

GENESIS

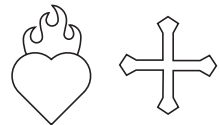
Altars for the Lenten Journey





GENESIS

Altars for the Lenten Journey



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Dear Friends,

Journey with us as we ponder pivotal altar moments in the lives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as recorded in Scripture.

Worship with us through inspired songs, centered around altar moments, that lift praise to Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Travel inward and experience your own altar moments with the God who longs to meet with you.

What you will need:

**This devotional
Songs from Bristol House's live album *ALTARS***

You can listen to the songs for free on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@bristolhouse/playlists>

- WEEK 1 Ash Wednesday 2/14 – Saturday 2/24
 “Altars”
- WEEK 2 Sunday 2/25 – Saturday 3/2
 “Wait for You” and “Enough”
- WEEK 3 Sunday 3/3 – Saturday 3/9
 “Abide” and “Forever Changed”
- WEEK 4 Sunday 3/10 – Saturday 3/16
 “Psalm 23”
- WEEK 5 Sunday 3/17 – Saturday 3/23
 “Hidden” and “Wesley Prayer”
- WEEK 6 Sunday 3/24 – Saturday 3/30
 “On This Side of Heaven” and “Altars Reprise”

The selection of one or two songs per week is intentional. Meditating on the same songs and Scripture repeatedly gives the Lord the opportunity to speak to us in new ways.

Blessings on your journey,

Harvest Leadership Team

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Bristol House family and this devotional. We are so excited to share this album with you. Each song carries the DNA of a unique encounter between the songwriter and the triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). We call these encounters “altar moments.”

What is an altar moment?

An altar moment is a holy encounter. It occurs when we set our heart’s intention on meeting with God and He meets with us. It is an opportunity to acknowledge our need for God, to worship Him, to call on Him in honesty and vulnerability. It is a place of relationship, surrender, sacrifice, remembrance, communion, joy, asking, being seen, grieving, waiting and more.

In these altar moments, God receives us and whatever we bring to Him. He hears, sees, answers, reassures, instructs, convicts, tests, loves, heals, anoints, calls, consecrates, commissions, comforts, disciplines, forgives, reveals Himself, provides miracles and invites us into mystery.

Keep a Bible, pen and journal nearby as you make your way through these pages. If you already have a devotional routine, consider temporarily setting it aside to give the Lord your full, undivided attention as He meets with you through each song. As you go about your day, take the song with you and continue to reflect on its message to receive all God intends for you.

It is our hope and prayer that you experience the power and presence of the Living God as you explore each song through Scripture, worship and your own personal altar moments.

Many blessings on your journey through the songs of *ALTARS*,

The Bristol House family

Father God,

We know that it's who we are and the way we live that counts before You. Our worship must engage our spirits in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people You're looking for: those who are simply and honestly themselves before You in worship. You, God, are sheer being itself — Spirit. Show us how to worship You in adoration from our very being, our spirits, our true selves. In Jesus' name. Amen.

(adapted from John 4:23-24 MSG)

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1

ALTARS

“Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The LORD appeared to Abram and said, ‘To your offspring I will give this land.’ So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.”

– Genesis 12:6-7



ALTARS

Here's my altar made for You
In this moment I will choose You
Let surrender be my song
Lay aside the things I want for You
It's all for You

You're the One my heart burns for
Full of faith I ask for more, for more

Here's my altar start a fire
Fan the flame of my desire for You
It's all for You

You're the One my heart burns for
Full of faith I ask for more, for more

Holy fire come consume
Nothing matters more than You
If no one's watching I still choose
I still choose You
I still choose You

You're the One my heart burns for
Full of faith I ask for more, for more

We want more
More, more, more

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 12:6-7 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how it echoes Abram's "yes" to journey in faith with God.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "Altars" aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God's invitation to stretch and grow in faith.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship once more.

