

Saturday, August 29, 2026

James 4:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

Look inward. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any place in your life that is filled with fear, sin, or distrust of God.

Look upward. Look to see the God who is faithful to his people over and over again, through all their rebellion and more. Let that aspect of God fill you with awe.

Look outward. Where is God leading you to dare to move out, like Abraham? (Boldness in sharing your faith?) Where is God leading you to stay loyal and faithful to him?

Look forward. Remember 1 Corinthians 1:8 (NIV):

⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

WEEK 8



becoming
fruit of the Spirit summer series



"Becoming" • Week 8

Galatians 5:22 - *The fruit of the Spirit is...faithfulness....*

In such chaotic times as this current cultural moment, the Church has a different and better way of life to offer the world. The fruit of the Spirit is about living life by the Spirit of God in order to become the kind of person this world needs.

This series of devotionals is designed to take us deeper into what God has for us each week, based on the topic of the previous Sunday's teaching.

This week we explore the second fruit of the Spirit - faithfulness.

Instructions: this could be a simple format for your prayer time:

1. Begin with a prayer of approach, asking God to reveal himself to you and to take you deeper into relationship with him.
2. Come with an attitude of humility, submission, and learning, so that you're ready to obey what God says.
3. Pray the Scripture for that day. Read it slowly. What stands out to you? What strikes you? Read it a second time slowly.
4. Keep note throughout the day how you notice or experience faithfulness (or lack thereof) in your life. Be thinking about what you could share with someone else regarding the goodness and love of God.

Friday, August 28, 2026

Daniel 6:3-4 (NIV)

³Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. ⁴At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.

Daniel is faithful in times when it's easy to be faithful. But faithfulness is especially forged in times of resistance or compromise.

Where do you feel the pressure to not take God at his word, or to compromise his teaching?

If you know the story of Daniel, you know that it was the inner gaze of his heart that kept him faithful. He kept his gaze on God - God's faithfulness, God's plans, God's purposes, God's future. Ask God to help you keep your gaze on him.

Thursday, August 27, 2026

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NIV)

³For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Part of faithfulness means staying true to God's Word - staying in it, seeking to understand it. It means not compromising on sound doctrine - good teachings about God and his kingdom way of life.

What's your relationship with the Bible?

In a world full of so much disinformation, how do we know that the Bible itself is reliable? What would you say to a non-believing friend?

Monday, August 24, 2026

Psalm 33:4-5 (NIV)

*⁴For the word of the Lord is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.*

*⁵The Lord loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.*

We grow in the fruit of faithfulness by bringing to our mind the faithfulness of God. How did the Psalmist know God was faithful?

What are some ways you have experienced the faithfulness of God in your life?

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Hosea 14:1-4 (NIV)

14 ¹Return, Israel, to the Lord your God.

Your sins have been your downfall!

²Take words with you

and return to the Lord.

Say to him:

"Forgive all our sins

and receive us graciously,

that we may offer the fruit of our lips. ¹

³Assyria cannot save us;

we will not mount warhorses.

We will never again say 'Our gods'

to what our own hands have made,

for in you the fatherless find compassion."

⁴*"I will heal their waywardness*

and love them freely,

for my anger has turned away from them.

God told the prophet Hosea to marry a woman who was unfaithful to him, in order to show His people how God felt about them. He loved them so dearly.

When we are unfaithful to God, we're not just breaking his rules, we are breaking his heart. Sin is compared to adultery in the Scriptures. Invite the Lord to search your heart and see if there is any sin the Lord wants to forgive and heal in your life today.

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Hebrews 11:32-40 (NIV)

³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; ³⁸ they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Faithfulness is not just believing in God, but trusting Him. What do you think is the difference?

What do you tend to do when things get challenging in your life?