

Lingering

with God

**May a creditor seize all he has;
may strangers plunder the fruits of his labor.
May no one extend kindness to him
or take pity on his fatherless children.
May his descendants be cut off,
their names blotted out from the next generation.
May the iniquity of his fathers be remembered
before the Lord;
may the sin of his mother never be blotted out.
May their sins always remain before the Lord,
that he may blot out their name from the earth.**

Psalm 109:6-15

Take a few moments to unpack and envision this idea for yourself:

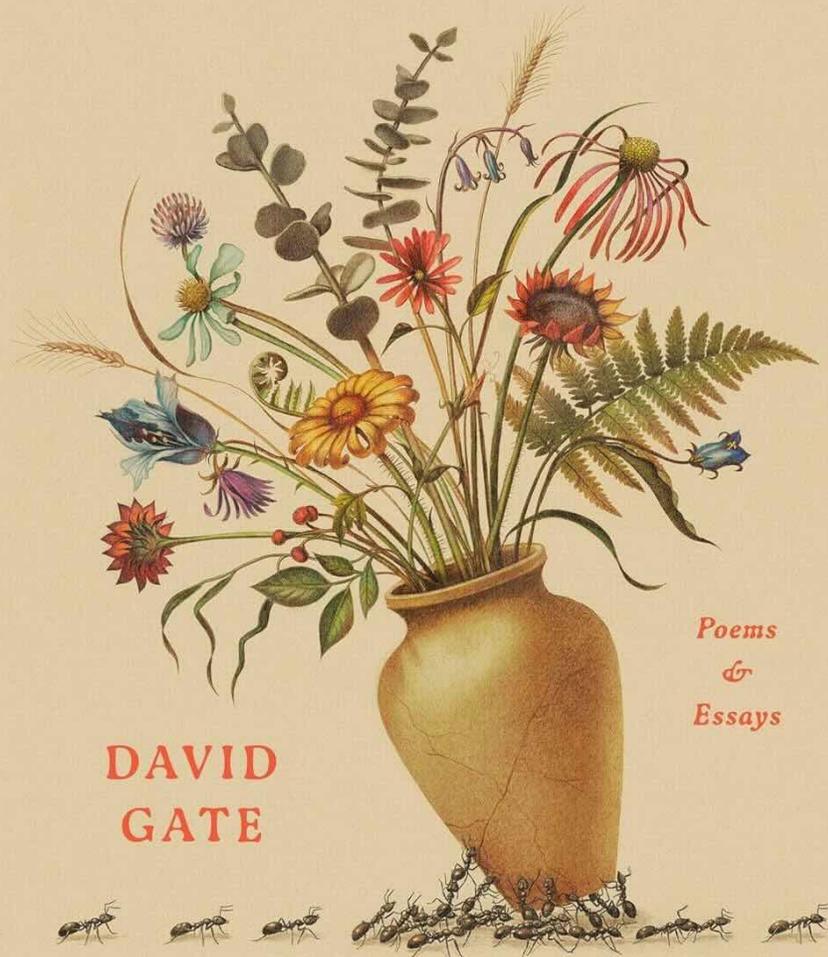
When I can't change the world, I can sit in the gaze of God's love. From there I can rise to take my best, most faithful, hopeful and loving stand in our broken world.

What does it feel like to sit in the gaze of God's love?

What do you think your best, most faithful stand in our broken world could look like?



A REBELLION OF CARE



Poems
&
Essays

DAVID
GATE

Joy is an act of rebellion
Against established order
Which is why the angels
Brought their glad tiding
To the nightshift serfs
Rather than the boardroom suits
Because the joy of heaven
Heralded to us
Cannot be commoditized
Privatized or monetized
While the system takes all it can
From our tired bodies
And stacks its weight
Upon our aching backs
It will never, not ever
Ransack our hallelujahs

“If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb,” he (C.S. Lewis) wrote, “let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends.”

Not because danger isn't real—but because fear does not get to decide what makes us human.



