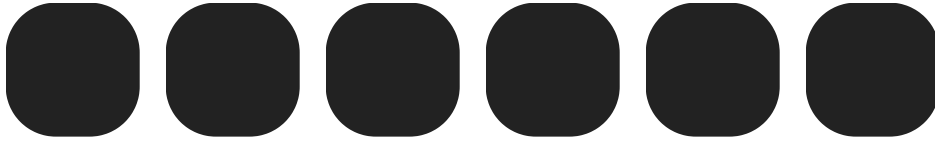
2 Kings 19:10-20

Unlike King Hezekiah, you are probably not facing an invading army. But if you're like most of us, your life is nonetheless full of obstacles, problems, and everyday needs that threaten your sense of peace and security. What do you do about that? Do you rely on your own strength and ingenuity to find a way through, or do you call out to God for help?

One of the purposes of prayer is to make us aware of our own dependence upon the Lord. No concern is too small to bring to Him, and nothing is too big for Him to handle. In fact, we are told to worry about nothing and to pray about everything ([Phil. 4:6](#)). The outcome of prayerful dependence is inexplicable peace, even in the midst of unchanged circumstances ([Phil. 4:7](#)).

Sometimes we forget that we are creatures who are completely dependent on the Creator for our next breath. Prayer is a privilege God has given His children—it lets us humbly lay our cares before our Father, trusting Him to direct our path and provide for our needs. We have nothing to lose—except our pride and self-sufficiency, along with the resultant fear and anxiety.

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Daily Devotional - Friday, September 24, 2021 - A Life of Integrity

SEPTEMBER 24TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Friday, September 24, 2021 - A Life of Integrity

Psalm 15

In today's Psalm, David describes a life of integrity—it is marked by truthfulness, righteousness, and honesty. To develop and maintain this God-pleasing lifestyle, we must ...

- **Formulate beliefs based on Scripture.** Our need for a Savior, Christ's death on our behalf, salvation by faith alone, and the Father's gift of eternal life are foundational truths upon which to build our life. As we align our thinking with God's Word, our identity and priorities should flow from these tenets.

- **Submit to Christ's lordship.** Jesus commands us to deny ourselves and follow Him (**Mark 8:34**). Wholehearted commitment to Him helps us choose righteousness over temptations.

- **Build relationships with godly individuals.** The influence of mature Christians strengthens our dedication and obedience to the Lord.

- **Acknowledge our mistakes.** Everyone misses the mark at times. We are to confess any known sin to God (**1 John 1:9**) and turn away from the wrong behavior. We must also ask for forgiveness from anyone we have wronged.

God understands our struggle to resist temptation and choose righteousness, and He has sent His Holy Spirit to help us live with integrity. Ask Him today to help you embody the values in Psalm 15.

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Daily Devotional - Thursday, September 23, 2021 -

Ministers of Comfort

SEPTEMBER 23RD 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Thursday, September 23, 2021 - Ministers of Comfort

Psalm 72:12-14

When you hear about a calamity, how do you respond? As believers, we should approach such situations with a selfless and compassionate attitude. True compassion not only tries to understand the pain of others but also provides practical help.

In times of disaster, remember that you and I have the privilege of touching anybody anywhere through prayer. No matter how far away victims might be, they can be comforted by God as He responds to your heartfelt cries. So as soon as word of a tragedy reaches you, start praying. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in petitioning for protection, provision, comfort, and awareness of His presence ([Rom. 8:26](#)).

Next, remember that donations (whether money or goods) and hands-on assistance are usually high priority. It is wise to team up with dependable relief organizations and consult trusted sources about what's needed. In local situations, you can also provide words of comfort, a warm embrace, or simply a listening ear.

We should take care to notice others' needs and to reach out with Christ's love. Through these actions, the world will recognize the light of Jesus, who was anointed to bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and comfort all who mourn ([Isa. 61:1-2](#)).

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Daily Devotional - Wednesday, September 22, 2021 - Worship God Only

SEPTEMBER 22ND 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Wednesday, September 22, 2021 - Worship God Only

James 4:4-8

When reading in the Old Testament, we might not understand why people would bow down before idols they had made. But we make a similar mistake, placing too high a value on things like money, relationships, appearance, and power. Though not bad in themselves, these can become objects of worship if we prioritize them above God. That's why He is jealous for our heart.

There are two reasons the Lord doesn't let His children's devotion stay out of balance. First, He deserves the glory, and second, He loves us and wants the best for us. Praising God above all else is actually in our own best interest, so when our heart does not belong solely to Christ, He disciplines us. This might mean He allows challenges to remind us who is the one and only God. Hardships are not pleasant, but we can be encouraged that God is making us complete in Him.

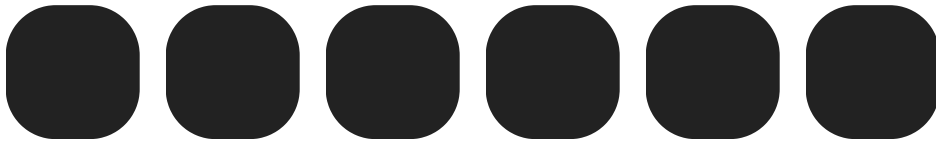
This week, notice where you spend your time and money and what dominates your thoughts. Even if your pursuits seem good on the surface, ask the Lord to reveal whatever has become an idol in your life. Confess any misplaced affection, and ask for help in making God the object of

your devotion.

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Daily Devotional - Tuesday, September 21, 2021 - The Reward of Relinquishment

SEPTEMBER 21ST 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Genesis 22:1-18

When God asks us to surrender our will to His, it's our job to trust He will show us the way ([Prov. 3:5-6](#)). I've learned that, while it's a struggle to put everything on the altar, we don't have

to understand *how* God will accomplish His plans. Telling God “no” because we first want to understand *why* amounts to getting in our own way. But when we say “yes,” He can pour out His goodness and reward our obedience.

Today’s passage shows a remarkable example of relinquishment. Abraham’s deep faith in God’s trustworthiness allowed him to obey and offer up what was most precious to him: his son Isaac. As a result, the Lord provided a substitutionary sacrifice that day and also promised Abraham countless descendants, one of whom would be Jesus Christ, the Savior of mankind.

God shouldn’t be mistaken for a parent who withholds a treat until the child complies. Rather, obedience positions us to receive what He is already trying to give us—and to accomplish what He has in mind for our life. So, when we fail to trust God enough to do what He says, we could be closing ourselves off from those good things.

What has the Lord told you to do? Have you only partially cooperated, or have you relinquished your need to understand and obeyed completely? If the Lord says to give, know that you too can trust Him to provide.

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