

Cultivating Your Personal Devotion with God

IN THE STILLNESS HE IS THERE | MATTHEW 7:7

June Bible Study Series

The Daily Devotional Life

(Dailies)

Lesson Two

The *dailies* refer to the discipline of daily getting into God's Word and daily going to the throne of grace.

Apart from the dailies there will be truly little peace and true spiritual change from within through a deepening faith relationship with the living God.

Romans 8:1-5 (NKJV), There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh

⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

A. We will quench the ministry of the Spirit and grieve Him.

B. We will tend to draw in the attitudes and viewpoints of the world around us.

People often want change, but if they are not really seeking to know God and grow in their relationship with Him through a daily devotional life, they may never change.

Genesis 12:7-13 (NKJV), Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸ And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent *with* Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. ⁹ So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South. Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine *was* severe in the land.

And it came to pass, when he was close to entering Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, “Indeed I know that you *are* a woman of beautiful countenance. ¹² Therefore it will happen, when the Egyptians see you, that they will say, ‘This *is* his wife’; and they will kill me, but they will let you live. ¹³ Please say you *are* my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that I may live because of you.”

**FIVE DANGERS TO KEEP IN MIND
REGARDING YOUR DEVOTIONAL LIFE:**

**1. WE SHOULD NOT VIEW
DAILY DEVOTION AS SCORING
POINTS WITH GOD.**

I Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV), Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

2. WE SHOULD NOT VIEW DAILY DEVOTION AS A NECESSITY FOR JUST THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS, THEY ARE FOR ALL BELIEVERS.

3. WE MUST GUARD AGAINST
ALLOWING OUR DAILY
DEVOTION TO BECOME SIMPLY
ROUTINE OR MERE HABIT.

Luke 18:11-12 (ESV), The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.

4. WE MUST NOT LIMIT OUR
DEVOTION TO A SPECIFIC TIME
ONLY. WE MUST ALLOW GOD TO
SPEAK TO US THROUGH ALL
OUR ACTIVITIES AND
CIRCUMSTANCES OF OUR DAY.

5. THE DESIRE TO FEED AT
GOD'S TABLE CAN HAVE ITS
OWN ADDICTION THAT COULD
KEEP US FROM SEEING THE
HURTS OF OUR WORLD.

THE DAILIES

The dailies refer to those daily spiritual disciplines and routines which are needed to maintain and experience personal fellowship or a personal walk with the Lord that will result in the fruit of growth, production, and spiritual change or Christlikeness.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DAILIES

1. The Scriptures Stress the Importance of Daily Engagement.

Psalm 1:2-3 (NKJV), But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law, he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water. That brings forth its fruit in its season.

Psalm 55:17 (NKJV), Evening, and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.

2. The Scriptures Stress Our Frailties and Sinfulness.

Isaiah 53:6 (NKJV), All we like
sheep have gone astray; We
have turned, everyone, to his own
way; and the Lord has laid on
Him the iniquity of us all.

**3. The Scriptures Stress the Days
are Evil.**

Ephesians 5:15-16 (ESV), Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

“Our adversary majors in three things: **noise, hurry, and crowds.**”

4. Scriptures Stress the Great Apostasy.

I Timothy 4:1-3 (NKJV), Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Jesus is Our Example

Luke 5:15-16 (NKJV), However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. So, He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

Luke 22:39-41 (NKJV), Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt and prayed.

Draw Me Nearer

O the pure delight of a single hour
that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with
thee, my God, I commune as friend
with friend!