Living with the Ache

Like Lewis, we must refuse both hysteria and numbness. He believed that the task of faith in frightening times was not to escape the ache, but to find our own way of living with it.

To keep making dinner.

To keep loving people fiercely.

To keep telling the truth about what hurts without surrendering our capacity for joy.

The world may be on fire—but this, too, is where God meets us.



Living with the Ache

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

Nehemiah 8:9-12

Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

The Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be still, for this is a holy day. Do not grieve.”

Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.

Nehemiah 8:9-12

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In His Word

Lingering allows time for

1. **Meditating on God's Word**

“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:8

**Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
That person is like a tree planted by streams of
water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.**

Psalm 1:1-3

**Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to the law of the Lord.
Blessed are those who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart—
they do no wrong
but follow his ways.**

Psalm 119:1-3

**Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to the law of the Lord.
Blessed are those who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart—
they do no wrong
but follow his ways.**

**I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.**

Psalm 119:1-3, 11

**Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
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Blessed are those who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart—
they do no wrong
but follow his ways.**

**I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.**

**Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.**

Psalms 119:1-3, 11, 105

You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

John 5:39-40

Lingering allows time for

- 1. Meditating on God's Word**
- 2. Renewing of Our Mind**

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

Deuteronomy 11:18-20



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Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

Lingering allows time for

1. Meditating on God's Word
2. Renewing of Our Mind
3. Hearing and Obeying

**He said to them, “When you pray, say:
“Father,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.
And lead us not into temptation.””**