Invitations from God:

- Claim this altar moment as a sacred encounter with God *Genesis 12:8*
- Choose God *Joshua 24:15*
- Surrender *Luke 22:42*
- Yield to God as Jesus did *Luke 22:42*
- Worship as an offering *Hebrews 12:28-29*
- Ask for more faith *Revelation 21:6*
- Welcome the Holy Spirit *Matthew 3:11-12*
- Request a greater awareness of Jesus' presence *Revelation 21:6*

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2a

WAIT FOR YOU

“From there he went on toward the hills
east of Bethel and pitched his tent,
with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east.
There he built an altar to the LORD
and called on the name of the LORD.

Then Abram set out and
continued toward the Negev.”

- Genesis 12:8-9



WAIT FOR YOU

Let Your fire fall from heaven
Holy Spirit You can enter in
Let revival come awaken us
How we long for You

We wait for You
To come and move
We wait for You oh

All the things of earth will fade away
As Your kingdom comes into this place
Let our eyes behold Your glory
Lord have Your way

We wait for You
To come and move
We wait for You oh

Open up the gates
King of glory come in
You deserve the praise
Only You are worth the wait

We welcome You
We welcome You
We welcome You oh

Open up the gates
King of glory come in
You deserve the praise
Only You are worth the wait

We wait for You
To come and move
We wait for You oh
Heaven's breaking through
As we sing to You
We welcome You oh

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 12:8-9 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how waiting on the Lord is an integral part of Abram's story.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "Wait for You" aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God's invitation to make room for Him to move in your life.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Commit to actively, expectantly wait on the Holy Spirit
Psalm 130:5, Acts 4:31, Isaiah 40:28-31
- Invite revival
Psalm 104:30
- Adopt a kingdom perspective
Revelation 21:1
- Ask to behold the glory of Jesus
John 1:14
- Welcome God's presence
Psalm 24:7-10
- Praise Him
Psalm 24:7-10

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2b

ENOUGH

“From there he went on toward the hills
east of Bethel and pitched his tent,
with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east.
There he built an altar to the LORD
and called on the name of the LORD.

Then Abram set out and
continued toward the Negev.”

- Genesis 12:8-9



ENOUGH

It's You, it's You, it's always been You
The One who's always loved me from the start
A father, a king, who deeply knows me
The One who's always chasing my heart

How could I tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
No words I could say
No song I could sing
I can't tell You enough, I can't tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
I love You Jesus

The cross, the cross, Your beautiful cross
You sacrificed Your life so I could live
A servant, a friend, You're there 'til the end
The wonder of Your never-ending love

How could I tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
No words I could say
No song I could sing
I can't tell You enough, I can't tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
I love You Jesus

I love You, I love You
I love You, I love You
I love You, I love You Lord

How could I tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
No words I could say
No song I could sing
I can't tell You enough, I can't tell You enough
How much I love You Jesus
I love You Jesus

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 12:8-9 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how the act of building an altar is an expression of gratitude and worship for Abram.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for “Enough” aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you’d like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God’s invitation to stretch and grow in His love.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Express gratitude for God’s love *1 John 4:19, Psalm 139:7-16*
- Declare love for Jesus *John 3:16*
- Remember, with gratitude, the gift of your salvation *Colossians 1:19-20*
- Connect with God as Father *Galatians 4:6*
- Relate to Jesus as King, Servant and Friend *Zechariah 9:9, Revelation 19:11 & 16, Mark 10:45, John 15:15*
- Worship the Lord *John 4:23-24*

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3a

ABIDE

“The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, ‘Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.’

So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar to the LORD.”

