



MEDITATING ON THE WORD

**Sermons in Stained Glass
July 2026**

Before You Begin:

The summer time provides a good opportunity to establish new routines or to strengthen routines already in place. In other words, whether you have been studying through these devotionals or are just beginning, now is a good time to be “meditating on the Word”!

This month we will be looking at key biblical figures. Each week we will focus on one – and each biblical character is represented in the stained glass windows of our sanctuary. If you haven’t taken the time to look closely at the windows, examine them and see all the intricate details. We will likewise be looking at the details of the lives of the characters in our sermon series – Stained Glass Sermons. The character we study throughout the week will be the focus of the sermon on Sunday. We will take the time to think through the individual lives and characters in order to apply their lessons. Join us for this exciting journey.

Just a reminder. The key to a growing relationship with Christ is daily time with Him. In the midst of busyness, one can struggle to find time. Make a priority of starting your day in the Word with Him and then find time to read/pray throughout the day. Just as you enjoy time with a friend, you’ll discover the joy that comes from spending time with Christ. Our desire is that we want all to “know Him intimately” and to “grow intentionally.”

Reading Tracker

July 1

July 2

July 3

July 6

July 7

July 8

July 9

July 10

July 13

July 14

July 15

July 16

July 17

July 20

July 21

July 22

July 23

July 24

July 27

July 28

July 29

July 30

July 31

July 1st

Ruth

Ruth 2:19-20

Her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you gather barley today, and where did you work? May the Lord bless the man who noticed you." Ruth told her mother-in-law whom she had worked with and said, "The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz." 20 Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May the Lord bless him because he has not abandoned his kindness to the living or the dead." Naomi continued, "The man is a close relative. He is one of our family redeemers."

Reflect

God was at work behind the scenes even when Ruth may have struggled to see it. What is happening in your life at the present for which you simply need to trust that God is at work?

Prayer

Ask God to open your eyes to see Him at work in your life daily; pray for Him to help you trust Him even when you cannot see the full picture.

July 2nd

Ruth

Ruth 3:9-11

9 So he asked, "Who are you?" "I am Ruth, your servant," she replied. "Take me under your wing, for you are a family redeemer." 10 Then he said, "May the Lord bless you, my daughter. You have shown more kindness now than before, because you have not pursued younger men, whether rich or poor. 11 Now don't be afraid, my daughter. I will do for you whatever you say, since all the people in my town know that you are a woman of noble character.

Reflect

Ruth took a bold step of courage in order to embrace God's plan for her life. Where is God calling you to step forward in faith and with courage?

Prayer

Confess to God your desire to be one who courageously follows Him.

July 3rd

Ruth

Matthew 1:1-5

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 2 Abraham fathered Isaac, Isaac fathered Jacob, Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers, 3 Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered Aram, 4 Aram fathered Amminadab, Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, 5 Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab, Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth, Obed fathered Jesse,

Reflect

Note that God's plan involved Ruth as a part of the lineage of Jesus (long before Jesus was born). How do you feel about being a part of God's working and his plan that can impact generations to come? What do you need to do to make certain you are a part of that plan?

Prayer

Ask God for wisdom to live well today in light of your eternal impact.

July 6th

Jonah

Jonah 1:1-3

1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: 2 “Get up! Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it because their evil has come up before me.” 3 Jonah got up to flee to Tarshish from the Lord’s presence. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. He paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the Lord’s presence.

Reflect

Is there an area in your life where you are resisting or avoiding what God is calling you to do?

Prayer

Ask God to help you stop running, ask for forgiveness, and seek courage from God to obey regardless.

July 7th

Jonah

Jonah 1:15-17

15 Then they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging. 16 The men were seized by great fear of the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. 17 The Lord appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Reflect

God is sovereign and He works in unusual, often unknown, ways. As you reflect back upon previous days, when was a time when you saw God at work in a surprising way?

Prayer

Thank God for His sovereignty and ask Him to help you remember that He is always in control and always active.

July 9th

Jonah

Jonah 3:4-10

4 Jonah set out on the first day of his walk in the city and proclaimed, “In forty days Nineveh will be demolished!” 5 Then the people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and dressed in sackcloth – from the greatest of them to the least. 6 When word reached the king of Nineveh, he got up from his throne, took off his royal robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7 Then he issued a decree in Nineveh: By order of the king and his nobles: No person or animal, herd or flock, is to taste anything at all. They must not eat or drink water. 8 Furthermore, both people and animals must be covered with sackcloth, and everyone must call out earnestly to God. Each must turn from his evil ways and from his wrongdoing. 9 Who knows? God may turn and relent; he may turn from his burning anger so that we will not perish. 10 God saw their actions – that they had turned from their evil ways – so God relented from the disaster he had threatened them with. And he did not do it.

