

October 12 Devotional

1. Watch Yourself: The Discipline of Vigilance

The command to "watch yourselves" (Luke 17:3) is a call to spiritual self-examination.

1. **Proverbs 4:23:** "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life."
1 Corinthians 10:12; Matthew 26:41

2. Repentance: The U-Turn of life

Repentance is the necessary response when we realize we have strayed.

1. **2 Corinthians 7:10:** "For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death." **Acts 3:19; Luke 13:3; 2 Peter 3:9**

3. Forgiveness: The Unconditional Gift

Luke 17 challenges us to forgive "seven times in a day," demanding a repetitive heart of grace.

1. **Ephesians 4:32:** "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." **Colossians 3:13; Matthew 6:14-15; Luke 6:37**

4. Faith: The Power of a Small Seed

The disciples' response to the command to forgive was, "Increase our faith!" (Luke 17:5). Jesus redirected their focus, not on the *amount* of faith, but on the *object* of their faith.

1. **Matthew 17:20:** "For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you." **Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17; Mark 9:24:**

5. Humility / Not Prideful: The Attitude of Duty

Luke 17 Addresses the pride that ruins Christian service and promotes a life of humble duty.

1. **James 4:6:** "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"
2. **1 Peter 5:6:** "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."
3. **Philippians 2:3:** "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."
4. **Proverbs 16:18:** "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."