

Ipswich International Church

Daily Devotion



Monday 12th May – Sunday 25th May 2025

May 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
18				1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Introduction

Our theme of the glory of God continues as we are continuing to seek Him with a desire to be formed and shaped by His presence and the word of God. For our passages this week we are looking at the different scriptures used with the message on Sunday 11th May. Identifying how we can cultivate a relationship with the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Each day will look at different aspects of living out the glory of God with an increasing emphasis on sacrifice and surrender. As you read the passages you will notice that we are encouraged to be searching our hearts and surrendering all areas of our lives. At times this can be a challenge in that as we continue to press into God, He will highlight areas of our lives in which we have maybe buried or do not want to be revealed. This however is a sign that God wants to be doing deeper and deeper works in our lives and heal areas that we maybe haven't dealt with. It is a sign that the Lord is moving us into greater and greater glories but also that our relationship with Him is being grounded in firm foundations and understanding.

We should be prepared in this week to have a posture of humility and listening as there will be moments in which, we will be challenged and moulded. He will cause us to put into practice the things that we read and are led to implement in our lives.

Let the spirit challenge you where you may need to be challenged, let Him guide you into a greater level and understanding of His glory.

For more context to this weeks devotional and to be reading it in line with the word spoken on Sunday 11th May, I would encourage you to where possible watch back the sermon. You can watch it back on our YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/ipswichinternationalchurch

God Bless

Pastor David Howe

A New Rhythm of Fasting: Mark your Calendar

The Monthly Fast ends with a corporate prayer meeting in the Church Building in
Barrack Corner, Ipswich IP1 2NB, at 7:30pm

Wed, 4 – Fri, 6 June 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
27	30						

Kairos Moment: A time to Pause & Reflect

FRANKLIN GRAHAM

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A life style of worship



Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.



Pauls instruction and urgency for us to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, will probably not be a new concept to many. However there is a foundational truth to Pauls point, that in order for us to be giving true and proper worship it is all of our lives that must be worshipping.

Often when we think of worship we can imagine a mass gathering and songs being sung to God in worship. When we think of this image, it is a correct one as this is a type of worship which we know as praise. But what about living a lifestyle of worship. How can we be living a life of sacrifice but still be living? In John chapter 4, we read of the interaction of the Samaritan woman at the well and Jesus speaking. Jesus says "Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth... God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."¹

For us to be worshipping in Spirit and truth our lives must be fully open to the Holy Spirit, living in an obedience to Him as He leads us daily. It's us seeking to reveal his truth in every situation and allowing our minds and self to be transformed. This then means sacrificing our desires and wants when they do not match that of Gods will. This could even look like being urged by the spirit to pray for someone and we have to sacrifice our insecurity or fear of rejection and offering to pray for them.



What does it look like in your life, to live a life of true worship and sacrifice?



Lord, I choose to worship you with all of my life. Holy Spirit lead me in moments of sacrifice of self, that you would be greater.

¹ John 4:23-24 (NIV)

Breaking up the unploughed ground



Hosea 10:12 (NIV)

Sow righteousness for yourselves,
reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your **unploughed** ground;
for it is time to seek the Lord,
until he comes
and showers his righteousness on you.



As we look at this scripture from Hosea our focus is on the phrase 'break up your unploughed ground.' When thinking of this line we can of course imagine a farm land. However we have to remember that the farm land, he would have seen would have been dry, rocky and hard ground. Think of those wonderful moments when we actually see the sun in the UK and gardens dry up. In order for there to be planting in the ground it must be broken up, but this isn't a quick and easy process but takes time.

What is the purpose for this breaking of the ground, well it is to see righteousness in our lives grow, that we would see fruit be produced in ourselves and others. But the breaking of the ground must take place in ourselves personally and within our communities both in the church and in the world around us.

The ground itself is our hearts and areas of our town where there maybe unreached people, those that have no contact with a believer. How do we break up the unploughed areas of our hearts? We have to be ready to allow the Spirit to highlight areas of our hearts that we maybe have locked away or not let him deal with. This could be past hurts, religious thinking or beliefs, a sense of unworthiness or even hidden sin that others don't know of but He knows.