Reflect

How willing are you to repent when God convicts you? What is repentance? What prevents you from repenting?

Prayer

Seek from God a heart that is tender towards His conviction with a willingness to admit sin and to live differently.

July 10th

Jonah

Jonah 4:1-4

1 Jonah was greatly displeased and became furious. 2 He prayed to the Lord, "Please, Lord, isn't this what I said while I was still in my own country? That's why I fled toward Tarshish in the first place. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger, abounding in faithful love, and one who relents from sending disaster. 3 And now, Lord, take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." 4 The Lord asked, "Is it right for you to be angry? "

Reflect

God demonstrates grace and compassion. Do you ever grow frustrated that God demonstrates grace to others who may not be "worthy" in your eyes? Do you show grace and compassion to others? How? To whom do you need to show grace?

Prayer

Ask God to soften your heart towards others. Plead with Him to make you a person of grace and compassion.

July 13th

Moses

Exodus 3:4-6

4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Here I am," he answered. 5 "Do not come closer," he said. "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." 6 Then he continued, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Reflect

Can you remember a time when God "got your attention" so He could speak/encourage you? Are you attentive to God's voice when He interrupts? What do you need to do in order to be more attentive?

Prayer

Pray for God to help you be attentive to Him speaking to you and leading you.

July 14th

Moses

Exodus 3:10-12

10 therefore, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh so that you may lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." 11 But Moses asked God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and that I should bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" 12 He answered, "I will certainly be with you, and this will be the sign to you that I am the one who sent you: when you bring the people out of Egypt, you will all worship God at this mountain."

Reflect

What are you experiencing at the present time during which you need to be reminded of God's presence? What does it mean to you to know that God is with you?

Prayer

Confess to God your weakness and need for Him; ask for His strengthening as you trust Him.

July 15th

Moses

Exodus 14:13-14

13 But Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the Lord's salvation that he will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians you see today, you will never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you must be quiet."

Reflect

The Lord reminded them that He would fight for them? What are you trying to control in your life than needs to be turned over to Him so He can fight for you? What comfort is found in knowing that He is for you?

Prayer

Give thanks to God that He is one who will fight for you. Seek Him to teach you to trust Him more each day.

July 16th

Moses

Exodus 32:11-14

11 But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God: "Lord, why does your anger burn against your people you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and a strong hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians say, 'He brought them out with an evil intent to kill them in the mountains and eliminate them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger and relent concerning this disaster planned for your people. 13 Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Israel – you swore to them by yourself and declared, 'I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and will give your offspring all this land that I have promised, and they will inherit it forever.' " 14 So the Lord relented concerning the disaster he had said he would bring on his people.

Reflect

What is your view of prayer – is prayer powerful, does it make a difference? How often do you pray for others with intent? For whom do you need to commit to pray consistently?

Prayer

Ask God to give you a heart like Moses that prays for others; pray for your friends and family to know God intimately.

July 17th

Moses

Numbers 12:3-8

3 Moses was a very humble man, more so than anyone on the face of the earth. 4 Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "You three come out to the tent of meeting." So the three of them went out. 5 Then the Lord descended in a pillar of cloud, stood at the entrance to the tent, and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When the two of them came forward, 6 he said: "Listen to what I say: If there is a prophet among you from the Lord, I make myself known to him in a vision; I speak with him in a dream. 7 Not so with my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my household. 8 I speak with him directly, openly, and not in riddles; he sees the form of the Lord. So why were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"

Reflect

How can a person be humble and be a leader? Are these contradictory? How does humility shape your life?

Prayer

Seek for God to develop within you a life of humility in which you recognize your role as a servant of Christ and as you seek to care for others.

July 20th

Abraham

Genesis 12:1-4

1 The Lord said to Abram: Go from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you. 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

Reflect

God called Abraham to leave everything and follow Him. That is faith! What area of life is God calling you to trust Him more fully, without worrying about the future?

Prayer

Ask for God to help you live by faith and to grow daily to trust His guidance for your life.

