# abide

ONE THING I ASK FROM THE LORD, THIS ONLY DO I SEEK: THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE, TO GAZE ON THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD AND TO SEEK HIM IN HIS TEMPLE.
PSALMS 27:4

## 2026 CAMP DEVOTIONAL

# michigan next gen

DEAR STUDENT,

WHAT AN UNBELIEVABLE WEEK! WE ARE SO THANKFUL YOU CAME TO CAMP THIS YEAR. FOR MONTHS, OUR TEAM HAS BEEN PRAYING FOR YOU, HOPING THAT THESE PAST FEW DAYS WOULD BE SOME OF THE MOST MEMORABLE OF YOUR LIFE. BEYOND THE HYPE, THE GAMES, AND THE CHAOS, OUR ULTIMATE PRAYER IS THAT YOU MET GOD IN A REAL WAY. WHETHER CHURCH IS A SECOND HOME TO YOU OR YOU'RE PROCESSING THE LOVE OF JESUS FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, WE WANT YOU TO WALK AWAY WITH SOMETHING THAT LASTS MUCH LONGER THAN CAMP MEMORIES.

THAT'S WHY WE PUT THIS DEVOTIONAL TOGETHER. IT'S A TOOL TO HELP YOU GUARD WHAT HAPPENED HERE AND KEEP BUILDING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. OVER THE NEXT TWELVE DAYS, YOU'LL BREAK DOWN THE SPEAKER MESSAGES FROM THIS WEEK, GRAB A PEN, OPEN YOUR BIBLE, AND REALLY CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO GO DEEPER. GET QUIET, LISTEN TO HIS VOICE, AND LET HIM WRITE HIS TRUTH ON YOUR HEART. HE LOVES YOU IMMENSELY AND HAS AN INCREDIBLE PURPOSE FOR YOU IN 2026 AND BEYOND.

THE MOMENTS YOU HAD WITH GOD AT CAMP DON'T HAVE TO END JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE HEADING HOME. IT WAS REAL, AND HE HAS SO MUCH MORE IN STORE FOR YOU.

WE LOVE YOU AND ARE ALWAYS IN YOUR CORNER!
- PASTOR RAYMOND & SADI MARSHALL



Taylor Murphy

TAYLOR MURPHY CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE NEXT GEN PASTOR AT GR FIRST IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN. HIS MISSION IS TO HELP TEENAGERS HAVE A GENUINE, LASTING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. HE BELIEVES IF STUDENTS CAN HAVE ONE ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS AT A CAMP, CONVENTION, OR SERVICE, THEN THEIR LIVES WILL BE FOREVER CHANGED. WHEN TAYLOR SPEAKS, HE EMPHASIZES ON ALTAR TIME, PRAYER MOMENTS WITH STUDENTS, AND ALLOWING STUDENTS TO RESPOND. IN THESE MOMENTS, TAYLOR BELIEVES THAT THE STRONGEST CONNECTIONS TO GOD CAN OCCUR, AND THE STRONGEST RELATIONAL BONDS CAN DEVELOP.

FOLLOW TAYLOR ON IG @TAYLORMURPHY_MI

# Part I: A Faith That Makes Us Well (From Message I)

## Day I: The Posture of Earnest Faith

### SCRIPTURE:

MATTHEW 5:22-23, MARK 5:22-24

### DEVOTIONAL:

Jairus was a big deal. He was a synagogue leader, a pastor, a man of high status in his community. People looked up to him. But when his little daughter was dying, he didn't care about his reputation, his clean clothes, or what people thought. He ran straight to Jesus, fell flat on his knees in the dirt, and begged Him earnestly for a miracle. "Earnest" means having a serious, sincere, and intense intention. Jairus didn't throw up a casual, bored prayer. He was desperate.

Too often, our comfortability leads to complacency. We get so comfortable with our lives, our routines, and our church habits that we lose our desperation for God. Jairus shows us that getting Jesus' attention starts with a posture of humility and hunger. If you want to see God move in your life or in the lives of your friends, you have to stop playing it cool. It's time to fall to your knees and pray with earnest intensity.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Be honest: Has your relationship with God felt more "comfortable and complacent" or "earnest and desperate" lately? What caused that?

Who is someone in your life (a friend, sibling, or parent) who is spiritually or emotionally struggling, whom you need to start earnestly praying for?

