

# ALL THINGS NEW

*New*

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17



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**Please note:** Each week in this devotional offers five days of content, Monday through Friday. There are no assigned readings on Saturdays and Sundays, allowing space for rest, worship, and communal life. Guided Prayer and Journaling days are intentionally woven into each week to invite deeper reflection, listening, and personal response to God.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The season of Lent is a high and holy time in the life of the Christian church as we give our attention in a special way to the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on the cross and the glory of His resurrection.

We join saints around the globe in prayer and meditation on the Scriptures. For many, this is also a season of fasting, in which we sacrificially remove something from our daily lives as an act of devotion to seeking and hearing the voice of the Lord.

This devotional book, designed to guide our Lenten experience, can serve as a valuable addition to this spiritual season, offering direction for reading Scripture, prayer, and reflection along the way.

Such an undertaking requires a team effort, and I am ever grateful for the many saints who have come together to achieve this task. Thank you to each of the 18 devotional authors from the Tabernacle Bible Church family who have contributed devotional readings. I also want to thank Sister Veronica Maples and Lady Tearrah Brown, who, along with others, assisted and prayerfully encouraged this endeavor. Thank you to Sister Camille Scott, CEO of The Clarice Desk (<https://theclaricedesk.com>), who once again conceptualized and executed a beautiful print and digital layout and design for this book.

Finally, I must give special thanks and honor to Minister Annie K. Montgomery and Missionary Jamillah Anderson who understood the vision and the assignment and followed through with excellence. To God be the Glory for the things He has done!

In Christ,  
Dr. Kneeland C. Brown  
Pastor  
Tabernacle Bible Church



# INTRODUCTION

## All Things New

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

***2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)***

The blessing of All Things New is described in II Corinthians 5:17. When the Apostle Paul uses the word “therefore”, he is referring back to verses 14-16 where we’re informed that all believers died with Christ and no longer live for ourselves. Glory, Hallelujah! In other words, our lives are no longer worldly; they are now spiritual. Our “death” means that our old sinful nature was nailed to the cross with Christ, buried in the grave with Him, and just as He was raised up from the grave by God the Father, so are we raised up to walk or to live in the newness of life. The new person that was raised up in us is what the Apostle Paul refers to in this devotional theme scripture as a “new creation.”

To understand the new creation means that first, we must understand that it is in fact a creation by God. This “new birth” was brought about by the will of God. We did not inherit the new nature from our parents or decide to re-create or renovate ourselves anew. Neither did God just simply decide to clean up our old nature. Rather God decided to create something entirely fresh and new. This new creation is completely new, brought about from nothing, just as the whole universe was created by God ex nihilo, from nothing. Only God can accomplish such a miracle.

Second, we must know that “old things have passed away.” The “old” refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin, reliance on works, and our former opinions, habits and passions. Most significantly, all the selfishness we embraced has passed away, including the ungodly love of self, self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-justification. As a new creation, we now should look to Jesus Christ, for the old things have been nailed to the cross and have died along with our sinful nature.

As a result, “the new has come!” Old, dead things are now replaced with new things, full of life and the glory of God. The newborn soul delights in the things of God and hates the things of the sinful nature and the world. Our purposes, feelings, desires and understanding are fresh and different. We see ourselves and the world differently. As well, the Word of God seems to us like a new book. Though we may have read it before, there is a marvelous and wonderful beauty about it which we’d never experienced before.

As a matter of fact, the entire face of nature now seems to have been changed. The elders used to sing I know I been changed...the angels in the heavens done changed my name...I looked at my hands and they looked new...I looked at my feet they did too Now there appears to be a new world, where the heavens and the earth are filled with new wonders, and all things now to speak forth the praises of God. There are new attitudes and feelings toward all mankind—a new kind of love toward family and friends, and a new compassion never before felt for enemies. The things once loved, we now detest. The sin once held onto, we now desire to put away forever. We feel enlightened and empowered to put off the old self and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness!