Luke 11:2-4

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

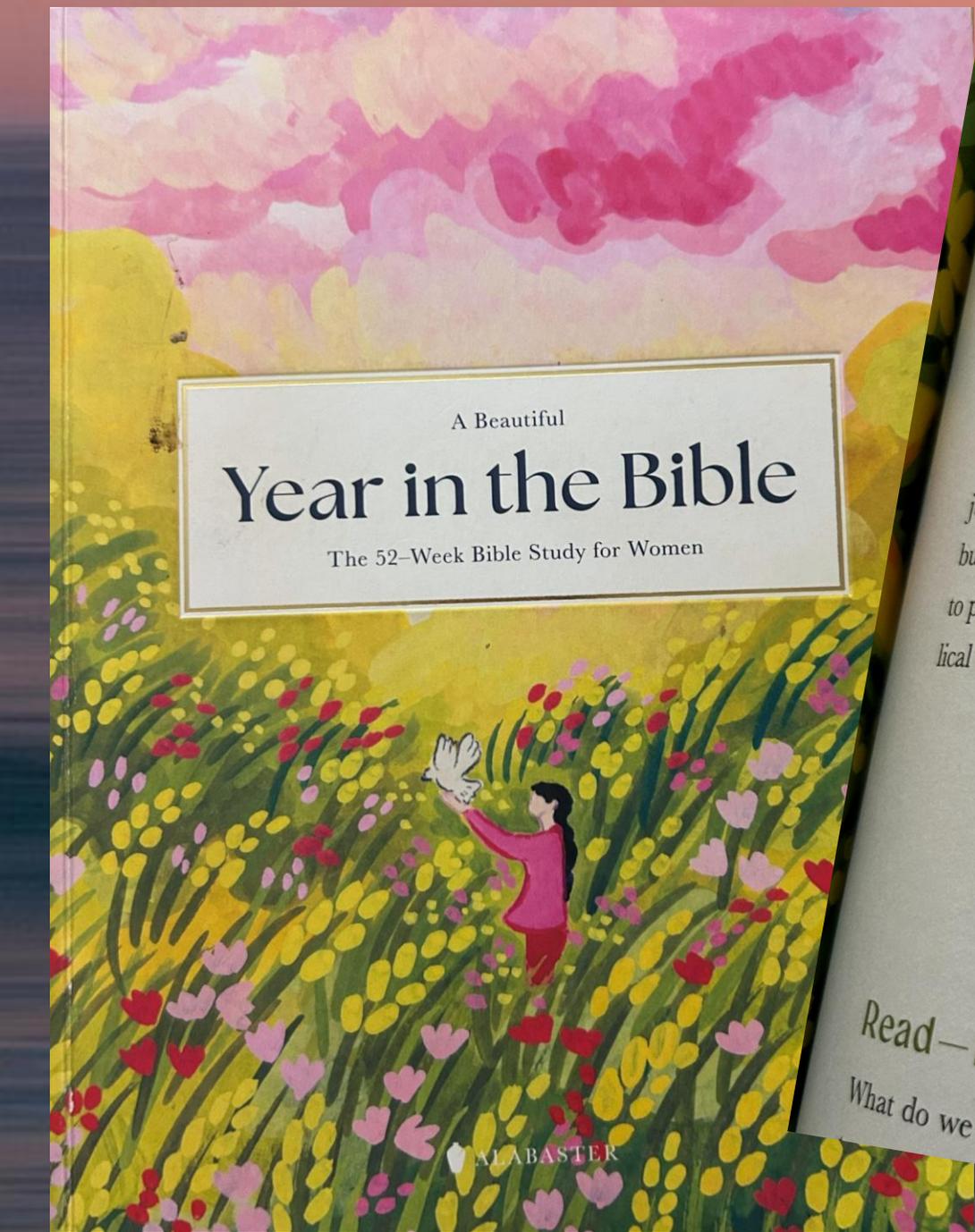
Luke 11:9-10

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Luke 11:13

“When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, ‘I will return to the house I left.’ When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first.” As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, “Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.” He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”

Luke 11:24-28



A Beautiful
Year in the Bible

The 52-Week Bible Study for Women

ALABASTER

Divine Justice in an Unjust World

WEEK
29

Synopsis

In Ezekiel, we explore God's vision of justice—one not rooted in retribution but in restoration. This vision calls us to pursue a world aligned with the biblical value of Shalom.

Reading Plan

- Day 1 / Ezekiel 31-36
- Day 2 / Colossians 3-4
- Day 3 / Leviticus 16-18
- Day 4 / 2 Kings 11-15
- Day 5 / Psalms 84-86
- Day 6 / Proverbs 11-12
- Day 7 / Luke 21-22

Read—Ezekiel 31-36

What do we mean when we speak of justice? It's a concept often framed in

Lectio Divina

Lectio = Reading

Divina = Divine, Sacred

Lingering allows time for

1. Meditating on God's Word
2. Renewing of Our Mind
3. Hearing and Obeying

Lectio Divina

(Divine, or sacred, reading)

Reading scripture for transformation

*For the word of God is alive and active.
Sharper than any double-edged sword, it
penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit,
joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and
attitudes of the heart.* Hebrews 4:12

A balance between silence and the word, as you read or listen to scripture 4 times, with a time of silence after each.

1. **Preparation** – begin with silence, quietness in the presence of God letting go of the busyness around us
2. **Read** – first reading, listening for a word or phrase that strikes us
3. **Reflect** – second reading, reflecting on how the reading connects with your life, what is it that you need to hear
4. **Respond** – third reading, what is our response, natural prayer to God that flows following the reading acknowledging any emotions that have risen up, ask Him to lead you to a deeper understanding, to understand your next faithful step
5. **Rest** – fourth reading, rest in God knowing He will enable us to accomplish whatever He is prompting us to do
6. **Resolve** – emerge from your personal encounter with God resolving to carry this word with you

Lectio Divina

Pray as you Go

Pray wherever life takes you - whether you're on a busy commute, taking a quiet walk, or simply finding a moment of stillness in your day. Our app is designed to accompany you on your spiritual journey, offering guided prayers and reflections that fit seamlessly into your daily routine.
prayasyougo.org



Lectio 365

A daily devotional that invites you to pause in the presence of God and create space to pray morning, noon and night.
lectio365.com/the-app/