July 21st

Abraham

Genesis 15:1-6

1 After these events, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield; your reward will be very great. 2 But Abram said, "Lord God, what can you give me, since I am childless and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Abram continued, "Look, you have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house will be my heir." 4 Now the word of the Lord came to him: "This one will not be your heir; instead, one who comes from your own body will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "Your offspring will be that numerous." 6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Reflect

God promised Abraham a son. Despite the challenges, he believed God and had confidence in God. Which promise of God do you find most difficult to believe in your current circumstance? Do you trust God and believe in His goodness?

Prayer

Continue to seek God to help you trust Him more. Pray specifically about those areas where you experience doubt and lack trust.

July 22nd

Abraham

Genesis 21:1-7

1 The Lord came to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. 2 Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time God had told him. 3 Abraham named his son who was born to him – the one Sarah bore to him – Isaac. 4 When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God had commanded him. 5 Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. 6 Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, and everyone who hears will laugh with me.” 7 She also said, “Who would have told Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne a son for him in his old age.”

Reflect

God fulfilled His promise, but on His timetable. Is there something that is causing you concern because you are waiting on God’s table? What do you need to do to “wait patiently” for His timing?

Prayer

Seek for God to teach you to wait for Him, to listen intently for His direction, and to be committed to not doing anything without His direction in your life.

July 23rd

Abraham

Genesis 22:1-3, 7-14

1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he answered.
2 "Take your son," he said, "your only son Isaac, whom you love, go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."
3 So Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took with him two of his young men and his son Isaac. He split wood for a burnt offering and set out to go to the place God had told him about.
7 Then Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, "My father." And he replied, "Here I am, my son."
Isaac said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"
8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Then the two of them walked on together.
9 When they arrived at the place that God had told him about, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac and placed him on the altar on top of the wood.
10 Then Abraham reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.
11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" He replied, "Here I am."
12 Then he said, "Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from me."
13 Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.
14 And Abraham named that place The Lord Will Provide, so today it is said, "It will be provided on the Lord's mountain."

Reflect

Abraham was willing to surrender everything. What does it mean to surrender?
What do you find the most difficult to surrender to God?

Prayer

Ask God to help you trust Him more each day and surrender everything to Him.

July 24th

Abraham

Hebrews 11:8-16

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and set out for a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out, even though he did not know where he was going. 9 By faith he stayed as a foreigner in the land of promise, living in tents as did Isaac and Jacob, coheirs of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 By faith even Sarah herself, when she was unable to have children, received power to conceive offspring, even though she was past the age, since she considered that the one who had promised was faithful. 12 Therefore, from one man – in fact, from one as good as dead – came offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and as innumerable as the grains of sand along the seashore. 13 These all died in faith, although they had not received the things that were promised. But they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that they were foreigners and temporary residents on the earth. 14 Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. 16 But they now desire a better place – a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Reflect

Abraham knew that this world was temporary and not his permanent home. Do your priorities and decisions indicate you are more focused on this life or eternity? How?

Prayer

Pray that God would help you live with an eternal perspective on life.

July 27th

Noah

Genesis 6:5-9

5 When the Lord saw that human wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every inclination of the human mind was nothing but evil all the time, 6 the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and he was deeply grieved. 7 Then the Lord said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I created, off the face of the earth, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky – for I regret that I made them." 8 Noah, however, found favor with the Lord. 9 These are the family records of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among his contemporaries; Noah walked with God.

Reflect

Noah remained faithful to God and found favor with God. What changes in your life do you need to make to live totally in favor with God?

Prayer

Pray for God's guidance to help you live each day well and in obedience to Him. Ask Him to cause you to desire His favor more than anything else.

July 28th

Noah

Genesis 6:13-22

13 Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth. 14 "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. 15 This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. 16 You are to make a roof, finishing the sides of the ark to within eighteen inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks. 17 "Understand that I am bringing a flood – floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives. 19 You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. 20 Two of everything – from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds – will come to you so that you can keep them alive. 21 Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them." 22 And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

Reflect

God instructed Noah to build an ark – something never done before. Is there something God is asking you to do which seems impossible? How do you respond to God's directions?

Prayer

Ask God to give you faith to obey always. Pray that you will seek to be obedient even when you do not fully understand.

July 29th

Noah

Genesis 7:1-5

When the Lord said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. 2 You are to take with you seven pairs, a male and its female, of all the clean animals, and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and its female, 3 and seven pairs, male and female, of the birds of the sky – in order to keep offspring alive throughout the earth. 4 Seven days from now I will make it rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing I have made I will wipe off the face of the earth." 5 And Noah did everything that the Lord commanded him.