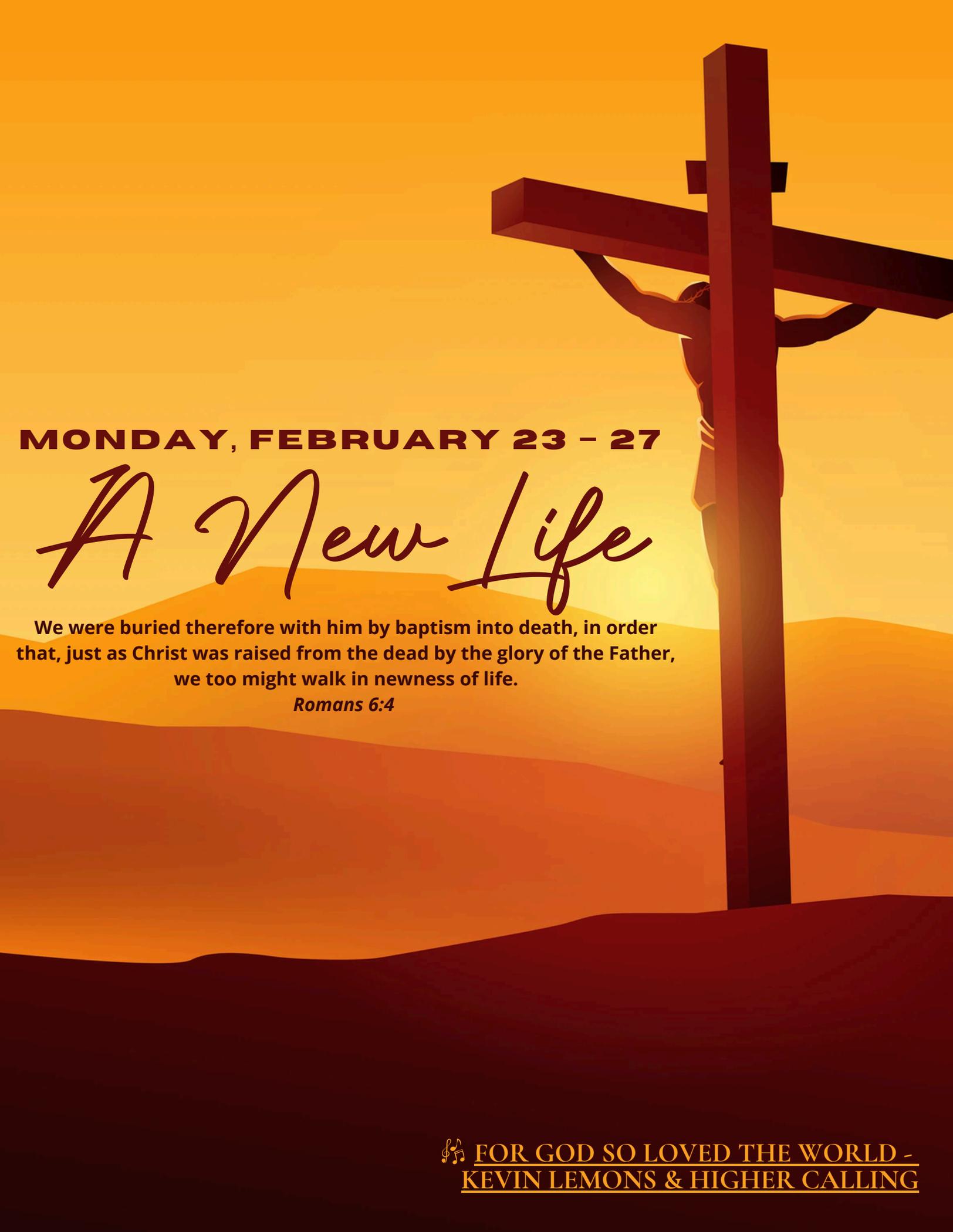
# INTRODUCTION

Although no one reaches sinless perfection in this life, the redeemed are being sanctified day by day, sinning less and hating it more each time we fail. Yes, we still sin, but unwillingly and less frequently as our new creations mature. Our new self hates the sin that still has a hold on us. The difference is that the new creation is no longer a slave to sin, as we formerly were. We are now freed from sin and it no longer has power over us. Now, we are empowered by and for righteousness. Now, we have the choice to “let sin reign” or to count ourselves “dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.” Best of all, Best of all, now we have the power to choose the latter because of what Jesus Christ did for us at the Cross.

I pray you are blessed by this 2026 Lenten Devotional Book. This year, we’ve created space for personal reflection through journaling and introduced a featured song for each week. We encourage you to journal your reflections, revelations, and insights received while meditating on the Scriptures and devotionals, enjoying the weekly song selections, and praying during your personal devotional time.

Love & Blessings,  
Minister Annie K. Montgomery  
Tabernacle Bible Church, Wichita, KS





**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - 27**

# *A New Life*

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

*Romans 6:4*

 FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD -  
KEVIN LEMONS & HIGHER CALLING

# Permanent Transformation Through Christ

*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)*

“Who is man that you are mindful of him?” I have been thinking about that a lot as I’ve come into a deeper understanding of God’s transformative power. Who are we that God, who created the heavens, moon, and stars, has such love for us—humans born into and living with the regrets of sin?

And yet, through Him, new life is offered. We’re His children, made in His image. As a new parent, I’m learning that even though our babies may look us in our eyes and do exactly what we tell them not to, our love for them never wavers. Each day with them is a beginning again. Similarly, even when we turn from God, He doesn’t turn from us. Many of us carry the weight of choices that once convinced us we are beyond restoration—but God’s love created a way back through grace.

Jesus is the way. He took on our sins and shed His blood so that we may die to our former selves and rise again, permanently transformed. Our sins are not merely buried, but forgiven, making even the worst of sinners a testimony of redeeming love. No life is beyond His reach.

During this season of Lent, we take time to think about God’s powerful love. It is a love that can truly change us. Because of His grace, we do not have to be held by our past. God invites us to let go of what has been and move forward into what He is still doing in our lives. As we do, may our stories become a way to share His grace and help others see the hope found in Him.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Kelsey Haynes, TBC Member for 1 year**



# *Transformation: A Spiritual Awakening*

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

*Romans 12:2 (KJV)*

Like a moth emerging from its cocoon, we, as followers of Christ, undergo a transformation to align with God's will. Taking up the cross and following Jesus daily is challenging. Practicing humility, being slow to speak, and quick to listen are key aspects of spiritual growth. We must always remember that we are imperfect beings serving a Perfect God.

During transformation, we should pray constantly as we seek God's will. We must cast our cares to the Lord, recognizing we cannot resolve anything without Him.

Transformation involves not only letting go of the old, which is dead, but also embracing the new spiritual awakening for your soul. Your walk will change, and your words will reflect life rather than the world's negativity.

The transformation is evident; old friends will notice you're different. They might avoid you or seek to learn your secret. Christ is the agent who has redirected my mind toward righteousness.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**John Bridgewater, TBC Member for 2 years**

**Security Ministry**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Define your understanding of a new life in Jesus Christ from this scripture. After asking for the Holy Spirit's help, write down one to three goals that you would like to achieve.

## Guided Prayer

Father God, I ask for Your strength to walk in this "newness of life". Transform me as You see fit so that I may reflect Your love and grace. When temptation comes, remind me that I am dead to sin and alive in Christ. Guide my steps today to live in a way that is worthy of my calling.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

**A Note on Journaling:** *Journaling is simply writing down your thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences to support reflection, clarity, and emotional processing. This is a private and personal practice. There is no need for perfect handwriting or carefully chosen words. All you need is a willingness to show up as you are.*

*Grab a pen and paper, spend time with God, and keep your journal nearby. You can even tuck it into your Bible so that when you are ready to move from one devotion to the next, your thoughts and reflections are right there, ready to guide you.*

**A Note on Guided Prayer:** *Guided prayer invites us to slow down and listen. You may follow the prayer as written, pause for silence, or allow the words to lead you into your own conversation with God. Trust that God meets you in this time.*

# No Cross, No Crown

*We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

*Romans 6:4 (ESV)*

Lent is a season of dying before it is a season of celebrating. Before Easter morning joy comes the quiet darkness of the tomb. In Romans 6:4, the apostle Paul reminds us that the Christian life is not just about believing in Jesus' death and resurrection — it is about participating in it.

We follow Christ's example in our own death, burial, and resurrection. We die with Him through repentance. Paul says we are crucified with Christ. We die to our selfishness, ego, and our own will. In 1 Corinthians 15:31, Paul writes, "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily". This phrase signifies a daily, voluntary, and intentional surrender of selfish, egotistical, and worldly desires to live for Christ.

We are buried with Christ through baptism. To be "buried with Him" is not poetic exaggeration. Burial is final. It marks the end of something. During Lent, we are invited to name what needs to be buried in us: pride, bitterness, hidden sin, self-reliance, fear. We do not manage these things — we surrender them. We lay them down with Christ. When we go down in the water, it symbolizes the end of the natural person or the flesh. "The flesh" represents an internal, selfish nature that resists God and leads to sinful actions. Yet burial is not the end of the story. Paul ties our burial directly to resurrection. Just as Christ was raised "through the glory of the Father," we too are raised — not merely someday in eternity, but now — to "live a new life." Lent is not self-improvement. It is resurrection living. It allows God's glory to awaken new desires, new obedience, and new freedom in us. When we rise out of the water, we enter into a newness of life.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Minister Kevin G. Alford, TBC Member for 40 years**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

List 7 truths about who you are in Christ Jesus (for example - loved, forgiven, redeemed, etc.) based on scripture. Then identify a time in your daily walk when Christ Jesus proved that you are who He says you are in Him.