### PRAYER PROMPT:

Drop to your knees right now. Ask God to break your complacency. Pray urgently and intensely for one specific person who needs Jesus to step into their story.

# Day 2: Patient Faith When the Story Stalls

## SCRIPTURE:
MARK 5:35-36

## DEVOTIONAL:
Imagine the panic Jairus felt. He finally gets Jesus to walk toward his house, but then Jesus stops in the middle of the crowded street to talk to someone else. While Jesus is delaying, messengers arrive from Jairus' house with the worst possible news: "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?"

Talk about a heart-stopping moment. It looked like the story was over. But Jesus immediately looks at Jairus and says, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

What if you are giving up right before the story is over? We live in an instant world where we want answers, healings, and changes now. But Jairus had to go through a painful process with Jesus to see his daughter made well. We need a patient faith—a faith that keeps praying and refuses to walk away when God's timing doesn't match ours. Be patient with your friends, your parents, and your siblings while God works behind the scenes.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Where in your life have you felt like saying, "Why bother anymore?" because a prayer hasn't been answered yet?
How can you practice "patient faith" this week with a family member or friend who is stressing you out?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Tell Jesus about the area where you are tired of waiting. Declare: "I will not give up before the story is over. I choose to reject fear and simply believe."

# Day 3: Unapologetic Push

## SCRIPTURE:
MARK 5:25-27, ISAIAH 8:14A

## DEVOTIONAL:
While Jairus was waiting, a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years was executing a desperate plan. In biblical times, her sickness made her ceremonially "unclean." By law, she wasn't even supposed to be in public, let alone touching people. If she bumped into you, she made you unclean. But she didn't care about the rules, the crowd's opinions, or the risk of offending people. She was completely unapologetic about her pursuit of Jesus. She pushed through the wall of bodies until her fingers brushed the edge of His clothes. Your decision to go after Jesus with everything you have might not make sense to your friends at school. It might make them uncomfortable. It might even offend them. Isaiah says Jesus can be a "stone of offense and a rock of stumbling." Are you willing to make the hard, awkward decisions now to be fully whole in the future? Stop apologizing for loving God. Push through the crowd.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Have you ever held back from worshiping, praying, or talking about your faith because you were afraid of making others uncomfortable?

What is a "hard decision" you need to make this week to prioritize your spiritual wholeness over people's opinions?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Ask God for an unapologetic faith. Pray for the strength to pursue Him completely, regardless of who is watching or judging.

# Day 4: Bumping vs. Boldness

## SCRIPTURE:
MARK 5:28-34

## DEVOTIONAL:
The street was packed. The Bible says the crowd was literally pressing against Jesus from all sides. Dozens of people were accidentally bumping into Him, knocking shoulders with Him, and touching His clothes. But when the bleeding woman touched Him, Jesus stopped dead in His tracks and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

The crowd was in proximity to Jesus, but the woman had partnership with Jesus. The crowd bumped Him; her bold faith drew power out of Him.

You can go to church, sit in youth group, sing the camp songs, and be in close proximity to Jesus, yet still walk away unchanged. Proximity isn't enough. Bold faith believes that Jesus can shatter the addiction you've dealt with for years, heal the deep bitterness you've carried, and comfort the grief you are drowning in. Don't just hang out in the crowd around Jesus. Reach out with bold faith and be made well.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
What is the difference between just being "around" Jesus (church, youth group, Christian friends) and actually reaching out to Him with bold faith?

What is a specific pain, habit, or anxiety that you need to boldly bring to Jesus today for total freedom?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
"Jesus, I don't want to just be another face in the crowd bumping into You. I stretch out my hand in bold faith today. Heal my heart, break this habit, and make me whole."

# Part 2: A Waiting Witness
# (From Message 2)
# Day 5: Dynamite Power

## SCRIPTURE:
ACTS 2:1-4

## DEVOTIONAL:
There are two different types of experiences you can have with the Holy Spirit. When you give your life to Jesus, you receive the Holy Spirit of salvation—He lives inside you and seals you for heaven. But there is a second experience: the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, which is all about power.

The Greek word for power used in the New Testament is dunamis. It's where we get our English word dynamite. It means an inherent, explosive, unstoppable force.