For our communities its asking the Spirit to lead us to places or people we have not yet reached or developed a relationship with. It could even be a lead of the Spirit to witness to someone we have never witnessed to before.



What areas of my heart are unploughed? Are there areas I haven't allowed the lord to deal with?



Lord, break up the unploughed ground in my heart. Spirit lead me into conversations or places with those that have not encountered you yet.

Seeking Personal Revival



Isaiah 57:15-16 (NIV)

15 For this is what the high and exalted One says—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:
"I live in a high and holy place,
but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite.
16 I will not accuse them forever,
nor will I always be angry,
for then they would faint away because of me—
the very people I have created.



The word revive means 'to come or bring something back to life, health, existence or use'² and revival can be seen to be a stirring or bringing people back to the presence of God in a stronger way than they have known before.

When thinking of seeking a personal revival, our scripture for today reveals what this can look like. Where God, the high and exalted one speaks of being with the contrite and lowly in spirit. This can bring a comfort that the heart of God is to revive each and everyone of us. He desires for us to be in that personal revival as highlighted in Sundays message. That we would be revived in our relationship with Him. That it would not be a mundane relationship but one that is continually alive in Him.

He comes to the lowly and contrite because when we are in that place we are humble, we are ready to confess and repent of our sin. It is from that place that we can come into an obedience and see a daily transformation of Christ in our lives.



Lord, revive us again, bring a personal revival into my life as I seek you more and more.

² As stated in the Cambridge dictionary-
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/revive>

We make sacrifices



2 Samuel 24:24-25 (NIV)

²⁴ But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels^[a] of silver for them. ²⁵ David built an altar to the Lord there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the Lord answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.

This passage in 2 Samuel brings us into a moment where David has been



given a word from God to build an altar in the threshing floor.

Araunah in previous verse has offered to give King David the threshing floor, oxen as offerings and wood to burn. David as King could have accepted these without any cost to himself, given as a gift to the king. But as he says the offerings and sacrifice should cost something.

Previously in looking at our lives being a life of worship and sacrifice we touched on Romans 12:1. This notion of living as a living sacrifice, tied in with the 2 Samuel scripture tells us that being a living sacrifice doesn't come freely. If something is easy to give up or turn away from in our lives is it really a sacrifice? A sacrifice should cost us something, not necessarily a financial cost but it can be something that is difficult. It should be a laying down of oneself, in order to be fully magnifying Holy Spirit and the glory of God in our lives.



What would be a costly sacrifice in your life? Is there something God is asking of you that will cost you?



Lord, reveal what you want me to sacrifice in my life. Show what you would ask of me, that it may bring a cost for me. Let me not give you things that are easy to sacrifice but I seek to unveil everything to you.

We pray with a heavenly understanding.



Matthew 6:9-14 (NIV)

⁹ “This, then, is how you should pray:

““Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

¹⁰ your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.



To say that we should pray when living a life that is in constant relationship with the Spirit would seem rather obvious but it is so true. However sometimes we have to be reminded of Jesus prayer when He teaches the disciples to

pray. The very beginning of this prayer reveals how prayer should be reflected in our lives.

It is that we first and foremost lift up that name of the Lord, declaring who He is. Turning our focus to Him, looking to the heavens rather than beginning by focusing on ourselves, looking inward to what we would want or desire. We are to then seek His rule and reign on our lives and desire for His will to be done on this earth as in heaven.

For us to be praying and declaring that we have to pray from a heavenly place not looking to the things of this earth to satisfy or be in control but to be remembering who we are in the heavenly realm. That we are children of God, seated at the right hand of the father in Christ Jesus, chosen and made righteous through Him. When we pray from that place we see the Spirit moving, we see an ease in praying His will even when it conflicts with ours. As we will not be desiring what we want but what He would desire and we would be seeking to gain understanding of His will and knowledge of it.