Reflect

Noah obeyed God in building the ark according to God's plan and he persevered until it was finished. Are you one who perseveres? How can you prepare yourself to complete faithfully what God is calling you to do?

Prayer

Seek for God to strengthen you to remain faithful and to obey always.

July 30th

Noah

Genesis 7:6-16

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came and water covered the earth. 7 So Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives entered the ark because of the floodwaters. 8 From the animals that are clean, and from the animals that are not clean, and from the birds and every creature that crawls on the ground, 9 two of each, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, just as God had commanded him. 10 Seven days later the floodwaters came on the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the vast watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened, 12 and the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 On that same day Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, entered the ark, along with Noah's wife and his three sons' wives. 14 They entered it with all the wildlife according to their kinds, all livestock according to their kinds, all the creatures that crawl on the earth according to their kinds, every flying creature – all the birds and every winged creature – according to their kinds. 15 Two of every creature that has the breath of life in it came to Noah and entered the ark. 16 Those that entered, male and female of every creature, entered just as God had commanded him. Then the Lord shut him in.

Reflect

Noah's obedience impacted his family as well. How might your obedience affect your family or your church family positively? How does disobedience impact those around you?

Prayer

Pray that God would help you be obedient to Him and that He would continue to bless your family and those around you through your obedience.

July 31st

Noah

Genesis 8:20-22

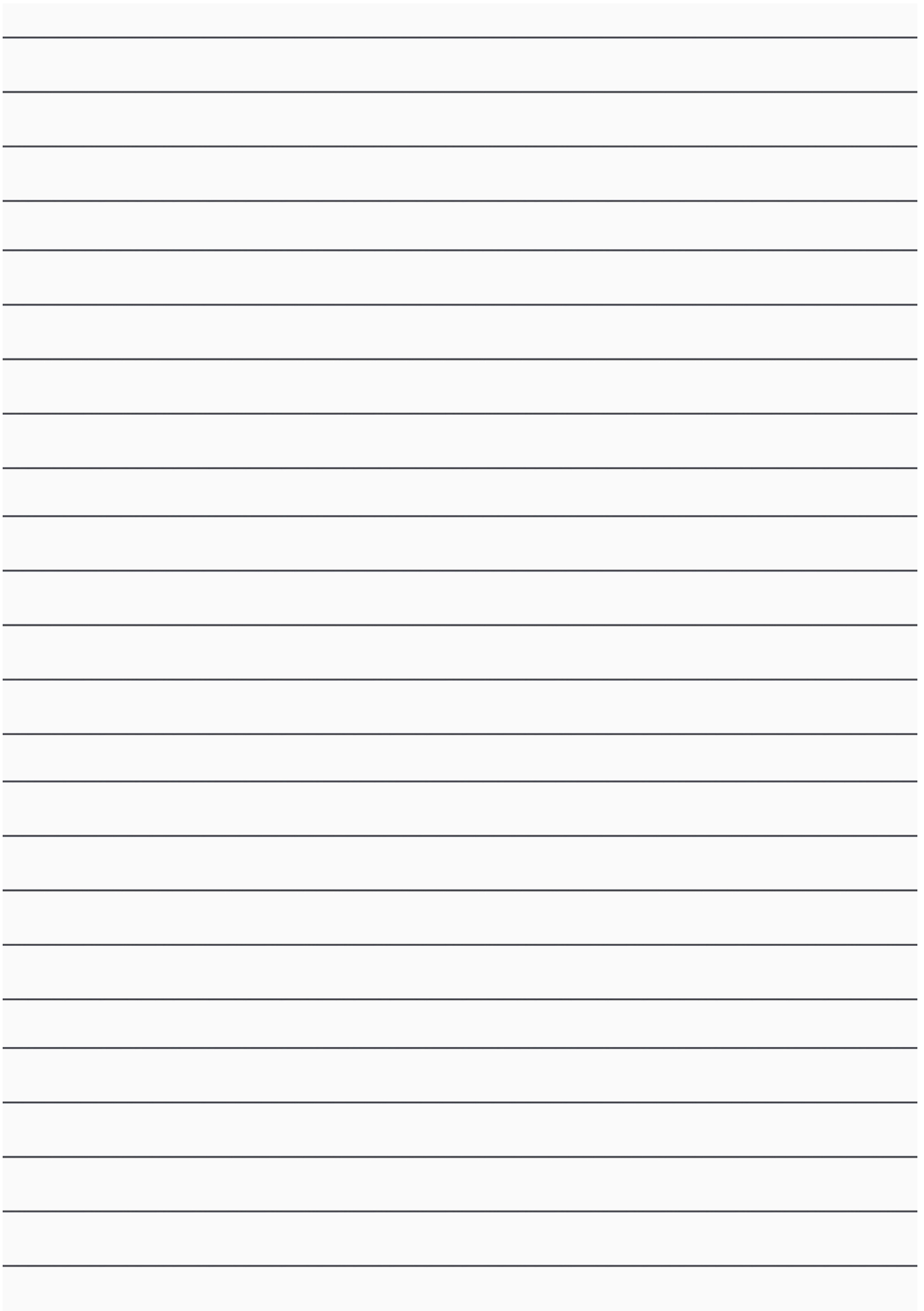
20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord. He took some of every kind of clean animal and every kind of clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 When the Lord smelled the pleasing aroma, he said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of human beings, even though the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth onward. And I will never again strike down every living thing as I have done. 22 As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease."