## Guided Prayer

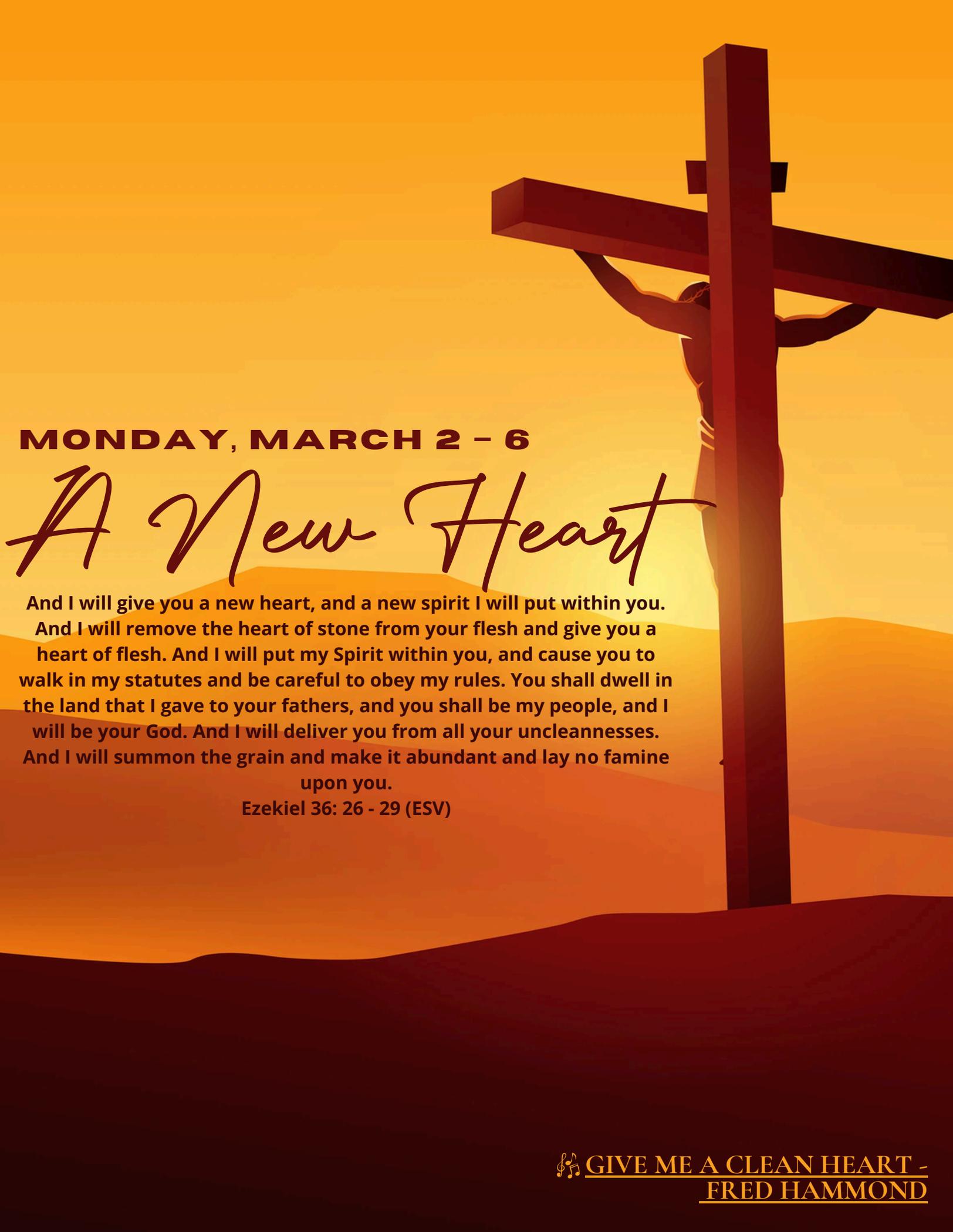
Heavenly Father, I come before You in the Name of Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit thanking You for the gift of a new life. I lay down my old life, my worries, and my past sins at Your feet. I ask for Your forgiveness and thank You for Your unconditional love. Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in your sight O Lord my Strength and my Redeemer.

Amen.

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**MONDAY, MARCH 2 - 6**

# *A New Heart*

**And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.**

**And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you.**

**Ezekiel 36: 26 - 29 (ESV)**

## Walking with a New Heart

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-29 (ESV)*

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.” God has always been faithful to his people. He does not wander from us; we wander from him. Through Jesus we have a path to renewal. He promised us that we shall dwell in the land that He gave our fathers, and we shall be His people. God alone can deliver us from sin.

A new heart in Christ is not just about a moment, it is about a new direction and a daily journey. My old heart chased the desires of the world but my new heart strives to be more like Christ. My new heart moves by faith, dependence, humility, obedience, and love. Romans 6:4 reminds us that we are raised with Christ to live a new life.

A hard heart resists conviction and will grow distant from the Lord. God creates a new heart in us that renews a right spirit within us. This is not self-improvement; it is divine replacement. It is not behavior modification; it is spiritual regeneration. “Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.” Hebrews 3:15

Each morning is a new opportunity to allow the Lord to guide my steps, my thoughts, and my actions, and my heart. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, old things have passed away.

### **Devotional Contributed By:**

**Evette Washington, TBC Member for 22 years**

**Deaconess Ministry**



# God Says We're Worthy

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Psalm 51:10*

I grew up listening to and singing, Give Me a Clean Heart by James Cleveland. One powerful sentence in the song says, "Lord fix my heart, so that I may be used by Thee." This one sentence makes me reflect on a prayer written by David after he sinned, Psalm 51:10 says, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me".

David knows he cannot fix himself, so he asked God to create a new, pure heart inside him. It's a request for inner cleansing, not an outward behavior change. Ezekiel 36:26 says, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh".

When connecting Psalm 51:10 and Ezekiel 36:26, we see they are beautifully tied together. One is a personal prayer, the other a prophetic promise. David is asking for a clean heart, God promises a new heart. David is asking for a right spirit, God promises to put His spirit within us. David is asking for personal forgiveness, God cleanses from all unrighteousness. Psalm is the cry, Ezekiel is the answer. If you need an answer, pray like David did and God will give you a new heart and a new spirit.

In simple terms, we are worthy and God promises to forgive, renew and transform us all.

## **Devotional Contributed By:**

**Tina L. Graham, TBC Member for 3 years**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

What emotional, mental, or past experiences am I ready to let go of to make space for a new heart?

## Guided Prayer

Heavenly Father, I come before You, acknowledging that You are the Creator of all things and nothing is too hard for You. Thank You for the promise! My desire is that you would give me a new heart and a new spirit.

