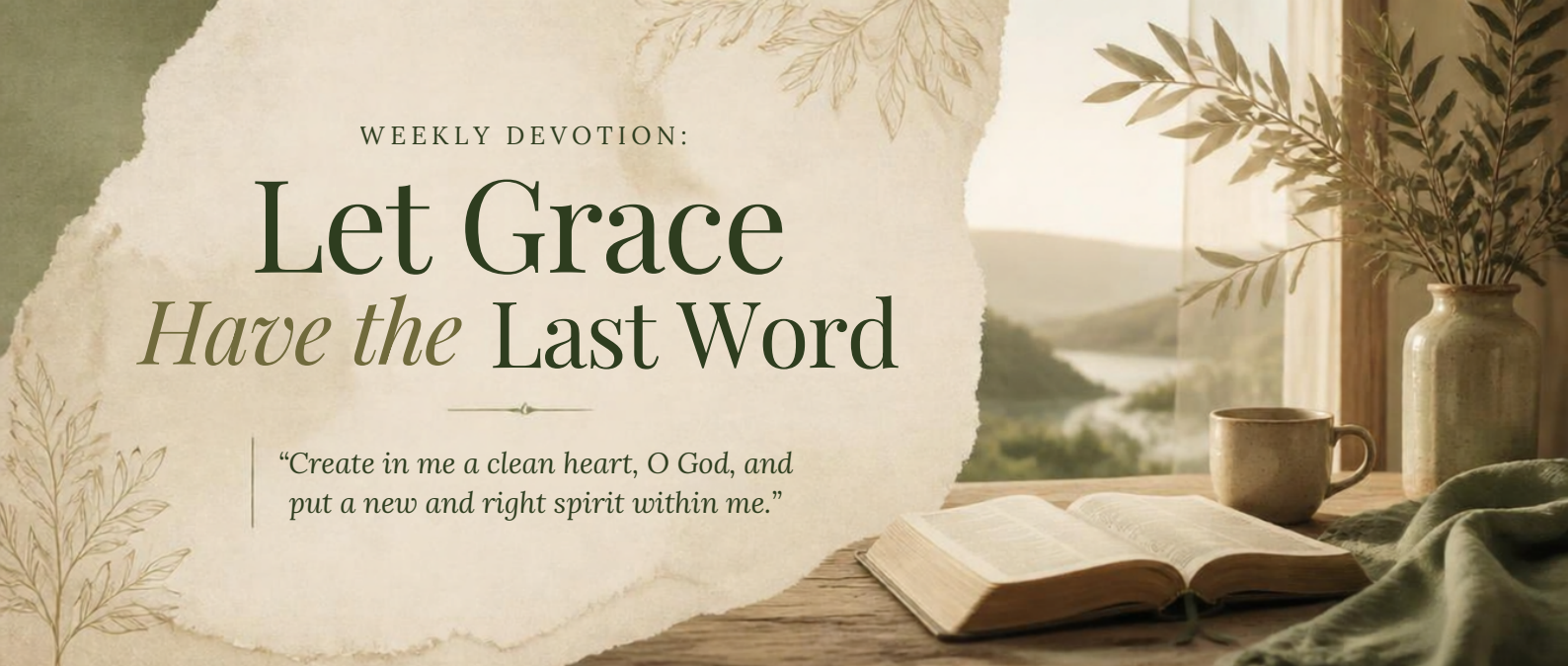




WEEKLY DEVOTION:

Let Grace *Have the* Last Word

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and
put a new and right spirit within me.”

Weekly Devotion: Let Grace Have the Last Word

Scripture: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”

Meditation

God invites us to live truthfully, receive forgiveness, and take the next step toward transformation. We do not need to carry blame that belongs to someone else, nor do we need to punish ourselves for sins we have honestly confessed and placed in God’s hands. Forgiveness is more than release from yesterday; it opens the way into tomorrow. The God who calls us to love our enemies also loves us when we become our own worst enemy. Today, turn around, come home, receive God’s grace, and trust that grace—not guilt, shame, blame, or condemnation—will have the last word.

Prayer

Gracious God, create in me a clean heart and place a new and right spirit within me. Help me tell the truth about my life without blaming others for what is mine or carrying responsibility for what is not mine. Teach me to receive your forgiveness fully and to release the guilt and shame I continue to carry. Give me courage to take the next faithful step, and fill me with the grace to love others and myself. Amen.

Practical Action for the Week

1. **Tell the truth.** Spend a few quiet minutes naming before God one situation you need to acknowledge honestly. Ask for wisdom to accept your responsibility and release what is not yours to carry.
 2. **Receive forgiveness.** When guilt returns about something you have confessed, gently remind yourself: “I have placed this in God’s hands.” Give thanks for God’s mercy instead of punishing yourself.
 3. **Take the next step.** Choose one concrete action that reflects transformation—offer an apology, set a healthy boundary, make amends, seek counsel, or extend kindness to someone who is difficult to love.
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Reflection Question

Where is God inviting you to stop looking backward in guilt and begin moving forward in grace?

Rev. Anna