



Five-Day Devotional 42: A Five-Week Journey Expressing the Heart of Christmas
Week Two — December 8-12, 2025

From the Pastor's Desk
Devotional Inspiration
A Five-Week Journey Expressing the Heart of Christmas
Submission Over circumstances

Introduction: Welcome to the second devotional in **A Five-Week Journey Expressing the Heart of Christmas**. Something happened on that first Christmas that changed the world forever. A young virgin conceived and gave birth to the Savior — **Jesus Christ, the Son of God**.

Though the times were difficult and uncertain, Mary chose to trust and submit to God's will. In that moment, the promises spoken long ago through the prophets came to life: The first devotional week prepared our hearts to see that God works through the unusual to accomplish His extraordinary plan. This second devotional continues our journey with a focus on "Submission Over Circumstances."

Blessings,

Pastor Fryar

Note to reader: This five-day devotional is designed to encourage and reaffirm that when you pray, you are deepening your walk with God. This is highlighted through use of scripture references from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.



Day 1 — God’s promises are not limited by our circumstances.

Scripture: *Luke 2:6–7; Isaiah 55:8–9.*

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord.”—Isaiah 55:8.

Insight: Jesus’ birth in a humble stable reminds us that God’s promises are not restricted by conditions. His divine plan operates beyond human expectations or environments. The stable became a stage for divine fulfillment because God was present there.

Implication: The fulfillment of God’s promises does not depend on ideal circumstances. God’s word is not hindered by lack, limitation, or location.

Application:

- Stop waiting for everything to “line up” before trusting or obeying God.
- Act in faith even when conditions seem imperfect.
- Remember: God’s presence sanctifies the situation—not the situation itself.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help me to trust You even when the setting isn’t ideal. Teach me to obey despite inconvenience or uncertainty. Thank You that Your power is not limited by my surroundings—You make every place sacred by Your presence.



Day 2 — Submission opens the door to divine fulfillment.

Scripture: *Luke 1:38* "...Let it be it to me according to thy word..."

Insight: Mary and Joseph's submission to God's plan—despite misunderstanding, hardship, and risk—became the doorway to divine fulfillment. Their "yes" allowed prophecy to become reality.

Implication: Obedience, not convenience, is the posture that brings God's promises to life. Submission is not passive—it's powerful alignment with God's will.

Application:

- Trust that God's plans are bigger than your discomfort.
- Choose to surrender in daily decisions.
- Ask: *Am I resisting God's direction because it doesn't look convenient?*

Prayer: Heavenly Father, give me a heart like Mary's—willing, trusting, and yielded. Help me to say "yes" to Your word even when I don't understand the full picture. May my obedience make room for Your divine fulfillment.



Day 3 — God Is not limited by environment or resources.

Scripture: *Luke 2:7; Zechariah 4:10.*

“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin.”—Zechariah 4:10 (NTL).

Insight: The King of kings entered the world in a manger—a place of simplicity and lack. Yet that very setting became the birthplace of redemption. God delights in revealing His greatness through humble conditions.

Implication: God’s glory is not dependent on abundance. He chooses ordinary spaces to perform extraordinary acts. What we call “not enough” is often where He begins His greatest work.

Application:

- Don’t despise small beginnings or humble surroundings.
- Steward well what you have; God’s power is magnified through simplicity.
- Believe that God sees potential where others see limitation.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for working through small and humble things. Help me to see my environment as a place where You can reveal Your glory. Use my limited resources to display Your unlimited power.



Day 4 — Faith and submission illuminate any darkness

Scripture: *John 1:5* “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (ESV).

Insight: The night of Jesus’ birth was illuminated by the glory of God. The same Light that shone over Bethlehem now shines into our dark places. Faith and submission invite His light into the shadows of our lives.

Implication: Darkness cannot overcome a surrendered heart. The more we yield to God, the more His light drive out confusion, fear, and despair.

Application:

- Believe that God can bring clarity and comfort even in dark seasons.
- Keep faith alive when you can’t see the outcome—His light will appear.
- Ask for spiritual vision to perceive His purpose in challenging times.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, Light of the world, shine into my darkness today. Where I cannot see, give me faith. Let my submission become the pathway for Your light to guide, comfort, and transform me.



Day 5 — The measure of our worship is in our submission, not our setting

Scripture: *John 4:23–24*

“...The true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth...” —John 4:23.

Insight: The stable became a sanctuary because God was there. Mary and Joseph’s worship was not defined by luxury but by obedience. True worship is not about the particular setting—it’s about surrender.

Implication: God is honored not by the perfection of our surroundings but by the attitude of our hearts. Submission is the truest form of worship.

Application:

- Worship God wherever you are—not only when life feels ideal.
- Let gratitude and obedience define your worship.
- Remember: God chooses “stable” moments to reveal His glory.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, teach me to worship You through surrender. Whether in abundance or lack, joy or hardship, let my heart honor You. Make every place I stand a sanctuary of obedience and praise. Amen.

Summary thought: The Christmas story reminds us that **submission is the seed of divine manifestation**. God does not wait for perfection—He perfects His plan in imperfect places. When we yield, He supplies. When we obey, He reveals.

Looking ahead: The Journey Continues

The first devotional week prepared our hearts to see that God works through the unusual to accomplish His extraordinary plan. This devotional carries profound truth about the relationship between **submission, circumstance, and divine fulfillment**. In the coming weeks, we will continue our journey to discover:

- **Week Three: “One Affecting All”**
- **Week Four: Christmas Value Statement: “God’s Self-Declaration in the Incarnation”**
- **Week Five: The Full Picture: “What Christmas Confirms About God and New year 2026”**

May each week draw you deeper into the wonder and worship of Jesus Christ — the true heart of Christmas.