– Genesis 13:14-18



ABIDE

You are the vine, I am the branches
You are the answer to all of my questions
Jesus my portion, Jesus my prize
You're teaching me to abide

So I will trust You Lord
I am learning how to give You more and more
What I see right now I only see in part
You are worthy of my heart
Worthy of my heart

You are the vine, I am the branches
I will surrender in every season
Even in pruning You're bringing new life
You're teaching me to abide

So I will trust You, Lord
I am learning how to give You more and more
What I see right now I only see in part
You are worthy of my heart
Worthy of my heart

Believing that You'll see me through can be the hardest part
But in the in-between You are the keeper of my heart
I've seen You in the light so I will find You in the dark
You're teaching me to abide

So I will trust You Lord
I am learning how to give You more and more
What I see right now I only see in part
You are worthy of my heart
Worthy of my heart

You are the vine, I am the branches
You are the answer to all of my questions
Jesus my portion, Jesus my prize
You're teaching me to abide

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 13:14-18 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how Abram's relationship with God is key to believing in God's promises.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "Abide" aloud, slowly and with intention. (Abide comes from the Greek *menó* – to stay, abide, remain!)

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to Jesus' invitation to abide in Him.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Lean into your relationship of dependency with Jesus
(vine and branches) *John 15:1-4*
- Declare Jesus your portion *Psalms 16:5*
- Claim Jesus your prize *Philippians 3:7-8*
- Abide with Jesus *John 15:5-8*
- Choose to believe beyond what you see *1 Corinthians 13:12*
- Submit to pruning *John 15:5-8*
- Trust Jesus with your life and plans *Ephesians 3:16-19*
- Acknowledge faith in Jesus *Ephesians 3:16-19*
- Praise Jesus *Revelation 4:11*

¹ The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, copyright 1990, p. 56

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3b

FOREVER CHANGED

“The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, ‘Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.’

So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar to the LORD.”

– Genesis 13:14-18



FOREVER CHANGED

I'm coming back to the altar
Laying my life at the feet of Jesus
My strength is found in surrender
I know I'll never walk alone

Beauty for ashes
Joy for my mourning
Peace for heaviness
A garment of praise was draped on my shoulders
My heart can't help but say

I'm forever changed
By the One who calls my name
I don't have to carry any of this pain
I don't have to worry; You're lifting my shame

I'm looking up to the heavens
I know my help comes from You alone
You're working all things together
For my good, and I know You'll give me

Beauty for ashes
Joy for my mourning
Peace for heaviness
A garment of praise was draped on my shoulders
My heart can't help but say

I'm forever changed
By the One who calls my name
I don't have to carry any of this pain
I don't have to worry; You're lifting my shame

I'm forever changed
By the One who calls my name
What a beautiful exchange
When You walked out of that grave

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 13:14-18 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how Abram is changed by his dependence on God.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for “Forever Changed” aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you’d like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God’s invitation to rejoice in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Surrender your life as an offering to God
Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:24
- Place your confidence in Jesus
Matthew 28:20b, Psalm 121:1-2
- Claim your role as a messenger of beauty, joy, peace and praise
Isaiah 61:1 & 3a, Luke 6:45
- Renew faith in Jesus
Romans 8:28
- Declare hope in Jesus
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- Praise Jesus
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- Express gratitude to Jesus
Isaiah 61:7, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- Embrace joy
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

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4

PSALM 23

“When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven,
‘Abraham! Abraham!’

‘Here I am,’ he replied.

‘Do not lay a hand on the boy,’ he said.
‘Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.’

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, ‘On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.’”

– Genesis 22:9-14



PSALM 23

Lord You are my shepherd
What else could I long for

Surely it's Your love that follows me
Surely it's Your love that follows me

You prepare a table
When I am surrounded
Anoint my head with oil
My cup overflows, my cup overflows

You lead me by still waters
Make me lie down in pastures

Surely it's Your love that follows me
Surely it's Your love that follows me

You prepare a table
When I am surrounded
Anoint my head with oil
My cup overflows, my cup overflows

When I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil
'Cause I know You never left

You prepare a table
When I am surrounded
Anoint my head with oil
My cup overflows, my cup overflows

I will dwell forever
With You my good, good Shepherd
Your house will be my shelter
Forevermore, Forevermore

Surely it's Your love that follows me
Surely it's Your love that follows me

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 22:9-14 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider what it cost Abraham to obey God and how this shapes his gratitude when God makes another way.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for “Psalm 23” aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you’d like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections. Reading through Psalm 23, journal the verse(s) that best supports where you are on your journey of faith.