A lot of Christian teenagers are trying to live out their faith, resist temptation, and share the gospel on human strength alone. The sad reality is they are operating without power. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit gives you supernatural, explosive power to break chains, demolish old strongholds, and move your faith forward. You don't have to live a weak, defeated spiritual life. You are meant to be loaded with dynamite power.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Do you feel like your spiritual life has been lacking "power" lately? Why or why not?

How does understanding that the Holy Spirit offers "unstoppable, explosive power" change your perspective on fighting temptation?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Ask Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit. Pray for the Dunamis power to break off any lingering strongholds or weights in your life.

# Day 6: In Tune with the Father

**SCRIPTURE**:
ACTS 2:1-2, ROMANS 8:26-27

**DEVOTIONAL**:
When the Holy Spirit rushed into the Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost, it sounded like a violent, rushing wind. It completely filled the house. One of the greatest benefits of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is that it dramatically increases our spiritual hearing. It helps us become deeply in tune with what God is saying.

Have you ever sat down to pray and just had no idea what to say? You feel weak, distracted, or totally blank. Romans 8 says that the Spirit steps right into our weakness and intercedes for us with "wordless groans."

The Holy Spirit sits right in the middle, communicating directly to the Father on our behalf, perfectly matching God's will. When you are filled with the Spirit, your connection to God gets dialed in. You can hear His voice clearer, catch His direction quicker, and pray prayers that actually shift things in the spiritual realm.

**REFLECTION QUESTIONS**:
When you pray, do you struggle to know what to say or feel like your prayers are hitting the ceiling?

How can relying on the Holy Spirit's intercession take the pressure off your prayer life?

**PRAYER PROMPT**:
"Holy Spirit, help me in my weakness today. I don't always know what to pray, so I ask You to intercede through me. Help me hear the Father's voice clearly."

# Day 7: The Refining Fire

## SCRIPTURE:
ACTS 2:3, JOHN 16:8

## DEVOTIONAL:
On Pentecost, the believers didn't just hear a wind; they saw what looked like tongues of fire resting on each of them. In scripture, God's fire is always a refining, purifying fire. It's a fire that burns away the junk, the impurities, and the garbage to make something stronger and better.

The Holy Spirit guides us by refining us. He convicts us at a deep level. John 16 says He convicts the world of sin and righteousness.

Left to ourselves, we make decisions that lead straight to destruction—the wrong friend groups, toxic relationships, bad habits, or reckless words. But when you allow the Holy Spirit to convict you, He acts like a guardrail. Refining burns a little bit. Walking away from a bad relationship or changing the way you talk hurts. But that temporary burn is building an unshakeable, pure strength inside of you.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
What is an area where you have felt the Holy Spirit gently (or strongly) convicting you lately?

Why is a short-term "burn" of conviction better than the long-term destruction of a bad choice?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Invite the refining fire of God into your life. Say, "Holy Spirit, convict me of anything that is pulling me away from You. Cleanse my heart and make me stronger."

# Day 8: First Wait, Then Go

## SCRIPTURE:
ACTS 2:4-13, ACTS 1:4

## DEVOTIONAL:
Right before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave His disciples a shocking order. Their entire lives for the last three years had been about moving—preaching, traveling, and doing ministry. But Jesus explicitly tells them to stop. He commands them to **wait** in Jerusalem until they receive the promise of the Father.Jesus literally halted the advancement of the gospel until His followers were baptized in the Holy Spirit. Why? Because He knew trying to witness without the Spirit's power is impossible.

When the disciples finally received the Spirit, they immediately spilled out into the streets, speaking in languages they had never learned, miraculously reaching people from every nation. The Holy Spirit gives you the wisdom and strategy to witness. The "impossible" person at your school or the sibling you think will never change suddenly becomes reachable when you stop acting in your own strength and wait on the power of the Spirit.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Why do you think Jesus considered the Baptism in the Holy Spirit so important that He told the disciples to pause everything until they had it?

How can you step back and ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom before you try to talk to someone about God?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Commit to being a waiting, listening witness. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you supernatural strategy, words, and opportunities to reach the people around you.

# Part 3: 100% (From Message 3)
# Day 9: Obedience Over Comfort

## SCRIPTURE:
JONAH 3:1-3, MATTHEW 28:19-20, MARK 16:15

## DEVOTIONAL:
God spoke to Jonah a second time and gave him a clear directive: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." This time, Jonah got up and went. He obeyed.