In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

**A Note on Journaling:** *Journaling is simply writing down your thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences to support reflection, clarity, and emotional processing. This is a private and personal practice. There is no need for perfect handwriting or carefully chosen words. All you need is a willingness to show up as you are.*

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## Restore My Heart

*And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations. 28 And you will live in Israel, the land I gave your ancestors long ago. You will be my people, and I will be your God. 29. I will cleanse you of your filthy behavior. I will give you good crops of grain, and I will send no more famines on the land.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-29 (NLT)*

All little girls want to be their father's little princess. Unfortunately for me I never experienced being called daddy's princess, not because he passed away, but because he chose not to be a part of my life. It was not until recently that I realized how much this rejection affected me. Broken promises, disappointment, and the weight of shame has left me with a wounded heart. It has caused me to be guarded in my personal relationships as well as my relationship with God. I have always felt that I wasn't good enough. When asked to do this devotional, I questioned if I was equipped for this, but I knew if God chose me, there had to be a reason.

Through the prophet Ezekiel, God speaks hope to people who felt far from Him. They had failed, wandered and lost their way, but God's response was not rejection - it was renewal. A new heart means new desires, new compassion, and a restored sensitivity to God's presence.

Instead of rejecting me, God has shown me that He loves me despite my wounded heart. He is teaching me to release the self-doubt, the bitterness from disappointment, and the shame I carried for so long. In their place, He is filling me with His joy, giving me new desires, building complete confidence in who He says I am, and surrounding me with His perfect peace. He is creating in me a clean heart and renewing His Spirit within me, one that uses its wounds as motivation, not discouragement.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Brenda Garnes, TBC Member for 1 year**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Identify "stony" spots in your heart (for example - unforgiveness, anxiety, pride, etc) and write a letter of confession to God and ask Him to remove those "stony" spots. All because you desire to have a "heart of flesh" pleasing and acceptable to God.

## Guided Prayer

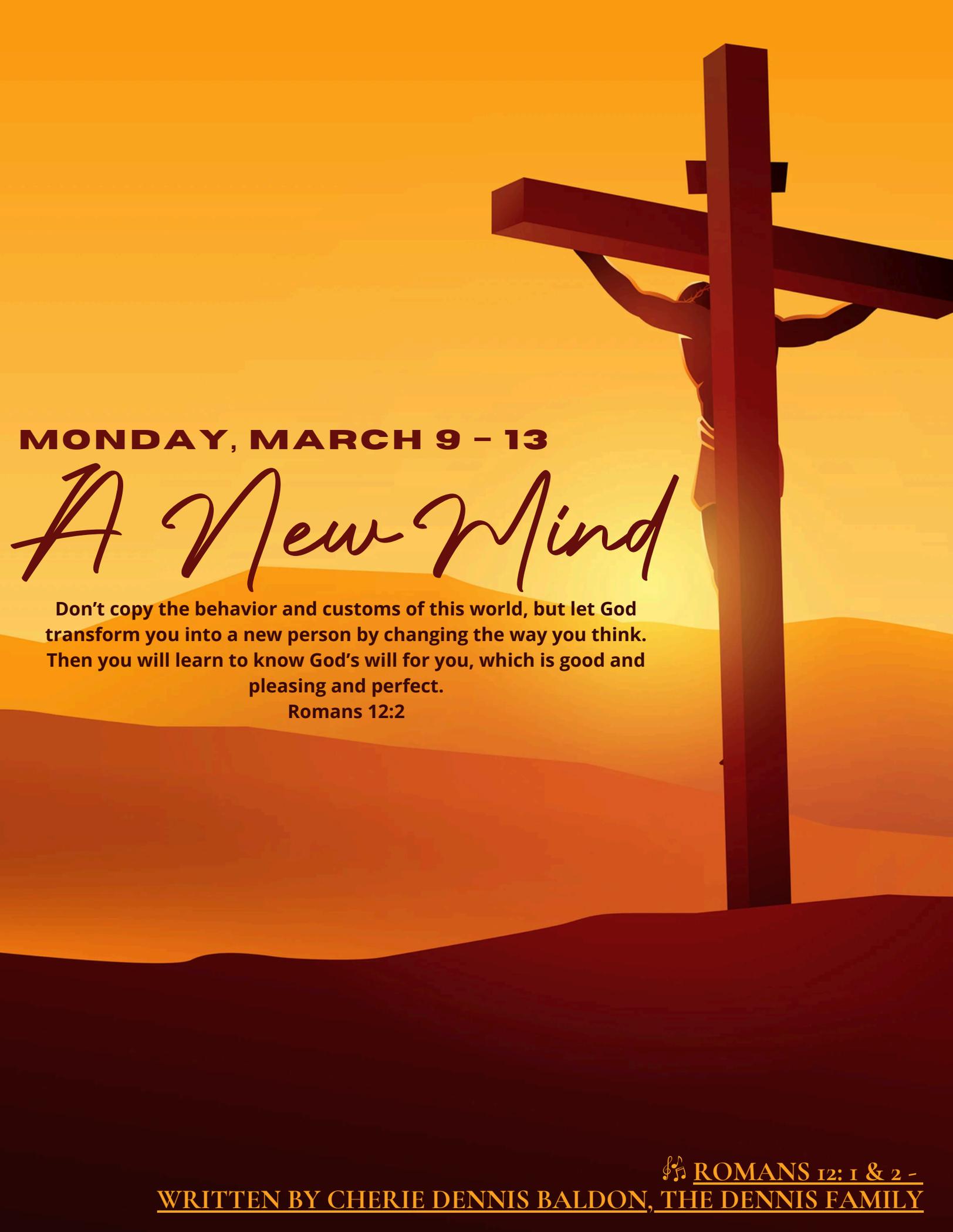
Lord, I pray that you would wash me clean from my sinful impurities...create in me a clean heart. And then O God please renew, revive and restore a right spirit within me. I ask all this in the saving Name of Jesus Christ so that I may be used to Your Glory.

Amen.

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**MONDAY, MARCH 9 - 13**

# *A New Mind*

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2

# What Has Your Attention?

*Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

*Colossians 3:2 (KJV)*

Some moments in life hit us out of nowhere: a diagnosis, a job loss, or an unexpected phone call. I call these Battle for Attention Moments, or BAM. Life is going along just fine, and then BAM, something shifts, competing for our focus.

When life feels uncertain, my thoughts start to race. I tend to fill my days to avoid the quiet. But God reminds me that I need to listen for His voice. When I quiet my mind and focus on His Word, distractions and worry are replaced with truth, wisdom, and peace.

Colossians 3:2 says, "Set your minds on things above." That word set is intentional. Our minds will inevitably fix on something, given that we have over 6,000 thoughts a day. The question is, where are our minds pointed? Like a flashlight in a dark room, what we shine on grows clearer. Shine it on fear, and fear looks huge. Shine it on God's truth, His love, and His promises, and that grows brighter.

Consider this: the first words Jesus spoke to His disciples after His resurrection were "Peace be with you" (John 20:19, 21). He died and rose so we could have peace. Even when life hits hard, we can focus on Him, knowing Jesus has already won the battle for our minds and hearts.