Respond to God’s invitation to trust Him on this journey of faith.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Declare faith in the midst of trials, suffering and darkness
- Consider the ways God shepherds you
 - Provides for you
 - Leads you
 - Protects you
- Remember that God is always with you
- Hope in the promises of God in the now and not yet

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5a

HIDDEN

“That night the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham.’

Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.

– Genesis 26:24-25



HIDDEN

Lord make me obscure
Keep me unnoticed
Let me be known by Your image in me

Broken by grace
Mended by mercy
Let me be hidden, hidden in You

Hide me in the rock behind Your glory
Hide me in the cross beyond all shame
O Lord let me be lost inside Your greatness
To be found within Your name

Hear me I pray
Meet me in stillness
Teach me to rest here in Your secret place

I am Your beloved
Whom You've created
Lord keep me hidden, hidden in You

Hide me in the rock behind Your glory
Hide me in the cross beyond all shame
O Lord let me be lost inside Your greatness
To be found within Your name

Let a hidden generation
Carry fire to the nations
King Jesus our Salvation
Raise an army

Let a faceless generation
Go to every tribe and nation
King Jesus our Salvation
Raise an army, raise an army

Hide me in the rock behind Your glory
Hide me in the cross beyond all shame
O Lord let me be lost inside Your greatness
To be found within Your name

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 26:24-25 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how Isaac's encounter with God includes a promise of relationship and blessing.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "Hidden" aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God's invitation to intimacy with Jesus and being a witness for His name.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Ask for hiddenness in Christ *Colossians 3:3*
- Acknowledge your need for Jesus *Romans 3:22-24*
- Express desire to meet with Jesus in the secret place
Exodus 33:18-23, Hebrews 12:2, Acts 4:12
- Rest with Jesus *Psalms 46:10, Mark 6:31*
- Welcome intimacy with Jesus *Mark 6:31*
- Submit to the consecration process (In the secret place, we minister to Jesus and He ministers to us.) *John 17:20-23*
- Accept the commission that follows consecration
Matthew 28:18-20
- Worship Jesus — King of Kings and Lord of Lords
Revelation 19:11 & 16

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5b

WESLEY PRAYER

“That night the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham.’

Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.

- Genesis 26:24-25



WESLEY PRAYER

I am Yours, no longer my own
Put me to whatever You will
Place me with whomever You choose
I am Yours and You are mine

I am Yours, no longer my own
Raise me up or bring me low
Use my all or lay me aside
I am Yours and You are mine

Come like a fire oh, burn in us
Come like a fire oh, burn in us
Come like a fire oh, oh
Come like a fire oh, oh

Let me be full
Let me be empty
Let me have all things
Let me have nothing

Come like a fire oh, burn in us
Come like a fire oh, burn in us
Come like a fire oh, oh
Come like a fire oh, oh

Amen! Let it be so
Amen! I am Yours and You are mine
Amen! Let it be so
Amen! I am Yours and You are mine

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 26:24-25 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider the significance of Isaac building an altar and calling on the Lord from a place of personal faith.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for “Wesley Prayer” aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you’d like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Journal your selection(s) and any supporting lines from the song lyrics.

Respond to God’s particular invitation to commit to a life of faith.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Release your grip on your desires and plans for your life
- Align yourself with God’s will
- Renew your relationship with God

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6a

ON THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN

“Jacob and all the people with him
came to Luz (that is, Bethel)
in the land of Canaan.
There he built an altar,
and he called the place El Bethel,
because it was there that
God revealed himself to him
when he was fleeing from his brother.”