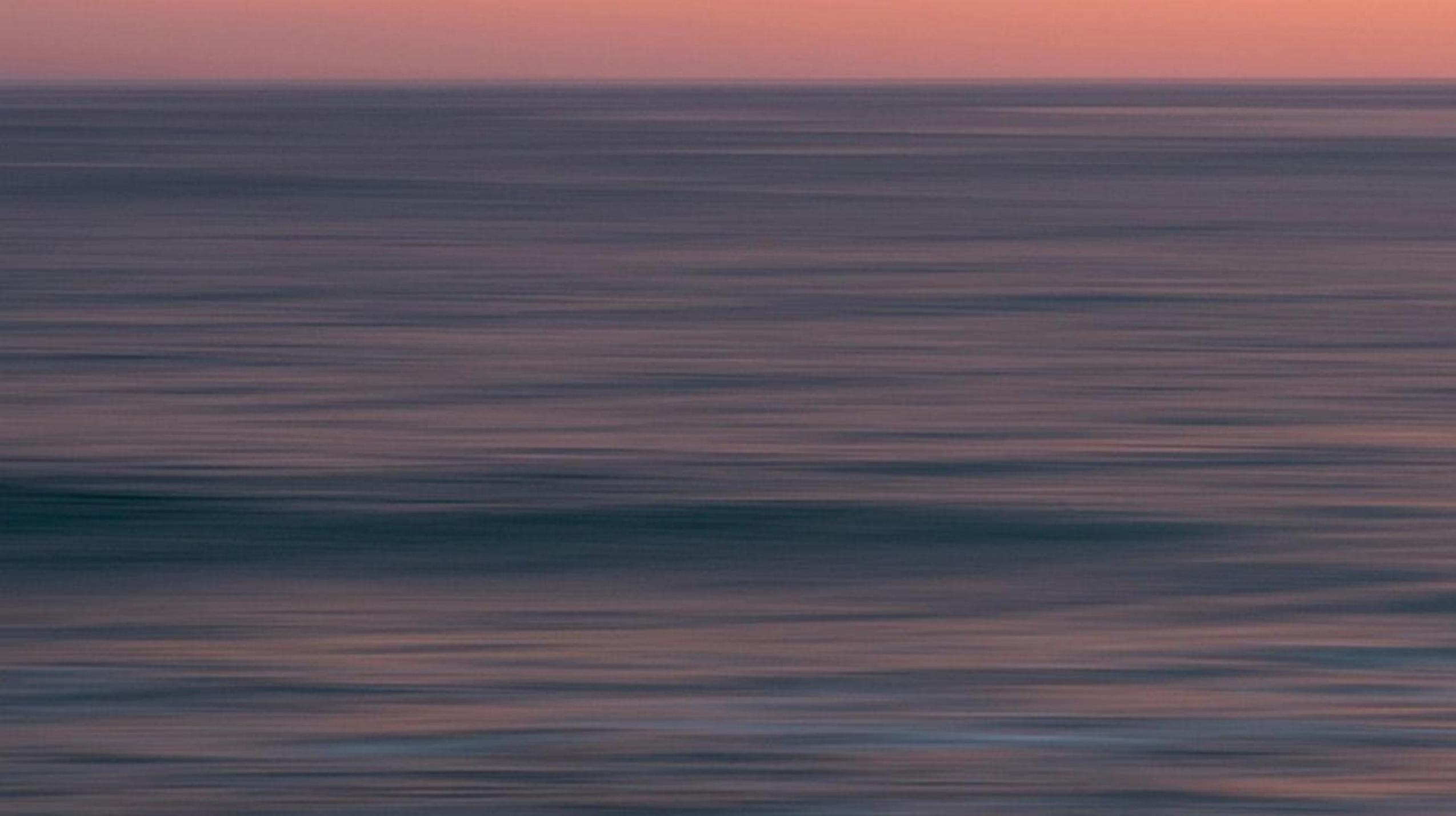


Abiding Way Ministries

Daily Lectio Divina

We are passionate about spiritual growth that is rooted in Scripture and grounded in the practices of believers throughout history. Join us in a journey of cultivating intimacy with Jesus.
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Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8-9

Lessons in Lingerin

1. Allows time to delight in God
2. Helps us put things in perspective
3. Transforms our lives

Lingerin allows time for

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2. Renewing of Our Mind
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