

*illumine*  
CONFERENCE

COME  
& SEE

PROGRAM & DEVOTIONAL

**NOTES**

**NOTES**

## NOTES

# COME & SEE

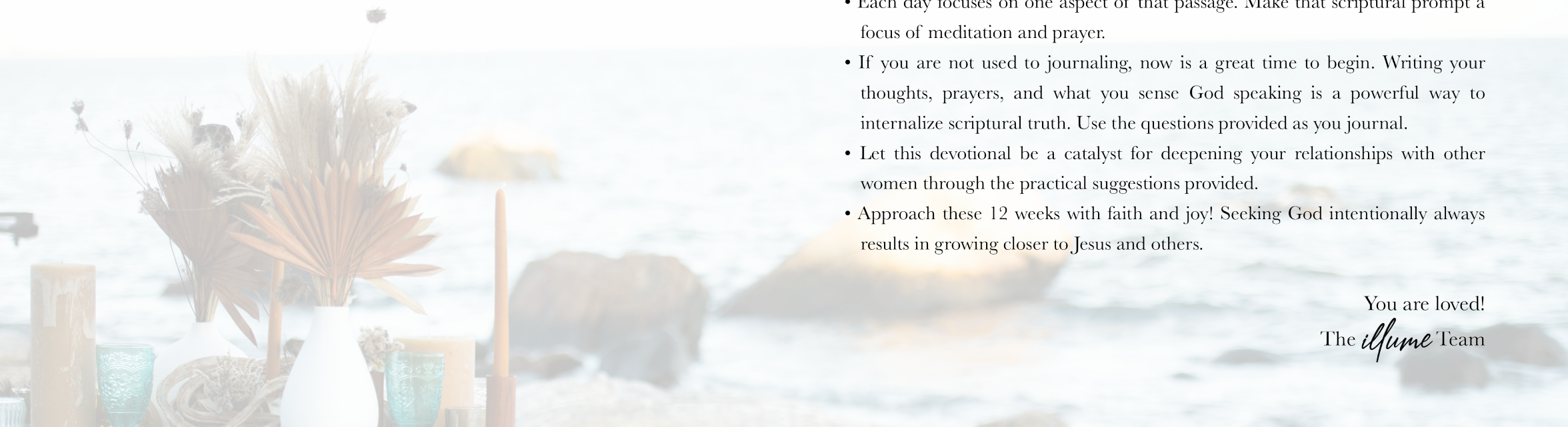
What a special day we had together! The good news is that it doesn't stop there. In the pages that follow, you will find a call to go deeper—a challenge to grow even more in the work that the Lord began in you. As you read, remember that your journey with Jesus is incomplete without the perspective and consistent voice of other women in your life. We are CALLED to this type of connection. There is such joy and power in being on mission together, loving each other, and leading together. God's heart is for you to experience communion and connection with his Spirit and then live that out with other women of God.

Your story holds unique power in the life of another.

## HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS DEVOTIONAL

- You have been paired with a Story Partner. Your Story Partner is the woman you will connect with each week over the phone or in person. We know this is a big push for some. Know that you are not alone! You are taking these steps of faith with hundreds of other women.
- Each week focuses on one passage of Scripture. On the days assigned, take time to reflectively read the passage using the referenced Bible translation.
- Each day focuses on one aspect of that passage. Make that scriptural prompt a focus of meditation and prayer.
- If you are not used to journaling, now is a great time to begin. Writing your thoughts, prayers, and what you sense God speaking is a powerful way to internalize scriptural truth. Use the questions provided as you journal.
- Let this devotional be a catalyst for deepening your relationships with other women through the practical suggestions provided.
- Approach these 12 weeks with faith and joy! Seeking God intentionally always results in growing closer to Jesus and others.

You are loved!  
The *illumine* Team



# Week 1

**Confession:** We belong to each other.

**Scripture:** Read Romans 12:3–8 (TLB)

**MONDAY:** *“...we belong to each other, and each needs all the others...”*

Is it easy or difficult for you to ask for help from others? Why is this so? Today, reach out to a friend and be vulnerable about one or two current needs.