– Genesis 35:6-7



ON THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN

On this side of Heaven is my chance to worship
When mountains are still in my way

On this side of Heaven I choose to remember
The truth of what will remain
Jesus You never change

Good
You've always been good
You are still good, so good

On this side of Heaven my life on the altar
Even if my plans change

On this side of Heaven let faith be my weapon
Knowing You've made a way
Jesus You never change

Good
You've always been good
You are still good, so good

And this is not a hopeless cry
My hope is built on Jesus Christ
And I will not be put to shame
I wholly lean on Jesus' name

Good
You've always been good
You are still good, so good

You're a good father
You're a good friend
You're a good shepherd
There 'til the end

On this side of Heaven with all of my questions
Jesus You never change

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 35:6-7 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, describe or sketch it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how Jacob's worship is impacted by experiencing God's help in times of trouble.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "On This Side of Heaven" aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God's invitation to worship Him on this side of eternity.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Worship God *1 Peter 1:3-5*
- Acknowledge the trials, testing and battles of life *1 Peter 1:6-7*
- Declare the dependable, unchanging nature of Jesus *Hebrews 13:8*
- Proclaim the goodness of God *Psalm 145:8-10, Matthew 28:20*
- Offer your life to God *Romans 12:1-2*
- Reaffirm faith in Jesus *1 Peter 1:6-9*
- Persevere in faith *1 Peter 1:6-9*
- Hope in Jesus Christ *Romans 5:1-5*

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6b

ALTARS REPRISE

“Jacob and all the people with him
came to Luz (that is, Bethel)
in the land of Canaan.
There he built an altar,
and he called the place El Bethel,
because it was there that
God revealed himself to him
when he was fleeing from his brother.”

– Genesis 35:6-7



ALTARS REPRISE

And even when I wander
I'll turn and build an altar
And You will bring the fire once again

You'll burn away the sinful things
And all the lies that strangle me
And You will bring the fire once again

And from this burning altar
The world will see a Father
Who loves us more than anything
You love us more than anything
We love You more than anything

Foundation for the Lenten Journey

Read Genesis 35:6-7 aloud. Read slowly and reverently. Listen for the word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal what was brought to your attention. If you were given an image, sketch or describe it.

Sit quietly with the Lord for a few minutes. Allow His truth and His presence to minister to you.

Listen to the song and consider how Jacob's altar honors God's provision, presence and promise to Jacob and all who come after him.

Invitation to Worship

Read the lyrics for "Altars Reprise" aloud, slowly and with intention.

Underline any word or phrase the Holy Spirit highlights for you.

Journal whatever you underline. Using the lyrics as inspiration, write down what you'd like to say to God in this moment.

Listen to the song. Sing along, offering your simple, authentic worship to God.

Altar Moment

Read the list of invitations. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one or two for your focus.

Underline and journal your selections and their supporting Scriptures.

Respond to God's invitation to be encouraged as you walk in faith.

Knowing God is with you, listen to the song and worship.

Invitations from God:

- Declare faith that God will always meet you in your places of sacrifice and surrender *Luke 22:31-32*
- Embrace the truth that God will receive you as you are *1 John 4:15-17*
- Invite God to stir the fire of your faith *Hebrews 12:28-29*
- Remember God's love for you *John 14:21*
- Express your love for God *John 21:15*

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Welcome to the season of Lent, friends.

The 40 days leading up to Easter Sunday, Lent is a powerful time of word and reflection as we move toward Easter.

This year, our Harvest Lenten Series will be focused on altar moments found in the story of Genesis, the first book of the Old Testament. I have often said that the secret to reading the Old Testament is this: see Jesus on every page. That's the hope for us all as we begin our Lenten journey.

The hope and prayer behind this devotional is that it can serve as a 40-day guide, helping you to go both deeper in God's Word and closer in your relationship with Jesus.

So, my encouragement to you? Find a quiet place, grab a cup of coffee, a pen or pencil and your Bible, and open up this little daily devotional, and let's see together what the Holy Spirit has to say in the weeks ahead.



Mark

Rev. Mark Sorensen
Senior Pastor

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