? How often are you praying? Are you praying from a place of the Spirit or Human desire?



Lord, lead me to pray with a heavenly mindset. Looking to see your will in every area of life even when that maybe difficult.

We are hungry to encounter God



Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV)

- ¹ As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?



David's Psalm is a song of deep yearning and identifying what the soul longs for. In this Psalm he speaks to the soul questioning why it is downcast? Why is it disturbed? He does this in recognition of an inner turmoil happening within himself, identifying that the soul is longing for the Spirit of God. As you read this Psalm in its fullness we can identify that David is reminding himself that that place he needs to be is in the presence of God, within the Fathers temple in the Holy of Hollies.

This calling and crying out of the soul for the presence of God. Shows us the state of humanity today, that an encounter with God is not something optional for our lives but is what our very soul needs in order that we may live. We can see from the world around us that there is a brokenness, a loss of identity, a confusion of purpose and a searching for something more.

All of these things that is going on in our world can be resolved by living lives that are in a continual encounter with God. In Genesis 2:7 we read that God breathed the breath of life into man. That breath was the Spirit of God, we see later in verse 25 that they were naked and felt no shame. That in Genesis 3, God would walk with man in the garden. We were created to be in the presence of God to be continually encountering Him. This is why our soul pants for God, why we should be hungry for Him. Because without Him we are not living our soul does not have life.

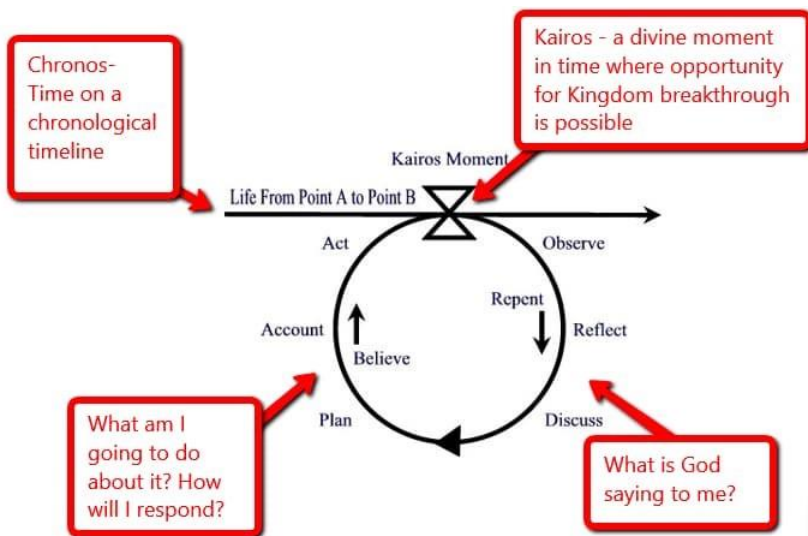


Above everything are you seeking to encounter God? Are you hungering for him?



Lord, may I continue to hunger for you. Stir up a deep desire that is seeking you Lord, seeking to encounter you daily. Let other desires fall to the side.

Pause. Reflect. Process



It's time to pause, reflect, process and act on your week's Kairos moment(s).

This week, _____

Monday 19th May – Saturday 24th May - **Seeking His Glory**

Introduction

As we are continuing to look at the glory of God and how we can devote ourselves to living a life filled with His glory. The focus this week is for us to be actively seeking the glory of God in an intentional way.

With this in mind our normal way of presenting devotional texts have changed, in order that we may have a week of prayer in which we believe you will be able to press into the presence of God. In changing how the booklet is set out we hope that it will enable a greater freedom to find different scriptures to use to pray and for Holy Spirit to direct our prayers more.

Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.”

(Hosea 6:3 NLT)

During this week let us be pressing into the glory of God, with an even greater expectation that we will come into an encounter and transformation in our lives both personally and corporately.

