

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS, April 27-May 2, 2026

Monday, April 27, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Scripture: Psalm 100 – Praise! Praise! Praise!

Ponder: God’s goodness surrounds us everywhere we look, move and have our being. The action words in this short psalm remind us of all the ways we can celebrate the goodness that is ours as God’s own people. Shout! Serve! Know! Enter! Thank! Bless!

Prayer: God of my life, I praise you for all the goodness you put before me daily! Amen.

Action: Choose one of the action words above and use it to praise God throughout the day.

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Scripture: John 20:1–10 – The empty tomb

Ponder: Confusion and hope exist side by side. Resurrection does not erase questions, but invites trust into mystery.

Prayer: Help me trust even when I don’t yet understand.

Action: Notice one sign of renewal or possibility today.

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:1-4 – God’s promise of restoration

Ponder: Leadership isn’t always an easy task. Sometimes leading a group of people can be “like herding cats” – they all want to go in their own direction and you can’t change their minds. Regardless, the leader’s role is to look after all the members of the flock: attend to their needs, keep them together, care for them, don’t make them afraid and don’t harm them. Being a leader is a high calling, and choosing leaders is a high calling.

Prayer: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Action: Who do you consider a wise leader, one who leads like Jesus?

Thursday, April 30, 2026 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Scripture: John 20:19–31 – Thomas and belief

Ponder: Doubt is not rejected; it is met with grace. Jesus honors honest questions and invites relationship, not certainty.

Prayer: Meet me in my questions and draw me deeper into trust.

Action: Name a question you carry and hold it gently rather than judging it.

Friday, May 1, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Scripture: Psalm 31:16 – “Shine your face on your servant; save me by your faithful love!”

Ponder: David knew God was with him, but he still made poor choices that caused himself and others grief. God’s people are human, after all, and we sometimes make poor choices. The beauty of life as a faithful servant of God is that when we do make decisions that disappoint God, ourselves and others, we can go to the Lord with a contrite heart, ask forgiveness, make amends and receive grace upon grace.

Prayer: God, thank You for Your faithfulness and love that save us from ourselves and our enemies.

Action: Make choices that honor God in all you do today. Use the fruit of the Spirit as your guide: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Saturday, May 2, 2026 (by Ashlée Vitz)

Scripture: Acts 9:26–28 (NRSVUE, excerpt)

“They were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas... brought him to the apostles.”

Ponder: Saul’s transformation is real—but the community isn’t ready to trust it. And honestly, that makes sense. Change takes time—not just for the person who has changed, but for the people around them. Enter Barnabas. He sees something others cannot yet see. Or maybe he simply chooses to believe that transformation is possible. And instead of standing at a distance, he steps in. He advocates. He bridges the gap. We all need a Barnabas at some point—someone who believes in the possibility of who we are becoming. And sometimes, we are called to be that person for someone else. To look beyond fear or skepticism and make space for growth, for second chances, for new beginnings. Encouragement is not a small thing. It can change the direction of someone’s life.

Prayer: God of new beginnings, help us to trust the work you are doing in others. Give us the courage to encourage, to advocate, and to make space for transformation. Help us to be people who build bridges, not barriers. Amen.

Action: Encourage someone today—especially someone who may be growing or changing. Let them know you see it.