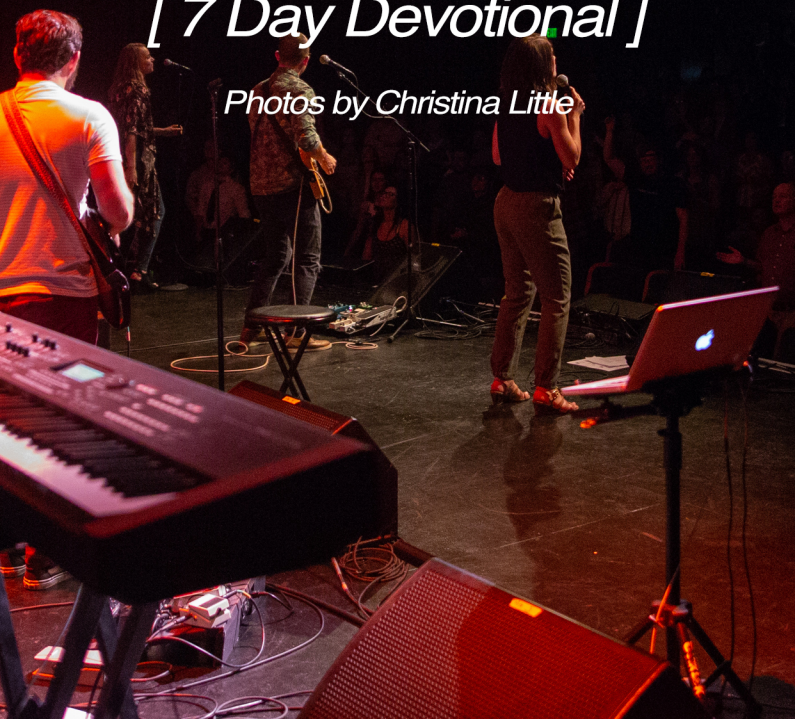


# WHY WE WORSHIP

*[ 7 Day Devotional ]*

*Photos by Christina Little*



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# WHY WE WORSHIP

*Day 1 - He is Holy*

*Day 2 - He has forgiven me*

*Day 3 - He love me*

*Day 4 - When my soul feels dark*

*Day 5 - I need His presence*

*Day 6 - Even in my silence*

*Day 7 - He holds my future*

*In the Bible, the worshippers were often put at the front of the army, marching towards the enemy ahead of everyone else. I love this. To me, this optimizes the power and purpose of worship.*

*Worship declares both to the world and our own soul the truth of God. That He is holy, that He is worthy, and that He has done an amazing work for us.*

*My hope for you as you go through this 7 day focus on worship would be that the Spirit of God would mold your heart into a vessel of worship. I pray you would let go of doubt and fear, and be free to worship, to pronounce the goodness of God to your world and to yourself. Jesus has been so good, and He deserves our worship.*

*Let's lift our voices together.*

*Jordan*







## DAY 1

# HE IS HOLY

If we were to see God there would only be one response, worship. The prophet Isaiah saw the glory of God and fell down like a dead man and Moses was only able to glance as His presence went by. Our God is Holy, mighty and full of goodness. While we may have desires and needs, before those things, we must acknowledge the greatness of God. He holds the heavens, He is the author of life, and in the midst of all that, He loves us.

*Isaiah 57:15*

*<sup>15</sup> For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,  
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:  
“I dwell in the high and holy place,  
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,  
to revive the spirit of the lowly,  
and to revive the heart of the contrite.*

The Holiness of God can lead us to a place of humility and a change our stagnant heart to a worshipping heart. Take today to think on the greatness of God. Think of all He's done. Dwell on His goodness. Let it be the source of your worship.

*1 Samuel 1:1-2*

*<sup>1</sup> And Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the Lord;  
my horn is exalted in the Lord. My mouth derides my  
enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. <sup>2</sup> “There is  
none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there  
is no rock like our God.*

*“Father, I declare that you are Holy. I am reminded today  
that it's by your extravagant grace and kindness that I  
am able to know you and be known by You. Thank you Father.  
I worship you because you are worthy, you are Holy.  
Amen.”*





## DAY 2

# HE HAS FORGIVEN ME

*Micah 7:18-19*

*<sup>18</sup> Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.*

*<sup>19</sup> You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.*

Jesus came to this earth for one reason, to redeem His creation through the forgiveness of sins. God knows everything about you, and still offers forgiveness. Let this be on the forefront of your mind today, that Jesus knew how you would sin and went to the cross to pay the punishment instead of you. We have been forgiven.

*Ephesians 1:7-9*

*<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,*

A picture into how much Jesus loves to forgive His people is seen from His short conversation with the thief of the cross. The thief had lived his entire life away from Jesus, but in his last few moments was changed and transformed forever. Jesus *wants* to forgive us of sins.