**WEDNESDAY:** *“...be honest in your estimate of yourselves...”*

Ask the Holy Spirit to intentionally show how often you compare or compete with those around you. Then, have an honest conversation with a friend about this. Ask them to speak truth and freedom to you. Pray together.

**FRIDAY:** *“...and it takes every one of us to make it complete...”*

Send a grateful and encouraging text to another woman in the body of Christ who has been a vital part of your spiritual journey.

**SATURDAY:** *“...God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well...”*

Focus on verses 6–8. Do you know the gifts God has given you? Ask God to show you. Journal what you hear. How will you begin using those gifts for the good of others?

**Confession:** Through the Holy Spirit, you inspire me, and I inspire you.

**Scripture:** Hebrews 10:23–25 (NLT)

**MONDAY:** *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.”*

Think about all the people you will interact with today: spouse, kids, roommates, friends, co-workers, and more. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you specific ways to inspire two or three of them to go deeper with Jesus. Then step out in faith and do what he shows you.

**WEDNESDAY:** *“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm.”*

What are some long-standing needs that you are contending for in prayer? Are you growing weary waiting to see God answer your prayers? Reach out to your Story Partner today with a text or phone call. Pray together for the prayer need and an infusion of hope for your soul.

**FRIDAY:** *“...for God can be trusted to keep his promise.”*

Spend some time thinking about all the promises you have seen come to pass in your life. Don't rush. Think through your walk with Christ. Make a list. Spend time thanking God for all he has done.

**SATURDAY:** *“And let us not neglect our meeting together.”*

Scripture encourages us to be a faithful part of a local church. If you have been inconsistent in this, make an effort to attend a service this weekend. If you attend regularly, who can you invite to come with you?

# Week 2

# Week 3

Week 4

**Confession:** As I lean into the Holy Spirit, others' interests become my own.

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:1–8 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *"...being of the same mind, having the same love..."*

What does it mean to have the same mind and love with others? Ask God to show you how to live like this. Journal what he shows you. Write down two or three practical changes you can make in your life and share them with your Story Partner.

**WEDNESDAY:** *"...do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit..."*

Developing accurate self-awareness requires vulnerable and honest relationships. Ask a trusted friend this tough question: Where do you see selfishness or pride in me? Pray for a heart that will receive loving truth.

**FRIDAY:** *"...look out not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others..."*

There are a few women that God is asking you to care for in a way that means putting yourself second. Who are those women? Journal one practical way you can do this for each of them in the next two weeks. Remember—it's not always a grand gesture that encourages another. It can be a kind word, genuine compliment, or simple act of service.

**SATURDAY:** *"...who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped..."*

Today, spend an extended time using your own words to worship and adore Jesus. Thank him for all he has done for you.

Week 3

**Confession:** I am called to be present for others.

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 18:1-5, 23:16 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *"...the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David..."*

Deep friendships are a gift from God. The "knitting" referenced is a binding together, not to be mistaken for an unhealthy attachment. Instead, it reflects a joining of hearts that care deeply about the welfare of another. Who are these women in your life? What can you do to honor each of them today?

**WEDNESDAY:** *"...Jonathan stripped himself of the robe and gave it to David, and his armor...his sword...his bow...his belt..."*

Often, what others need is not our material goods but something even more challenging to give away. They need our full engagement and attention. How easily do you forget about yourself and entirely focus on another? Practice this today in all of your interactions with others. Rely on the Holy Spirit to give you the desire and capacity for this.

**FRIDAY:** *"...Jonathan...rose and went to David...and strengthened his hand in God..."*

Ask God to show you one or two women who need you to intercede for them today. Then, spend time praying for them. As God leads, write down what he shows you and send an encouraging text to them. Trust that this will strengthen their souls.

**SATURDAY:** *And David went out and was successful..."*

Today, reflect on how strong friendships have led you into greater victory in Christ. Spend time thanking God for this. Thank God for each of the deep friendships he has given you by name.

# Week 4



# Week 7

**Confession:** By the power of Christ in me, I can love others sincerely.

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 1:22–23 (NLT)

**MONDAY:** *“You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth...”*

When you responded to the truth of the gospel, Jesus cleansed you from every sin—past, present, and future. What an incredible reality we must remind ourselves of often. Spend time thanking God for this reality in your life. Who do you know that is far from God and needs to hear your story of grace? Pray for that person—plan to share with them soon. Let your Story Partner know when you are taking that bold step.