A new mind doesn't make challenges disappear. It helps us see life through Christ's perspective. No matter how hard they hit, those BAM moments cannot win when our minds are set on Christ.

## **Devotional Contributed By:**

**Evangelist Missionary Jamillah Anderson, TBC Member for 2 years**



## *Renewal of the Mind: Changing the Sweater*

*Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

*Romans 12:2*

Looking in the mirror, you see that your sweater has become worn and faded through use. Recognizing its condition, you ask yourself, "Should I get rid of it? And if I do get rid of it, can I afford to buy another one?" No matter how the questions are answered, you have to make a choice.

There comes another day when you look into that same mirror and find yourself looking just like that sweater, tired and exhausted, beaten up by the circumstances of life. You realize that just as you had to change that old sweater, you must also make a choice to change your life from the old self to the new self. Rather than looking at yourself through your own mirror, it is time to see yourself through God's mirror, His Word.

Romans 12:2 says we are not to copy the behaviors and customs of this world, but to let God transform us into a new person through the renewal of the mind. By reading and studying His Word, you are reminded that God is ever present and that He loves you so much that while you were still a sinner, His Son Jesus died for you.

Through the instruction and guidance of the Holy Spirit, you learn how to think and behave as His child. You learn to forgive yourself as well as others. You learn to praise God in the middle of the problem.

Just as changing the sweater gives you a new look, God's transformation of your mind brings about a new perspective and a servant's heart.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Gwen Tuggle, Legacy Member, TBC Member for 68 years**

**Associate Ministers Ministry and Care Groups Ministry**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

List 3 thoughts or beliefs that don't align with God's Word. Then write how you can replace each one with a truth from Scripture.

## Guided Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for renewing my mind through Your Word. Help me to take every thought captive and align it with Your truth. Guard me from deception and the lies of the enemy. Let Your wisdom and understanding guide my decisions and transform the way I think each day.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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## Between Your Ears

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*  
Romans 12:1-2

Growing up, I often heard my father tell my brother before his basketball games, "Son, the game is played between your ears." He understood that while talent and preparation matter, mindset determines everything.

If you walked in discouraged or defeated in your thinking, it would show. If you allowed one mistake to take over your mind, it would affect everything that followed. As I have grown older, I have realized that truth reaches far beyond sports.

In Romans 12:1-2, Paul urges us to present ourselves to God and to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Transformation does not begin with behavior. It begins in the mind.

What we think shapes what we believe, and what we believe shapes how we live. So the real battle is often in our thought life. We rehearse failures. We replay disappointments.

We allow old identities to define us.

But in Christ, we are not defined by our past. God makes us new, and that new life begins with renewed thinking. We cannot carry an old mindset into a surrendered life, and we do not have to. Christ first surrendered Himself for us.

He surrendered His body so that our minds could be renewed. Because of what Jesus did on the cross, we are free to stop rehearsing shame and start living in truth. When Christ renews our minds, our lives begin to reflect Him. We forgive more freely, trust more deeply, obey more faithfully, and live not for ourselves, but for Christ.

That kind of life begins "between our ears."

**Devotional Contributed By:**  
**Jamai (Montgomery) Barnes, TBC (life member)**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Reflect on a recent situation where your mind was anxious or negative. How could God's truth have reshaped your response? Write down a Scripture that could guide your thoughts for when that type of thought resurfaces.

## Guided Prayer

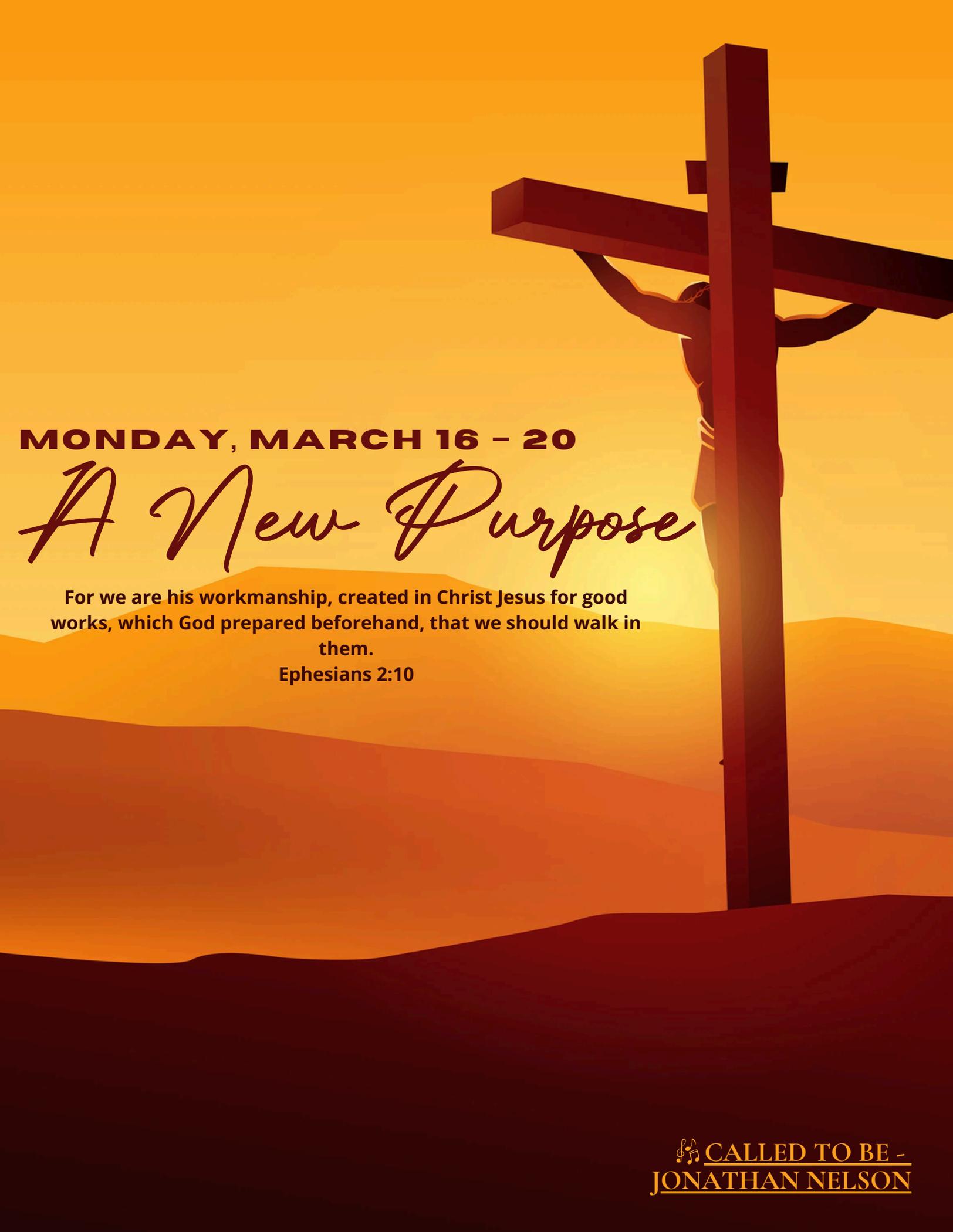
Lord, I surrender every mental burden and worry to You. Teach me to meditate on things that are pure, lovely, and praiseworthy. Fill my mind with Your truth so I can experience peace, clarity, and Godly perspective.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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*Grab a pen and paper, spend time with God, and keep your journal nearby. You can even tuck it into your Bible so that when you are ready to move from one devotion to the next, your thoughts and reflections are right there, ready to guide you.*