*Psalms 103:11-12*

*<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

*"Father, I thank you for your forgiveness and for your grace. Where would I be without the miracle of forgiveness, and who would I be without your mercy? I worship you today as a response to how you love me. I worship you today because you've forgiven me. Amen."*





## DAY 3

# HE LOVES ME

*John 3:16*

*<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Jesus loves me. Is it possible that we've heard this so many different times in so many different ways that it has become less of a big deal. Have you ever just given yourself time to be embraced by the love of Jesus? Has His love entered into your heart yet? Jesus didn't come because it was the right thing to do, He came because He loves us more than we could ever imagine.

*1 John 3:16*

*<sup>16</sup> This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us...*

A picture into how much Jesus loves to forgive His people is seen from His short conversation with the thief of the cross. The thief had lived his entire life away from Jesus, but in his last few moments was changed and transformed forever. Jesus *wants* to forgive us of sins.

*Romans 5:5-8*

*<sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*"Father, thank you for loving me. I don't deserve it and I never have done anything worthy of your perfect love. Even still, you love me, and I worship you. I worship today because you take me as I am, but you don't leave me there. Thank you for your unconditional love.  
Amen."*



## DAY 4

# WHEN MY SOUL FEELS DARK

### *Psalm 34:18*

*<sup>18</sup> The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

The invitation to worship in the midst of pain is a gift. We can be honest with God, we can give Him our complaints. He can take it. As we worship in the midst of a storm, Jesus comes and speaks truth to our souls by His Spirit.

### *Psalm 23:1-4*

*<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

God isn't ignorant to our peril and our pain, in fact the scripture says He is there with us, leading us and guiding us. Sometime life just sucks, sometimes it's flat out terrible, but God is good and He is faithful. Run to God with your pain, with your questions, and with your doubt. Worship isn't predicated upon happiness, it's predicated upon what we believe about God in the midst of darkness.

### *Habakkuk 3:17-18*

*<sup>17</sup> Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls,*

*<sup>18</sup> yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

*"Father, even in the darkness that clouds my life, I will not abandon my heart to despair. I cling to you today and your promise of faithfulness. I need You God, show yourself to me. I'm afraid, I feel alone. I worship you today because even in the dark night of my soul, you comfort me.  
Amen."*





## DAY 5

# I NEED HIS PRESENCE

*Psalm 34:18*

*“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”*

God's presence isn't something we can go without, it is vital to the life of a Christ follower. But God, knowing this, makes His presence a place we find wholeness and a type of joy that surpasses anything experienced from any earthly sources.

*Hebrew 10:19-22*

*<sup>19</sup>Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

“The Presence and the manifestation of the Presence are not the same. There can be the one without the other. God is here when we are wholly unaware of it. He is manifest only when and as we are aware of His Presence. On our part there must be surrender to the Spirit of God, for His work it is to show us the Father and the Son. If we co-operate with Him in loving obedience God will manifest Himself to us, and that manifestation will be the difference between a nominal Christian life and a life radiant with the light of His face.”

A.W. Tozer

*“Father, I don't want to just know you're there, I want to be with you, wherever you may be. Draw me in. Take me past all my hang ups, my doubts and fears. Take me into the Holy of Holies with you. Let me taste the fullness of joy, let me see your face, even if I don't see it out. I worship you because I need your presence.  
Amen.”*



## DAY 6 EVEN IN MY SILENCE

*Habakkuk 2:20*

*<sup>20</sup> The LORD is in his holy temple;  
let all the earth be silent before him.*

God made silence. He was intentional about all the aspects of life, including stillness. We don't silence, we run from it. We hide in busyness, stress, and to-do lists. Today is a day to be still, and marvel at the wonder of God.

*Psalms 46:10*

*<sup>10</sup> Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.*

*Exodus 14:14*

*<sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.*

*Job 37:14*

*<sup>14</sup> Listen to this, Job; stop and consider God's wonders*

Sometimes we get so busy talking that we forget that God really wants to respond to our prayers, but He may be having a hard time getting a word in. Have we made space to listen? Have we made space to worship even in silence? Sitting, driving, walking, but having our heart open and ready to hear the voice of God. Listen to this passage of Zephaniah, remember that God has something to say, and something to sing.

*Zephaniah 3:17*

*<sup>17</sup> The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.*

*"Father, speak. I'm listening. Amen."*





## DAY 7

# HE HOLDS MY FUTURE

*Philippians 1:6*

*<sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

What would it look like if you began to listen to God's word about your future more than any other voice in your life? As we search and tarry through this life, God says that if we would trust Him, He will lead us to a place of purpose and peace. It isn't always free of suffering and pain, but it is never absent from His presence.

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

*<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

*1 Peter 1:3-5*

*<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

You would think that believing in God would make trusting Him with our future easier, but that isn't the case. This is a faith walk, but it isn't blind. God speaks to us through His word. He promises that not only does He have a plan, but He is actively working it out. This is Jesus, He doesn't break His promises and He has a plan for our future. May we commit ourselves to pursuing our destiny in Him.

*"Father, there are times I can't decide whether or not to keep going or to throw in the towel. I thank you, that in the midst of it all, you remain. I trust you with my future, I give you all my plans. I worship you because you hold my future in your hands.  
Amen."*

