how did Jesus make a difference? If we are his disciples as we claim, we follow his direction. He lived in a time of great social and political upheaval, where killings were just as nonsensical and oppression was accepted. The example he set was to help people regain and maintain their connection to God. He healed. He taught. He shared joy. He cried. He moved forward. And so must we – together.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, strengthen me through the power of the Holy Spirit to share life with your beloved children and know that your goodness is available to everyone. Amen.

**ACTION:** Share hope with someone who is also feeling the weight of the world today. Pray together.

Daily Prayer Meditations are a project of Gobin Memorial UMC, Beech Grove UMC, and Brick Chapel UMC in Greencastle, Indiana; Fillmore UMC in Fillmore, Indiana; Rosedale UMC in Rosedale, Indiana; and Grace UMC in Franklin, Indiana.



#### DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS

September 22-27, 2025

Monday, September 22, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler) Acts 4:1-12 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/3y4k7pvx">https://tinyurl.com/3y4k7pvx</a>

**PONDER:** Peter and John were arrested because "something good was done ...." Have you ever done something good and it didn't turn out so good for you? "The name above all names," Jesus, calls us to do good. My grandmother used to say, "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." I think about this a lot when I look on social media and see all the 'not nice' things people say. When we strive to do good through Christ who strengthens us, we find salvation.

**PRAYER:** God of strength and goodness, keep me doing good works even when others don't recognize You working through me. Thank You. Amen.

**ACTION:** Do good for someone today – especially someone who isn't expecting good coming at them.

### Tuesday, September 23, 2025 (by Ashlee Vitz)

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 https://tinyurl.com/em423skj

**PONDER:** Paul's willingness to adapt his approach for the sake of others challenges us to reconsider our own flexibility. True love adapts and meets people where they are. How can you practice compassionate adaptability today?

**PRAYER:** Adaptable God, teach me the humility to meet others where they are, sharing your love in ways they can fully receive. Amen.

**ACTION:** Intentionally adapt your approach or language today to connect meaningfully with someone different from yourself.

## Wednesday, September 24, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler) Luke 20:45-21:4 https://tinyurl.com/235s5jun

**PONDER:** Jesus never seemed to shy away from declaring who was doing the right thing around him. He could see hearts that were deceptive and hearts that were pure. Pride, placing themselves above others, cheating, showing off – they will be judged the most harshly. The poor widow, though – Jesus saw the purity of her heart and her actions. Giving to God with a pure heart, not expecting anything in return – that's salvation.

**PRAYER:** God, help me always give to you out of an attitude of abundance, love and humility. Amen.

**ACTION:** Make an anonymous gift to a local charity organization, an elementary school lunch fund, your church, a friend in need.

# Thursday, September 25, 2025 (by Teddy Shuck) Psalm 91 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/24c3r8mn">https://tinyurl.com/24c3r8mn</a>

**PONDER:** This psalm expresses tranquil confidence in God's protection, using vivid imagery including that of a small bird threatened by a hunter's trap but protected in the next by the wings of its mother. Other threats mentioned are some of humanity's greatest fears, such as war and pestilence. Amid them all, God's protection keeps one safe.

What fears keep me awake at night? What arrows do I fear by day? A friend of mine clued me in on Psalm 91 and I have been grateful every day since.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, I express complete confidence in your protection and I thank you for sending the angels to guard me. Amen.

**ACTION:** When you need strength, try to reach out to God through Psalm 91.

## Friday, September 26, 2025 (by Ashlee Vitz) Ephesians 2:1-10 https://tinyurl.com/h9vebct5

**PONDER:** Grace is a gift freely given, transforming us into new creations, reshaping our hearts and actions. Consider how grace has shaped your life. How can you extend that grace generously today?

**PRAYER:** Gracious Creator, thank you for renewing me through your grace. Let my life overflow today with that same graciousness toward others. Amen.

**ACTION:** Actively extend grace today — offer forgiveness, understanding, or kindness — to someone who may not expect it.

### Saturday, September 27, 2025 (by Lisa Trigg) Romans 12:2 https://tinyurl.com/bdf7kftf

**PONDER:** Have the problems and patterns of this world ever been enough of a downer for you to consider running away to a new place and starting over? Maybe you already have. Or maybe you made changes – you renewed your mindset about how you could be an asset to the world, to your community, family and friends. The other day, when assassination and immigration and illegal detainment were hammering at my brain, I briefly considered moving to an isolated island to live off wild berries and fish. Community, however, does not exist without other people, and God made us to live in community with one another. The big question then, is how can I make a difference with all the problems I see in this world? So the next question became,