

## **Devotions 2024: July 1 to July 7**

*For daily devotions I am going to start using 60 days of prayer published by Guideposts.*

**Monday:**           The Gift of Summer

*Psalm 104:19 - He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down.*

As you appreciate the warmth of summer, remember that every season is a blessing from God. The extended days, blooming flowers, and abundant life are reminders of the beauty and richness of His creation. Embrace this joyous time, and let its warmth and vibrancy fill your heart with gratitude.

*Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of summer. May it remind me of Your unending goodness.*

Stay safe, stay healthy, take care and God Bless! Pastor Mary Lou

**Tuesday:**           Living in the Now With Love

*James 4:14 - Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.*

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale said, “The final and best antidote for worry is simply this: Imagine Jesus Christ as your personal friend.” Each day is a blessed opportunity to grow closer to Him and let His influence guide your actions, words, and thoughts.

*Prayer: Lord, because of You, I can see the present as a canvas of possibilities. Together, we can paint the world with compassion, kindness, and love.*

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**Wednesday:**        Grow in Grace

*2 Peter 1:8 - For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

This verse is a gentle reminder to stay true to your values, which will serve as a protective shield. By cultivating a solid foundation of what is right, difficult decision become easy and priorities fall into place.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, I long to grow in grace with You.*

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**Thursday:**        Celebrate Freedom and Love

*1 Peter 2:16-17 - Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God....*

As you celebrate the Fourth of July, remember that the true essence of freedom is a call to live as God's devoted servant. Today, let the fireworks ignite an appreciation for your spiritual growth and remind you that the highest form of freedom is in serving Him and loving others.

Prayer: *Lord, help us use our freedom wisely to spread Your love and serve You faithfully.*

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**Friday:** Unparalleled Love

*Psalm 86:8 – Among the gods, there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.*

Author and Pastor A.W. Tozer wrote, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” Take a moment and reflect on God’s greatness. No power or force can match His deeds.

Prayer: Divine Creator, fill my mind with the awe-inspiring image of Your greatness.

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**Saturday:** Blossoming in His Care

*Matthew 6:28 – And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.*

Jesus invites you to consider the lilies, effortlessly beautiful in their simplicity, neither toiling nor spinning. This is your invitation to rest in His care, trusting that just as He adorns the flowers of the field, He will support you and make your life a testament to His grace.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, help me rest in Your care, trusting that You will adorn my life with Your grace.*

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**Sunday:** Empowered by His Might

*Ephesians 6:10 – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*

As Dr. Norman Vincent Peale said, “Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities!” When you doubt your abilities, remember that the strength of the Lord shines brightest. His might is a steadfast power that remains constant. Lean into His strength. Let His might be your refuge.

Prayer: *Lord, in moments of weakness, let me find strength in You.*

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