We have set out scriptures for this week that can be used as focal points of prayer each day. As you will see each scripture is about seeking the Lord, with either elements of how we can be seeking Him or what to be seeking, you will see that they are in bold to help emphasis which part of the scripture to focus on. This week will be a brilliant week of pressing in and seeing all that we have been looking at become a greater reality in our lives as we seek the glory of God.

God Bless Minister David Howe.

Scriptures to Help Focus our prayers each day:

Monday 19th May – 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

“if my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves** and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

Tuesday 20th May – Deuteronomy 4:29 (NIV)

“But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you seek him with **all your heart** and with **all your soul**.”

Wednesday 21st May – Psalm 9:10 (NIV)

“Those who know your name **trust** in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.”

Thursday 22nd May – Zephaniah 2:3 (NIV)

Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. **Seek righteousness, seek humility**; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the Lord’s anger.

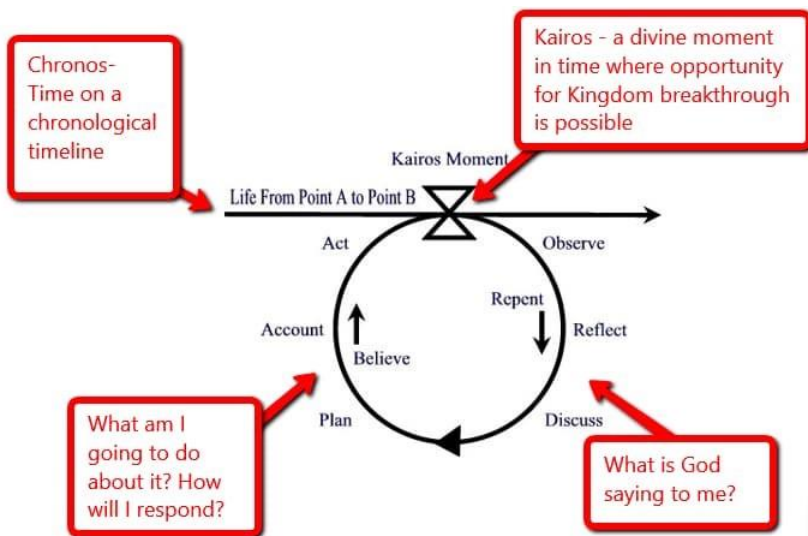
Friday 23rd May – John 7:18 (NIV)

“Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who **seeks the glory of the one who sent him** is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.”

Saturday 24th May – Luke 12:31 (NIV)

“But **seek his kingdom**, and these things will be given to you as well.”

Pause. Reflect. Process



It's time to pause, reflect, process and act on your week's Kairos moment(s).

This week, _____



October 2024 Vision

For months, God has been revealing things to me during worship, though I didn't fully understand them until Sunday morning when everything came together with clarity for Ipswich International Church.

I often sense a mighty Angel of the Lord over the platform, leading an army of smaller angels who move among the congregation, delivering God's instructions. The angel's tasks include comforting broken hearts and grief, and grounding people to the Holy Spirit's healing. Next, releasing provision, where those in need receive from God's abundance, often through others in the congregation. Then, sharing Truth and securing us firmly in Jesus to ensure we remain steady and secure. Lastly, I saw a covering of protection, like the angel's garments stretched over the people, symbolising peace and sanctification.

God is preparing Ipswich International Church for what is to come—not just superficially but in deep wholeness. This preparation is corporate, requiring unity. **"What you have now is one tenth of what I have planned for you to take hold of,"** he says. He is expanding His people's influence in Ipswich and beyond, calling them to replant stakes in new ground.

The church is being established as an epicentre of provision, both physical and spiritual, to release life. God's people must be whole to display His glory in the places He is calling them to.

A member of the Church submitted this vision via email, and it has been condensed for clarity and brevity. We have prayed about it and looked at how God has been leading us over the past few years. We believe it is truly from Him. Now, we share it clearly for everyone. Each of us has a place in what God is saying. Let's seek Him together, trust His plan, and walk forward with faith and unity.



Our Priorities