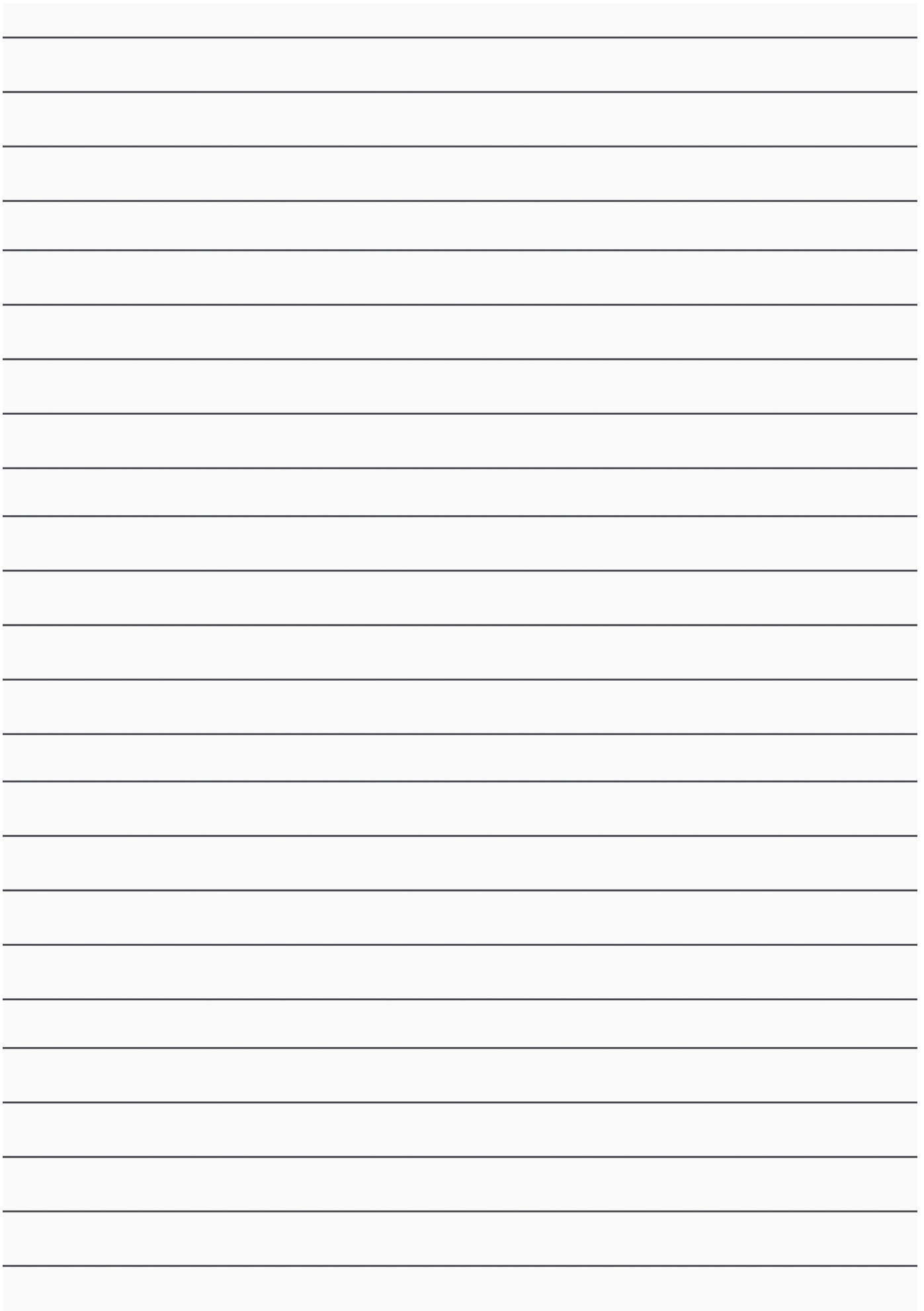
Reflect

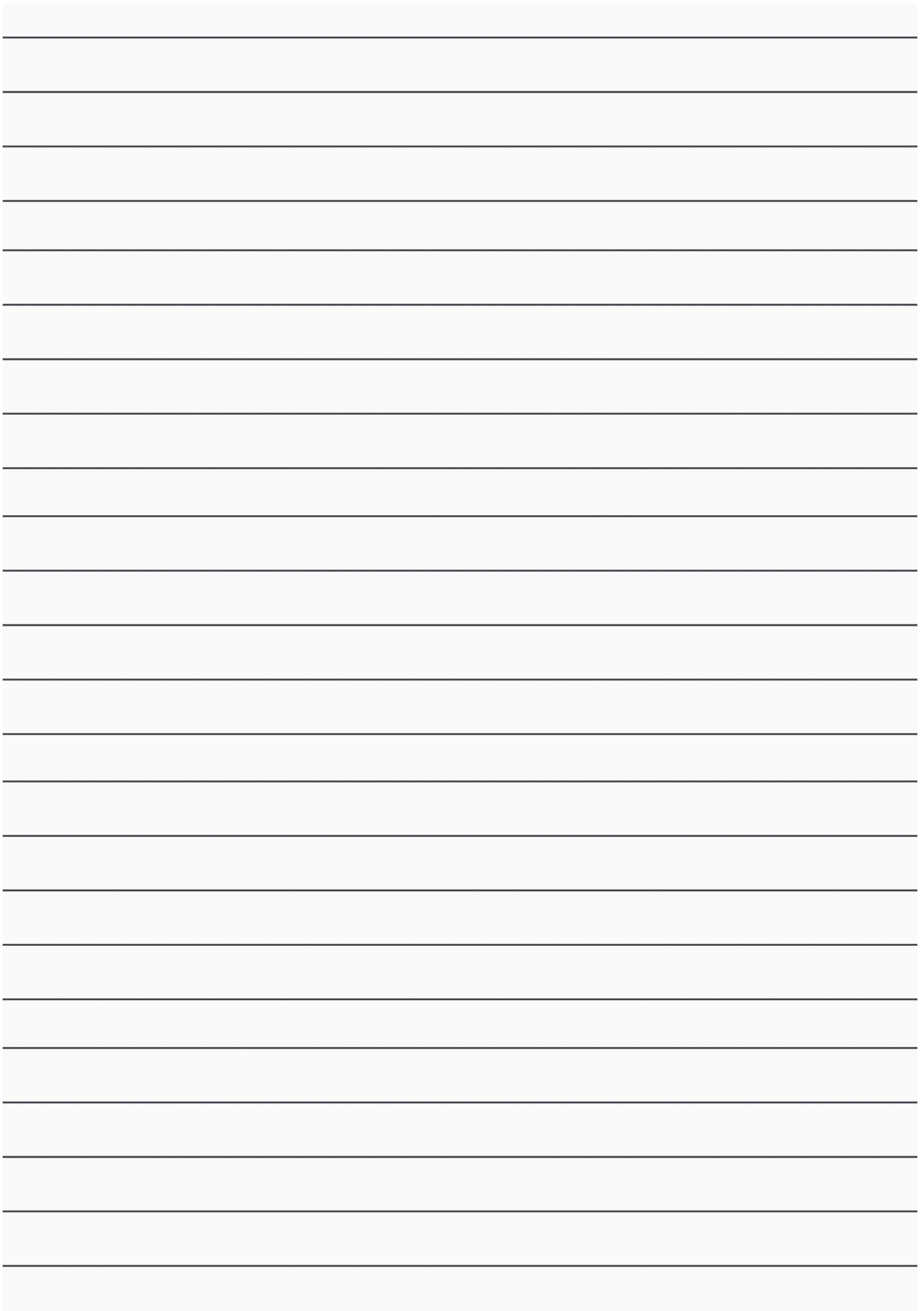
After the flood, Noah worshiped God and God established His covenant with Him. How have you seen God's faithfulness in your life? What promises have come true?

Prayer

Thank God for His faithfulness and ask Him to teach you to trust Him more.









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