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**MONDAY, MARCH 16 - 20**

# *A New Purpose*

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

## *God's Masterpiece*

*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them*  
*Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)*

Like many people, I'm a fan of the arts: Music, Poetry, Paintings, Sculpture, Drawings, Photography, Culinary, Literature, Theatre, Architecture, Dancing, Spoken Word, etc. I deeply admire and appreciate how God has given some people unique artistic ways to express themselves through The Arts. I love that The Arts speak to each of our five God-given senses: touch, sight, hearing, smell and taste. However, I think there is a sixth sense that God has given believers - it is spiritual and it comes by way of spiritual gifts assigned by the Holy Spirit.

In Ephesians 2:10, the Apostle Paul is reminding all of us who have received God's gift of salvation that we are His finest, best and most valuable work created anew in Christ Jesus for a new purpose so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

When the Apostle Paul says that in Christ Jesus, we are God's workmanship, he is saying that we are God's Masterpiece, skillfully and beautifully crafted. Our life in Christ is a work of supernatural artistry! In other words, you and I are fearfully and wonderfully made. You and I are a reflection of the Master Artist - God Almighty, the Author of beauty, wonder and grace. I can identify with the Psalmist "I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Thy works, and my soul knows it very well" Psalm 139:14.

When Jesus died on the cross to redeem us, His redemption wasn't solely an act of God's love. On the cross, God was signing His most remarkable Masterpiece (you and I) with the blood of Jesus Christ who died so that we can live forever...so that we can walk worthy of our calling...worthy of our new purpose!

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Minister Annie K Montgomery, Legacy Member, TBC member for 50 years**  
**Associate Ministers Ministry, Women's Ministry aka The Sisterhood,**  
**Spiritual Gifts Training Ministry, and Care Groups Ministry**



# Parenting with a Purpose

*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion  
at the day of Jesus Christ.  
Philippians 1:6 (ESV)*

As parents, we navigate life the best way we know how—sometimes uncertain if what we are doing aligns with what is right in the eyes of God. Life can sweep us into its constant hustle and bustle, and before we know it, we may lose sight of our greater purpose. In those moments, we seek God for guidance, praying that He is pleased with how we are raising the children He entrusted to us.

As a single mother raising an African American young man in today's society, I have watched my son face immense challenges—pressures to fit in, the temptation of gang affiliation, expectations about appearance and identity, and the heartbreaking pain of losing friends to senseless gun violence. In those moments of fear and uncertainty, I have prayed and asked God, "What would You have me do as a mother that would be pleasing to You?"

I have come to understand that my greater purpose is not simply to protect my son from the world, but to prepare him for it. My purpose is to lead and guide him to God. To teach him to make wise decisions. To help him develop discernment and discover God's divine purpose for his life.

I recognize now that my overall purpose as a parent is clearly outlined in Proverbs 22:6: to train up a child in the way he should go, trusting that when he is older, he will not depart from it.

Parenting never truly ends, but our responsibilities evolve. As my relationship with my son matures, my purpose shifts from constant instruction to intentional trust—trusting that what I have instilled in him will guide his steps as he journeys into adulthood. Parenting with purpose means surrendering control while holding onto faith. It means trusting that God loves our children even more than we do—and that He is faithful to complete the work He has begun in them according to Philippians 1:6.

**Devotional Contributed By:**  
**Amber Pruitt, TBC Member for 42 years**  
**Young Adult Ministry and Helps Ministry**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Identify one area where you have been hesitant to pursue God's calling. Write how you can take one practical step this week to move forward in faith.

## Guided Prayer

Father God, thank You for calling me to a unique purpose. Reveal to me the plans You have prepared for my life. Give me the courage to step into the assignments You have for me, and let everything I do bring glory to Your Name.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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**A Note on Guided Prayer:** *Guided prayer invites us to slow down and listen. You may follow the prayer as written, pause for silence, or allow the words to lead you into your own conversation with God. Trust that God meets you in this time.*

## *A New Revelation of Purpose*

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

*Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)*

For years, my identity was tied to a role, a relationship, and a rhythm of life that made sense—until it didn't anymore. Transitioning out of a twenty-year marriage brought the kind of pain that touches every layer of a person: emotional strain, financial uncertainty, loneliness, and the unsettling question—"Who am I now?"

In the quiet places of prayer and in the discipline of fasting, I have learned that right now, my purpose is to rebuild myself with love and to serve myself from a place of wholeness. To be able to do this, I had to take time to focus on me. For the first time in a long time, I took the opportunity to improve my mental well-being. In therapy sessions is where truth met healing. I relearned myself, the woman I was becoming, and it allowed me to see my value again.

There's something deeply comforting in knowing that God sees the value in you because He placed it there and that He did not create me by accident. Reminding me of the scripture Psalm 30:5, "Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning."

The night may last. Sometimes longer than we'd like. But morning always comes. Joy is not found in returning to who you were. Joy is found in becoming who God is shaping you to be.

I rediscovered that I am God's workmanship — handcrafted, intentional, uniquely formed. I am not what I lost. I am who God is restoring. And restoration is Holy work.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Khajriyah Adkins, TBC Member for 38 years**

**Hospitality Ministry**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the purpose God has placed in your heart. Write down the ways He has gifted you and one step you can take this week to walk in that purpose.

