



**IGNITE** 2024

**31 DAY DEVOTIONAL**

**WEEK 1:**

**SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE**

**GERMANTOWN ADVENTIST CHURCH**

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOHNSON

As we embark on this 31-day journey of devotion and renewal through the Ignite Revival, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to each of you. This first week, focuses on Seeking God's Presence, invites us to reflect deeply on our desires and our yearning for God. In a world that often feels dry and parched, we are called to seek the refreshing, life-giving presence of our Lord.

Throughout this week, we will explore powerful scriptures that remind us that God longs to be found by us. He desires for us to know Him intimately and fully. He invites us to turn our hearts toward Him, to seek His kingdom first, and to dwell in the safety of His presence.

I encourage you to take each day's message to heart. Allow the prayers and thoughts to resonate within you, stirring a deeper hunger for communion with God. Remember, it's not about perfection in our pursuit, but about the sincerity of our hearts. God delights in our efforts, no matter how small.

As we journey together, may you find strength, peace, and a profound sense of His nearness. I pray that this week ignites a passionate desire for His presence in your life—an appetite that will transform not just your days but your very being.

Let us seek Him with all that we are, for He is always waiting with open arms.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Johnson

### **JEREMIAH 20:9**

**"BUT IF I SAY I'LL NEVER MENTION THE LORD  
OR SPEAK IN HIS NAME,  
HIS WORD BURNS IN MY HEART LIKE A FIRE.  
IT'S LIKE A FIRE IN MY BONES!  
I AM WORN OUT TRYING TO HOLD IT IN!**

**I CAN'T DO IT!**

## **DAY 1:**

Psalm 63:1 - “You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.”

## **DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT**

One of the most important questions we can ask ourselves is, “What are my desires?” What are you searching for? What would quench your thirst? We need a deep yearning and desire for God’s presence to grow in our faith. Have you considered that God can change your appetite? Your desires are not fixed. God can give you a deep desire for Him. We should crave God’s presence, voice, and communion in our lives like we desire water in a desert. Today, let’s desire more of God.

## **PRAYER**

*Lord, give me a more profound longing and appetite for your word, will, and presence in my life. I ask that you transform my heart so I seek your face daily. Thank you for your desire to spend time with me. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## *DAY 2:*

Day 2: Jeremiah 29:13 - “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

## **DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT**

My daughter Kori and I love to play hide and seek. It's a simple game. One person counts while the other finds the best hiding place in the house. I've found that my daughter is the absolute worst at hiding. The goal is to hide so well that one cannot be found. Kori does the exact opposite. First, she laughs while she hides so loudly that you hear her. Secondly, after 5 seconds of looking for her, without fail, she jumps out and says, “Daddy, I'm here!” I've discovered that she wants to be found! God is like my daughter. His genuine desire is not to be away from you. He wants to be seen! The promise is that if you seek after God, He will jump out and say, “I'm right here; you found me!” You don't have to search far and wide. You don't have to go on an extended exploration or excavation. If you desire to seek after Him, He will reveal Himself to you.

## **PRAYER**

*Lord, thank you for your desire to be found. I need you in my life. Tune my heart towards you. I want to see you clearly and actively in my life. Thank you for your presence. I Jesus' name, Amen.*

## **DAY 3:**

Matthew 6:33 - “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

## **DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT**

Often, we allow responsibilities and stressors to soak up so much of the oxygen in our lives. I get it. We have jobs, schools, children, families, and other areas requiring much time and attention. If we are not careful, we will sacrifice our spiritual health on the altar of life’s responsibilities. Here’s the secret: You can’t manage your responsibilities without God. The good news is that Jesus promises to alleviate our pressure. He says if you prioritize the kingdom and the righteousness of God, everything else will fall into place. Take God up on His offer. Seek Him first, and He’ll take care of you.

## **PRAYER**

*Lord, today I want to prioritize my spiritual life. I have many daily responsibilities and recognize that I cannot manage my life alone. I will seek your face and your kingdom. You are my life's best manager and maintainer. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## DAY 4:

Psalm 27:4 - “One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.”

## DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Where do you live? I know that’s a strange question. No, I do not want your home address. I am referring to your spiritual life. The Psalmist says we should seek to live in God’s house and seek Him in His temple. God is inviting you to live in his home of safety, protection, and provision. Every day, you should wake up knowing that you live in God’s house, no matter your physical location. There’s no cost to living in God’s presence. All you have to do is surrender and allow Him to guide and direct your life. But you can turn your physical location into God’s temple by engaging in persistent prayer, worship, and devotion. Let’s live in God’s house today.

## PRAYER

*Lord, thank you for the invitation to live in your temple. I accept this invitation and embrace the security, peace, and protection you can offer. I recognize that you are my safe space. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

## DAY 5:

Psalm 105:4 - “Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

In times of weariness, we often try to push through on our own. We tell ourselves to ‘be strong,’ to ‘keep going,’ but there comes a moment when our strength isn’t enough. In those moments, God reminds us that His strength is made perfect in our weakness. Psalm 105:4 says, ‘Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always.’ When we rely on God’s strength, we aren’t just getting by—we are thriving because His power sustains us beyond our own limitations. Today, whatever you’re facing, remember to seek His strength. You don’t have to carry the load alone. God’s power will meet you right where you are; with Him, you’ll find more than enough to keep moving forward.

### PRAYER

*Lord, today I pray that you would guide my eyes. I am often tempted to look at my problems or my limitations. I choose to look at your strength and seek your face. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

## DAY 6:

Isaiah 55:6 - “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

I remember that in 2008, Senator Barack Obama was running for president. He held a campaign rally in my North Philadelphia neighborhood one month before the election. Walking to the event site, we saw lines of people returning five city blocks before sunrise. People felt a sense of urgency to see the next President of the United States. There’s a sense of urgency in Isaiah 55:6 when it says, ‘Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.’ God is always present and available, but sometimes, our hearts aren’t tuned in to hear Him. Life can distract us and pull us away, but the call to seek Him is for right now, in this moment. Don’t wait for the perfect time—this is the time. When we seek Him, we find direction, peace, and strength. He’s near us, just waiting for us to turn our attention to Him entirely. So today, let’s not let this moment pass by. Let’s seek Him with all we have while He’s reaching out with open arms.

### PRAYER

*Lord, today I pray that you would guide my eyes. I am often tempted to look at my problems or my limitations. I choose to look at your strength and seek your face. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*



## DAY 7:

Isaiah 55:6 - “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

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### PRAYER

*Lord, I do not want to miss your moving in my life today. I want to capitalize on your presence and willingness to commune with me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*