**WEDNESDAY:** *“...so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters.”*

Sincere love is genuine, not forced, or fake. Who are you struggling to love sincerely right now? Maybe it’s a friend who has betrayed you. Or a family member who consistently hurts or disrespects you. Begin today praying for that person. Receive God’s grace to forgive them. Pray daily until you feel your heart shift towards this person.

**FRIDAY:** *“Love each other deeply with all your heart.”*

What does it look like to love another deeply from the heart? It often depends on what is important to the person you are trying to love. Sometimes it’s simple kindness, conversation, or quality time spent together. Some appreciate gifts or acts of service. Figure out how to show two or three of your closest female friends this type of love. Decide to do this over the next two weeks.

**SATURDAY:** *“For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end.”*

Spend time reflecting on the truth that because of Jesus, you will spend eternity with God. Pray fervently for two women you know who are far from God. Ask God to draw them to himself.

Week 7

Week 8

**Confession:** It is the Lord who approves me; I will live confidently in my God-given lane of influence and resist taking on too much.

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 10:13–18 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *“But we will not boast beyond limits...”*

God has called each of us to a specific and significant work. Energy spent comparing what you are doing to what others are doing is energy wasted. Sometimes it’s hard to recognize this tendency because it’s an ingrained automatic response. Spend time with Jesus talking about this today. Let your heart be open and honest before him. Journal what he is showing you.

**WEDNESDAY:** *“For we are not overextending ourselves...”*

We all know the overwhelming feeling of having too much to do and not enough time to do it. It’s inevitable now and then, but not a healthy or sustainable lifestyle. Schedule a time with your Story Partner and talk through this truth. Be ready to share what your week usually looks like, your commitments, and who is getting the best of your time. Ask God to speak to you through your partner. Make some changes as God leads.

**FRIDAY:** *“For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.”*

Ask a close friend this question: Do I lean more towards bragging or towards self-deprecating? Ask her to explain her answer. Take her thoughts to God in prayer. How does God want to realign your heart in this area?

**SATURDAY:** *“But our hope is that as your faith increases, our area of influence among you may be greatly enlarged...”*

Does God desire to enlarge your area of influence? To take the next step with God, we need to let him prune the present. This pruning is always for greater fruitfulness. What do you need to let go of today? What do you need to surrender to God? Take a walk or hike without listening to music or a podcast. Spend some time behind a closed door in solitude and silence. Ask God to reveal the next step and what he wants to prune. Act on what he shows you.

# Week 8

**Confession:** I choose to listen deeply to others before speaking.

**Scripture:** James 1:19–25 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *“...be quick to hear, slow to speak...”*

As you interact with others today, honestly assess how you listen. When someone is speaking, are you inwardly formulating your reply to them, checking text messages, or thinking about everything you must do? Or are you engaging your heart and mind to listen actively? Are you able to let 30 seconds of silence pass before you answer them? Journal your results. How will you be a better listener tomorrow?

**WEDNESDAY:** *“...slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”*

It seems poor listening and quick replies are an easy road to anger. Meet with a trusted friend who is willing to be honest with you. Ask her to describe how you listen and react. Bring her thoughts to God in prayer, allow your heart to be open to where he wants to bring healing and growth.

**FRIDAY:** *“...But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”*

God’s Word transforms us as we apply it through action. Use a Bible app and search for every verse on “words.” Read a few verses each day and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you through Scripture. Journal your answers. Connect with your Story Partner over coffee or Zoom and talk about what God is showing you.

**SATURDAY:** *“...receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”*

A critical part of your spiritual journey is a commitment to a local church and opportunities for the Word of God to settle deep into your heart. Choose to attend a Sunday morning service and get plugged into a Community Group or CORE group. Posture your heart to receive humbly from God as you worship and listen to the sermon. Let God do transformative work in your heart as part of the body of Christ. (If you need help connecting to a Community Group, resources and information can be found on the Vox website.)

