

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS

February 9-14, 2026

Monday, February 9, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Light for the Path

Psalms 119:105 – “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

PONDER: The word “photography” originates from the Greek, combining *phos* meaning “light” and *graphé*, meaning “drawing” or “writing” – using light to “draw” or create a permanent image. As I’ve immersed myself in the various practices of creating images over the last 60 years, I’ve also been aware of God’s first command in Genesis: “Let there be light.” Light in all its many facets has become the first thing I evaluate when taking any photograph. I have no doubt that God’s Light guides my vision, whether in photographs or the path I walk in life.

PRAYER: God of creation, may the Light I shine for you be good. Amen.

ACTION: Pay attention to the light around you today. How is God lighting your path through trials, conflict, uncertainty? Be assured that in all ways, God’s Light goes before you, from sunrise to sunset and all through the night.

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 (by Ashlee Vitz)

Power in Weak Speech

1 Corinthians 2:1–5 – “When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony^[a] of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.”

PONDER: Paul admits he didn’t come to the church in Corinth with polished rhetoric; he came “in weakness and in fear” so that their faith would rest on God’s power, not on his brilliance. That’s a relief for those of us who feel clumsy in talking about faith or justice or what matters most. God does not need our perfect words to work. Often, the most powerful witness is honest, trembling truth delivered with humility.

PRAY: Spirit of truth, help me trust that you can move through my imperfect words. Free me from the fear that I must be eloquent to be useful. Let your power, not my performance, carry the message. Amen.

ACTION: Take one small risk to speak from your heart today—a gentle faith story, an honest “me too,” or a boundary you need to name.

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Seeing the Face of God

2 Corinthians 4:6 – “For it is the God who said, “Light will shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”

PONDER: Where do you see God’s face around you? Where do you see the face of Christ? Jesus reminds us in Matthew, chapter 25, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” The Spirit of the Divine is in the least, the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the prisoner ... at least

according to Jesus. In a world that is becoming more and more divided, the risks are great. The reward is knowledge and a place with God forevermore.

PRAYER: Holy God, light my way through the darkness. Thank You. Amen.

ACTION: What is God putting on your heart today so that you can ease someone's pain? Resist divisive words and actions as you encounter opportunities to tear down. Be God's Light today.

Thursday, February 12, 2026 (by Marilyn Culler)

Hearing God

Exodus 6:2 – “God also spoke to Moses and said to him, “I am the Lord.””

PONDER: Moses heard God's voice. God has not been silent since the very beginning. Yes, we can seek a holy mountain, or what Celtic spirituality calls “thin places” – spaces where the barrier between the physical world and the spiritual realm are fragile – to see if God will speak to us. I believe God speaks when God chooses, no matter where we are. We have to be open, listening, paying attention.

PRAY: Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening. Amen.

ACTION: Where do you go to feel close to God, to maybe even hear God's voice? Share that place with someone. Even better, take someone there. Spend time in quiet. Listen.

Friday, February 13, 2026 (by Ashlée Vitz)

A Lamp in a Dark Place

2 Peter 1:19 – “So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.”

PONDER: Peter describes the prophetic message as “a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.” Scripture isn't always a floodlight that fixes everything; sometimes it's just enough light for the next step. If your life feels shadowed—by grief, illness, uncertainty, or exhaustion—you don't have to pretend you're in full sunshine. You're allowed to walk by lamplight, trusting that dawn will come but living faithfully in the meantime.

PRAY: God of the morning star, thank you for the dim but steady light of your word. When I long for answers you don't yet give, help me receive the lamp of your presence for this moment. Amen.

ACTION: Choose one short scripture (a “lamp verse”) and write it on a sticky note, lock screen, or index card where you'll see it often.

Saturday, February 14, 2026 (by Ashlée Vitz)

“It Is Good for Us to Be Here”

Matthew 17:4 – “Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.””

PONDER: Peter, dazzled by Jesus' transfiguration, blurts out, “Lord, it is good for us to be here.” He wants to build dwellings and stay on the mountaintop. We understand that impulse. We want to freeze the beautiful moments, avoid the hard valleys below. But Jesus leads them back down into the world of illness, conflict, and ordinary need. God's glory isn't given so we can escape reality; it's given so we can go back into reality with renewed courage.

PRAY: Jesus, thank you for every moment when your presence feels vivid and beautiful. When those moments fade, go with me into the ordinary and difficult places. Let my mountaintop glimpses form my daily faithfulness. Amen.

ACTION: Think of a “mountaintop” experience in your life. Ask: What small, concrete practice can I carry from that moment into today?