## Guided Prayer

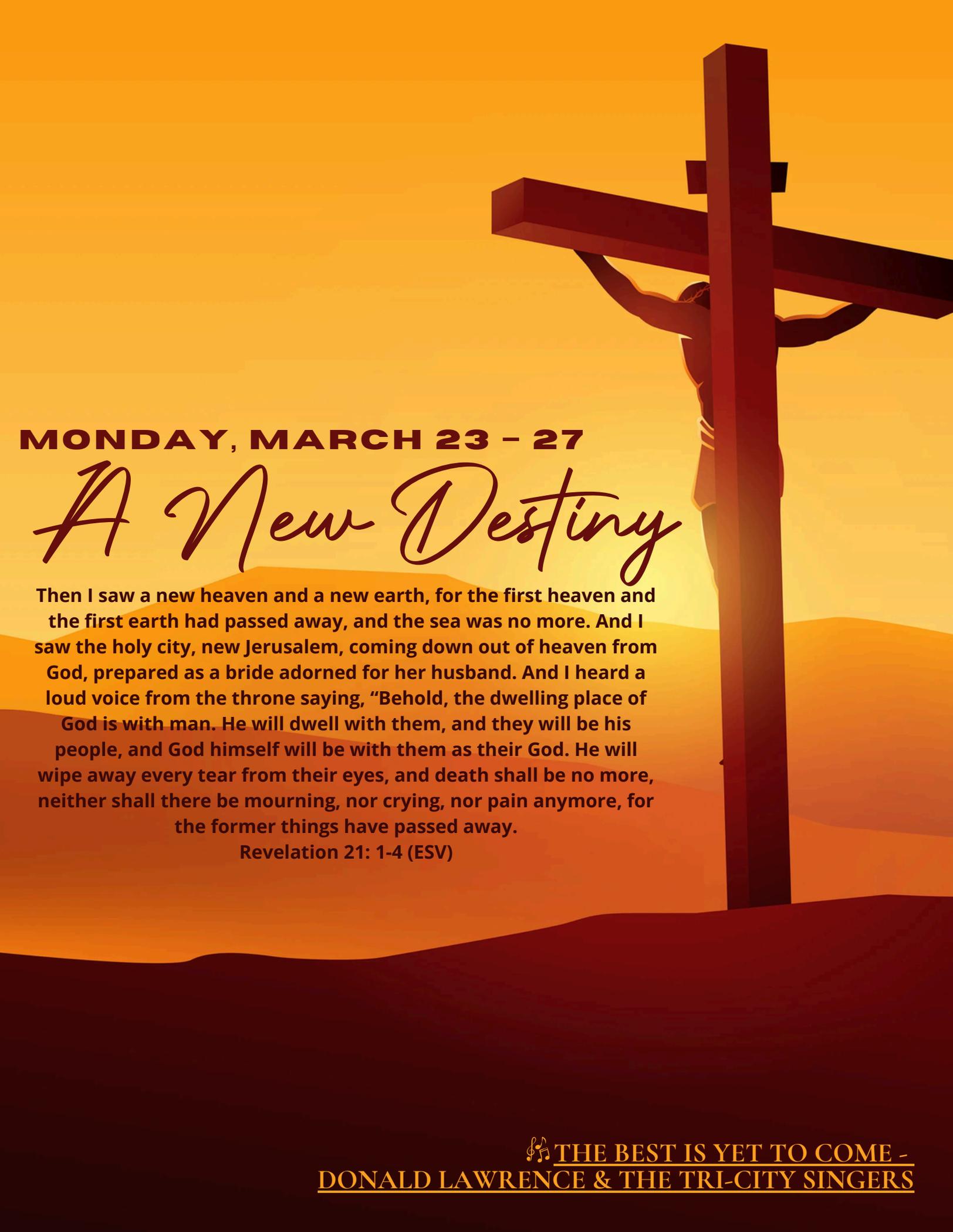
Lord, help me to stay focused on the purpose You've placed in my heart. Protect me from distractions, doubts, and discouragement. Strengthen me to walk faithfully in the path You've set before me.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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**MONDAY, MARCH 23 - 27**

# *A New Destiny*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

Revelation 21: 1-4 (ESV)

 THE BEST IS YET TO COME -  
DONALD LAWRENCE & THE TRI-CITY SINGERS

# Parenting with a Purpose

*And He who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."  
Revelation 21:5*

*Replacing the old life of sin and decay with a new, sanctified future. He encourages forgetting the past, as He is "doing a new thing."*

New destiny, what does that mean? Well, to me when you are starting a new destiny, sometimes you have to let go of the past to start a new beginning. So when I take a moment to reflect on my own experiences and the challenges many of us face, I am reminded of the relationships that may have grown cold and the dreams that may feel distant.

It is a common burden to carry the weight of past disappointments and "if only" thoughts: "If only I had made different choices" or "If only circumstances had been different."

However, I bring to you a message of hope and renewal. The God we serve, sitting upon the throne, witnesses our struggles and offers us a profound promise: "Behold, I make ALL things new!" This assurance is not limited; it encompasses all aspects of our lives, urging us to release the weariness and brokenness that may hold us back.

As you read this, I encourage you to remember (Revelation 21:5), replacing the old life of sin and decay with a new, sanctified future. He encourages forgetting the past, as He is "doing a new thing." Let go of past burdens and embrace the fresh start that is possible today.

Together, we can embark on a journey toward a new destiny, filled with hope and potential. Amen. So let GO and let God!

**Devotional Contributed By:**  
**Robert Echols, TBC Member for 10 years**



# *The New Jerusalem, Our Final Destiny*

*In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.*

*Ephesians 1:11*

I recently saw a poster that read; you sow an act, you reap a habit, sow a habit, you reap a character, sow a character, you reap a destiny. Quite true in many instances, but the saying does not consider an all-powerful, all knowing God. The word destiny is derived from the word destination.

The Bible presents only two destinies: eternal life in Christ or Hellfire and damnation. I was baptized in The name of The Father, The Son, and The Holy Ghost at Tabernacle Baptist Church when I was 14 years old by Pastor Wallace D Hartsfield. It was nearly 16 years later, before I sincerely and desperately asked Christ to come into my life, to save me and change me. Like the Psalmist, My steps had altogether slipped. I became envious of the boastful, and the seeming prosperity of the wicked. My immediate and future destiny were put in peril, but for the Grace and Mercy of a Loving God. He foreknew me and had already predestined my life and purpose. Based on the Word of God.

My destiny is assured. The Bible says that those He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, and that in Him, we also have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him, who works all things according to the counsel of His will. John the Revelator gives us a glimpse of the heavenly destiny that awaits. Hope to see you there.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Kenneth Holloway, Associate Minister, Legacy Member, TBC Member for more than 50 years  
New Members Orientation (8-9 years), Prison Ministry (8 years), Care Group Facilitator  
(4 years)**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Because God is making all things new, what “former thing” might be preventing you from stepping fully into the destiny He has prepared for you? What would trusting Him with that look like today?

## Guided Prayer

Heavenly Father, I thank You for the hope of a bright and victorious future. I trust that the plans You have for me are good, filled with peace and purpose. Guide my steps today so I walk into the destiny You've prepared for me.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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# Trusting God Through Endings and Beginnings

*I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.  
Psalms 91:2 (KJV)*

I have entered a new season in my life—one marked by both endings and beginnings. Revelation 21 reminds us that the former things pass away and that God makes all things new. In this season, I have witnessed Him gently shifting experiences and relationships in my life. At first, I did not fully understand why. But through prayer and seeking His wisdom, I began to see that God was not taking something from me—He was preparing me for something greater.

