

A note from founding senior pastor Keith Loy

I am so excited about this journey that we are doing as a church. What an opportune time to be intentional about growing individually, as well as corporately. It is my hope that this devotional will assist you in that process.

Please note the schedule for the devotional. It is my hope that you will experience this journey in its fullness and in the order in which God gave it to us. Take careful notes. Write down those promptings—do not downplay them. Like a tapestry being woven together, each thread is connected to another, and in the end, a beautiful picture comes forth.

I encourage you, as you ingest each daily reading, to not hurry through them or do them in a one-time setting. The goal is not to just get them done and move on, but to savor, learn, and allow them to sink deep into your life. So take your time as you read each one through, answer the discovery questions, and then personalize them for your life. Don't be discouraged if there's a day that doesn't seem to connect. One of the great things I've learned in my personal growth journey is that God is at work way beyond my comprehension. In the moments of dryness, the times where things don't seem to be connecting, even in the times of great disarray, God is at His greatest work in my life. I fully believe this is what the prophet meant when he wrote, *"Those who wait upon the Lord."* So take each day, ponder its message, personalize it, and believe that the Lord is at work.

The same is true with the LIFE Group materials available on the Celebrate app. As you work together, pay attention to what others are saying and getting out of it. One of the great ways that God works in my life is through others, through their reflections, their insights, and their experiences. Be prepared to write down what others are saying. Meditate on them. Allow others to speak into your life. For we are truly better together.

Do the same with the message notes on the Celebrate app or that you receive as you enter the weekend services. I truly believe you will begin to see, over the weeks as we make this journey, the big picture of it all. May this be one of the most rewarding journeys in your life. This is precisely why I can't encourage you enough: Don't miss a weekend, don't miss your LIFE Group, and don't miss one of your daily devotionals. I know it's a big commitment, but I believe it's one we make together and with ourselves for the next seven weeks.

I love you with all my heart, and I'm so honored to be your pastor.

KL A. L