# Week 9

# Week 10

**Confession:** I step out in faith even when it’s uncomfortable.

**Scripture:** Matthew 14:22–33 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *“...but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them.”*

What woman in your life is currently walking closely with Jesus and going through a difficult storm? Maybe she’s weary, fearful, or losing hope. How can you bless her? A gift card for a pedicure, a dinner out, a letter of encouragement? Maybe offer to watch her children so she can have time alone with the Lord. Make a plan and do it.

**WEDNESDAY:** *“But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.’”*

In this text, the disciples are in the middle of a terrifying storm. Jesus speaks a word to calm their hearts and minds. Is there someone you know who is going through a very difficult time? Pray for that person. Today, find a way to share words of hope and peace with them.

**FRIDAY:** *“And Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’”*

Is there a choice God is calling you to make in your life, yet it seems scary or unsettling? Set aside an extended time to seek God. Echo the prayer of Peter and cry out to God. Surrender your doubts and fears; wait patiently and expectantly to hear him. God desires to speak to you, and sometimes we need to settle our souls in silence and solitude. Journal what you sense him saying. Share this with your Story Partner.

**SATURDAY:** *“And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’”*

There’s something incredibly powerful about corporate worship. Attend Sunday service this weekend and worship with all your heart! Believe in God for fresh faith for the impossible.



# Week 11

**Confession:** It's only in Jesus I find my true identity.

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:11–14 (MSG)

**MONDAY:** *"It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for."*

Most of us struggle with an identity grounded in performance or approval. Take the lead and gather a few close friends or talk through this with your Story Partner. Be open and vulnerable about your current identity status. Find some scriptures on Christian identity, read through and discuss them together. Support each other as you discover who you are in Christ.

**WEDNESDAY:** *"Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living..."*

Such amazing truth! Today, meditate on this passage. Meditating means slowing down and reading a passage repeatedly in a reflective manner. Invite the Holy Spirit to deposit God's truth deep in your heart. Sit in that truth until you sense you're done. Finish by writing a prayer of truth and thanksgiving to God.

**FRIDAY:** *"It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit."*

Make some time to discuss the truth of the indwelling Holy Spirit with your Story Partner. Ask her to share her experience cultivating a relationship with God's Spirit. Share your journey. Pray for a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit for each other.

**SATURDAY:** *"...a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life."*

Think back to your first encounter with the grace of God—the timewhen your heart fully turned to him, and you experienced his forgiveness and love. Who do you know that is far from God? Spend time praying for them to come to know Jesus. Invite them to church.

**Confession:** I live every day to reflect the goodness and love of God.

**Scripture:** Romans 12:9–13 (ESV)

**MONDAY:** *"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good."*

What does genuine love look like? Is it forgiving that hurt or having that difficult conversation? Ask God to show you current relationships where your love may be less than sincere. How do you think he wants you to move forward? Talk this through with your Story Partner this week.

**WEDNESDAY:** *"...outdo one another in showing honor..."*

We are called to honor others because we are all created in the image of God. Think about the people you interact with every day at home or work. How can you outdo them in showing honor? Not because they've earned or deserve it, but simply based on God's love for them. Find two practical ways this week to display greater honor to them.

**FRIDAY:** *"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."*

Hope, patience, and prayer. Why do you think these are important to your spiritual growth? Who in your life right now requires more patience from you? What circumstances need an infusion of hope? How can you develop a posture of constant prayer? These would be great questions to discuss with your Story Partner or friends this week. Take the lead and set that time or gather the group.

**SATURDAY:** *"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."*

Someone you know needs some practical assistance today. A meal delivered, a bill paid, an invite to dinner, or something else. Pray and ask God to show you who. Let him show you what your next steps are and then take them.

# Week 12

# closing thoughts

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a light-colored wide-brimmed hat and a translucent red veil. She is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. Her hand is visible near her chest, showing a tattoo on her fingers.

What a journey we have gone on these past 12 weeks! Our prayer is that you have grown in love, in an understanding of the heart of the Lord, and in cultivating a holy connection with another woman of God. Spend some time with the Lord and journal the growth or healing you have experienced.

Ask the Holy Spirit how you can partner with him for his continued work of grace in your life. Consider starting or joining a Community Group or CORE group. What could it look like to continue a regular relationship with your Story Partner?

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

With one heart, we journey on. Loving each other and leading together.