Retirement felt both exciting and unsettling. While I looked forward to what was ahead, I was not completely prepared for the emotions that accompanied such a significant transition. Yet even in those moments of uncertainty, I have felt the nearness of God in a deeper way. His presence has been steady and reassuring, reminding me that I am not walking into this new season alone.

As new relationships form and others shift, I sense His hand guiding every step. Some connections have been repositioned, and in that process, God has given me new vision. I see people differently. I see purpose differently. What once felt like loss now feels like divine alignment.

I am grateful that God dwells with me in this season—leading, comforting, and renewing my heart. The former things have passed, and I trust that what lies ahead is filled with His peace, His purpose, and His glory.

## **Devotional Contributed By:**

**Carla Breckenridge, TBC Member for 10 years  
Mass Choir, TBC Smart Advisory Council**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

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## Guided Prayer

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In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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**MONDAY, MARCH 30 - APRIL 3**

# *All Things New*

And He who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:5

## God is Doing a New Thing

*And He who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

*Revelation 21:5*

The promise that God makes *all things new* is a central theme in the Bible, focusing on spiritual renewal, restoration, and the ultimate creation of a new heaven and earth.

Isaiah 43:19 highlights God's promises to transform lives and circumstances: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

In II Corinthians 5:17, God promises spiritual renewal to His people. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

In Isaiah 65:17, God promises "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind."

In Revelation 21:4, God promises "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

### **These scriptures assure us that**

1. Believers are a new creation in Christ Jesus and are made **new** spiritually, leaving behind their old nature for a new transformed life.
2. God works within believers to change their inner being by **renewing** our minds and our hearts.
3. God provides a fresh start and brings **new** opportunities and hope to His people, even in hopeless situations.
4. God will eventually restore order and **renew** the entire cosmos, eliminating pain, death, and the brokenness of the old order.

Finally as I think of all things new and what it means to live in this world today, I'm encouraged; I'm reminded; and I'm so glad "trouble won't last always" because of how Jesus Christ sacrificed himself for you and me on the cross. The joy of being a believer assures us that we have a new home, a new body, a new song, a new name, a new walk, a new talk and a new robe & crown over in Glory!! All Things New!!!

### **Devotional Contributed By:**

**Minister Alfred Norris, TBC Member for 37 years**

**Associate Ministers Ministry, Mass Choir, Worship Arts, Sunday School**



# A New Home

*Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.*  
John 14:1-3

Would it be wise to purchase a house unseen?

Finding a new house, to turn into a home, can be stressful. You can feel anxious, excited, scared or worried at the same time. Having a trustworthy Realtor doing all the leg work can take those troubles away. All you have to do is show up, look and compare.

Preparation for moving is a little more troublesome. You need to make sure you have all the right equipment. Your lists completed, your dates in place for shut-off and shut-on items and your mode of transportation is set.

I'm so grateful my Heavenly home is being prepared by Jesus Himself. The down payment was paid by Him as well. I just needed to trust and believe what He said in John 14. He makes it so easy so my heart doesn't have to be troubled, I just need to believe and trust Him. Now, there is speculation it could be a mansion, many rooms or just dwelling places, but that's now where my excitement swells. I'm standing on the promise that Jesus will come and escort me to my new Heavenly home. I have no idea what it will look like, but I will be with Him forever, and that's all that matters.

My dear reader, how well do you know your "Heavenly Realtor"?

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Sheri Gamble, TBC Member for 1½ years**

**Women's Ministry aka The Sisterhood, Children and Youth Ministry**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

Identify one area of your life that feels 'new' and one area where need 'renewal.'

## Guided Prayer

Almighty God! I boldly stand in faith, trusting in Your promise that the new has come. Let it begin in me.

In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

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## *New to Us, Known to God*

*And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.*

*Genesis 1:21*

In the very beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. He separated the waters and filled the oceans with living creatures (Genesis 1:6–10, 20). But here’s something amazing: even today, scientists are still discovering creatures deep in the sea that no one has ever seen before. Some animals live in total darkness near hot vents on the ocean floor. Others survive without sunlight, and scientists have even discovered that parts of the deep sea can make oxygen in the dark! These discoveries feel new to us, but they have never been new to God.

What we call “new” is often something God has already formed. We are simply catching up to what He has always known.

And perhaps that is how God works in our lives, too.

During Lent, we are invited to slow down, reflect, and trust that God is at work beneath the surface working on our behalf, making all things new.

The cross reminds us that what seemed like the end was actually God revealing His love in its fullest form. God’s love was not created at the cross, it was revealed there. And through this, we have a new path, a new life, and a new way back to Him.

**Devotional Contributed By:**

**Nathan Anderson, TBC Member for 2 years**



# Reflection & Guided Prayer

## Journaling Reflection

What old habit, belief, or fear do I need to let go to make room for the new? How have I seen evidence of God's restoration in my life recently?

## Guided Prayer

Lord, I surrender my old, unhealthy habits, my past failures and my insecurities to You. I ask that You give me strength to let go of those things that aren't pleasing to you. Help me to stop trying to change in my own effort but to start walking in Your grace.

Amen.

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# RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST

Throughout this Lenten season, these devotional readings have drawn our hearts and minds to reflect on the promise of New Life in Christ. From A New Life to A New Heart, A New Mind, A New Purpose, and A New Destiny and in the final week, All Things New, we have explored the ways God transforms us through His love, guidance, and presence. We celebrate God's work in transforming us from the inside out, opening doors to new life and calling us into the plans He has prepared for us. All of the readings, reflections, questions, and prayers have had one united purpose: to draw our hearts toward Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 declares, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

The season of Lent (also known as Easter) is an invitation to know the God who loved you so much that He gave His life for you on the cross, rescuing you from sin and death. God the Father gave His only Son because we all need to be rescued from our sin and brokenness. He does not overlook our mistakes or failures. Instead, God sees them, loves us in spite of them, and, in His unending love, sent His Son Jesus to save us through His death, burial, and resurrection.

If you have never accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and would like to, we invite you to pray this prayer:

*Jesus, I thank You that I have been able to spend time in this Lenten devotional and for the ways You have spoken to my heart. I thank You for allowing me to experience the promise of new life through You.*

*Jesus, in this moment, I confess with my mouth that You are my Savior. I believe in my heart that You are Lord, that You love me, and that You showed Your love for me by giving Your life on the cross and being raised victoriously by God the Father, conquering sin and death.*

*Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner. I have made mistakes and many wrong decisions; I have done wrong in my thoughts, words, and deeds. I ask for Your forgiveness, and I invite You to come and live in my heart.*

*Thank You, Jesus, for making me new. Thank You for Your Holy Spirit who now lives in me, and thank You that I am a new creation in You!*

*In Jesus' name, Amen.*

If you have just prayed this prayer for the first time, congratulations! You are now a member of the family of God. We would love to celebrate with you. Please reach out to us at <https://tabernaclebiblewichita.com/forms/decision/> or by emailing [info@tbcwichita.org](mailto:info@tbcwichita.org).



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