



Devotions for October 4-11, 2025

"THE CHURCHLESS CHRISTIAN"

"Why Church?" Series, Week 4

Day 1 – She Belongs to Christ

Scripture: Ephesians 5:25–27; Revelation 21:2

Reflection: The Church is not a human invention—it is the Bride of Christ, beloved and chosen. To reject or ignore the Church is to reject something Jesus treasures deeply. When we embrace the Church, we align our hearts with Jesus' own love and longing—for His radiant, holy, unified Bride. Each of us belongs to Christ, and in that belonging comes connection to His Body. Participating in the Church is not optional; it is a vital expression of our love for Him and our commitment to His mission.

Questions to Ponder:

- How does thinking of the Church as the Bride of Christ reshape the way you view her?
- What does it look like to honor Christ by honoring His Bride?

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, help me to see Your Church as You do—beloved, radiant, and chosen. Teach me to love and honor Your Bride as an act of worship to You. Amen.*

Day 2 – Our Words Matter

Scripture: Ephesians 4:29; Romans 14:19

Reflection: Words have power—they can heal or harm, unite or divide. Too often, the Church is torn down by careless speech: gossip, criticism, or cynicism. Yet Jesus calls us to use words that build up, strengthen, and give grace. When we speak life into the Church, we join in Christ's work of cleansing and building His people. Our words can reflect the love of Christ and strengthen His Body.

Questions to Ponder:

- What patterns do you notice in the way you speak about the Church?
- How can your words this week bring life, encouragement, and grace to others in your community?

Prayer: *Father, let my words bring healing, not harm. May my tongue be used to encourage, to bless, and to build up Your people for Your glory. Amen.*

Day 3 – Our Actions Matter

Scripture: Hebrews 10:24–25; John 13:34–35

Reflection: Christianity is not a solo sport. Following Jesus was never meant to be done in isolation—it's a team pursuit. Our presence, our service, and our love matter to the Body. Neil Anderson reminds us that "God's preventative for

loneliness is intimacy—meaningful, open, sharing relationships with one another.” Showing up, encouraging others, and practicing sacrificial love not only strengthens the Church but also testifies to the world that Jesus is alive in us. Every act of service, no matter how small, contributes to the health and witness of His Body.

Questions to Ponder:

- In what ways can your actions this week “stir up” others toward love and good works?
- How might God be calling you to show up more faithfully for His people?

Prayer: *Lord, give me courage to love boldly and serve faithfully. Show me where my presence and actions can strengthen others and bring honor to Your name. Amen.*

Day 4 – Our Legacy

Scripture: Matthew 28:19–20; 2 Timothy 2:2

Reflection: The Church exists not for survival, but for mission. Brother Andrew reminds us: “The work of the church is not survival. She exists to fulfill the Great Commission.” Without the Church, there is no lasting discipleship, no generational faith, no global witness. Each of us is a link in a chain stretching back to the apostles and forward to future generations. Our commitment to the Church today helps ensure that the Gospel continues tomorrow.

Questions to Ponder:

- How do you see your role in carrying forward the mission of the Church?
- Who might God be calling you to disciple, encourage, or invest in for the sake of future generations?

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for entrusting Your mission to Your Church. Help me play my part faithfully, investing in others and living with eternity in mind. Amen.

Day 5 – Why Church?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:27

Big Idea Recap: A churchless Christian is a powerless Christian. The Church is God’s design for His people to know Him, grow in Him, and make Him known.

Reflection: Across these days, we’ve seen that the Church belongs to Christ, that our words and actions within her matter, and that she is God’s plan for mission and discipleship. To walk apart from the Church is to walk apart from the very means Jesus has given us to grow strong in faith and witness. Scripture reminds us that we are each members of the Body of Christ, indispensable and empowered for His work. The Church is not perfect—she isn’t. But she is loved, chosen, and empowered by Christ. When we commit to her, we discover belonging, strength, and purpose beyond ourselves. The Church is essential for the Christian life.

Questions to Ponder:

- What step is God calling you to take in deeper commitment to His Church?
- How might your life look different if you fully embraced the truth that a churchless Christian is a powerless Christian?

Prayer: *Lord, thank You for giving me a place in Your Church. Strengthen my commitment, deepen my love, and empower me to live in unity with Your people for the sake of Your kingdom. Amen.*