Jesus gave you and me the exact same assignment. It's called the Great Commission: Go into all the world, preach the gospel, and make disciples. In the early church, believers were so consumed by this command that you couldn't keep their mouths shut—they would literally face death just to share their faith. But today, the story has flipped. It takes an incredible amount of youth group energy and motivation just to get Christian students to talk to their friends about God.

Here is the bottom line: Obedience is more important than comfortability. Fulfilling the command of God must become a priority that overrides our shy feelings, our social anxieties, and our fear of looking weird.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
What is the biggest thing that makes you feel uncomfortable or scared when it comes to sharing your faith with others? How does shifting your mindset from "how do I feel?" to "did God command it?" change your willingness to speak up?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Repent for times you chose your own comfort over God's command. Ask for an overwhelming spirit of obedience that drowns out your fear of what people think.

# Day 10: Introducing a New Way to Live

## SCRIPTURE:

JONAH 3:4-6, 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

## DEVOTIONAL:

When Jonah walked through Nineveh warning them of destruction, a shocking thing happened: the people actually believed God. They wore sackcloth, fasted, and the king himself stepped off his throne to sit in the dust. Why did an entire pagan city turn around so fast? Because they realized their current way of living was leading to absolute ruin.

Listen closely: the reason your friends, teammates, or family members struggle with depression, anger, drama, or reckless behavior is often because they literally don't know there is another way to live.

They think the world's way is the only option. You hold the keys to a completely different lifestyle. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says that in Christ, the old passes away and the new comes. You have the honor of introducing the people in your life to the exact new creation life they have been desperately looking for.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Think about the friends you hang out with everyday. In what ways are they searching for happiness or peace in things that don't satisfy?

How can you practically demonstrate to them that living for Jesus is a better, truer way to live?

## PRAYER PROMPT:

Ask God to give you eyes to see the silent brokenness in your friends. Pray for the right words to introduce them to the "new way" found in Christ.

# Day 11: Grace for the Unlikely

## SCRIPTURE:
JONAH 4:1, TITUS 2:11

## DEVOTIONAL:
Nineveh repented, God showed them mercy, and Jonah... got absolutely furious. Jonah 4:1 says, "But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry." Why was he mad? Because Nineveh was Israel's brutal enemy. Jonah wanted God to destroy them, not save them. He thought they didn't deserve it.

But Titus 2:11 reminds us that the grace of God has appeared to all people. Salvation is for everyone.

It's easy to want God's grace for ourselves and our best friends, but what about the people you don't like? What about the bully at school, the person who gossiped about you, or total strangers who look and act completely different from you? They deserve the life, forgiveness, and purpose you experienced at camp just as much as you do. We cannot gatekeep God's compassion. We have to be willing to share the gospel with the people we'd least expect.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Is there anyone in your school or life who you secretly hope doesn't succeed, or whom you've decided is "too far gone" for God to save?

What does it look like to show God's grace to an "enemy" or a stranger this week?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
Pray specifically for someone who has hurt you or someone you find hard to love. Ask God to give them the same radical grace and salvation that He gave to you.

# Day 12: Shifting Your Sphere

## SCRIPTURE:
JONAH 3:10, MATTHEW 28:19

## DEVOTIONAL:
Statistically, Jonah might be the greatest evangelist in the entire Bible. Not because of his preaching style (he wasn't exactly enthusiastic), but because of his success rate. God called him to reach a specific city, and 100% of the people from the greatest to the least were saved. 120,000 lives were completely spared from destruction.

God has called you to a specific "city"—your school campus, your sports team, your friend group, and your family line. That is your unique sphere of influence.

You have a choice. Will you share your faith practically? You can do this by simply being a consistent Christian in front of them, praying and fasting for them behind closed doors, sharing testimonies of what God did in your life, or inviting them to youth group. Who among your generation will have the bold, earnest faith to see 100% of their team or friend group following Jesus? Why not you?

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:
Write down 3-5 practical ways you can share your faith with a specific friend this coming weekend (e.g., sending an encouraging text, inviting them to church, telling a story of what God did for you).

What would your school or team look like if 100% of them surrendered to Jesus?

## PRAYER PROMPT:
"Jesus, I claim my school, my team, and my family for You. Give me the boldness to share my faith practically this week. I pray for a 100% turnaround in my sphere of influence!"

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