



REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message.
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January 26 – February 1, 2026

Sermon Series: "The Time Has Come"

Sermon Title: "The 'Upside Down' Kingdom" by Rev. Dr. Pete Moon

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals,
make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

Questions for small groups and individual reflection:

- Change occurs not by trying harder but by training harder. Would you agree or disagree? Can you name an experience in your life outside of church when this was so? Can you describe an instance or a time when participating in spiritual disciplines made a difference in your life?
- Do you think your church is making a difference? Are people's lives changed because of your church? Is the community different because the church is there?
- Is your church structured to make an impact on lives and on the community? If you had a magic wand, what would you change to make it so?

Monday, January 26: Read Matthew 5:1-11

Sometimes it seems hard to know which side is up nowadays. Depending on which news channel we watch, which expert we listen to, or which button we click, we get drastically opposing messages on what is true, what is right, and even what is holy. As we continue our study and sermon series on God's kingdom this week, we focus on the seemingly "upside down" messages of Jesus – the ones that turned society and common thought on its head. Jesus's Sermon on the Mount, which we read today, is home of the most famous examples of this: "*Blessed are the meek...blessed are those who mourn...blessed are you when people persecute you...*" But is Jesus's message really the one that's "upside down", or are we the ones who are actually disoriented? This week our readings, small group studies, and sermon will challenge us to take a hard look at the distortions we have within our own culture, hearts, and minds and begin to more intentionally strive for the standard Jesus sets for us on what is pure, what is holy, and what is blessed...to strive for what John Wesley called "perfection" in becoming like Christ.

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Name some ways that the kingdom of God is upside down from the common values of our world.*

Tuesday, January 27: Read Matthew 18:1-5

In a world that's always been obsessed with status, power, and rank, Jesus reminds us in today's scripture that we are to become like little children if we want to enter the kingdom. How do we do that? Is it through our normal merit-based effort and works? Or will it entail a complete departure from the values, belief systems, and habits of our current world? It's not possible through following what today's society prescribes as the formula for success or living our "best life"; it only comes through making discipleship a priority. Are we prepared to do this?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Take time to define "discipleship" in your own words, what you are willing to change.*

Wednesday, January 28: Read Ezekiel 36:24-28

Living in God's kingdom doesn't just mean changing our habits and behaviors; it means allowing ourselves to *be* changed – to acknowledge that we have impurities, "hearts of stone," and sin and need to repent. Our faith isn't meant to make us better versions of ourselves; it's meant to change us. Are we willing to let this happen? Are we willing to become different – new – through our faith?

- **Study Opportunity:** *Study what was happening to the Jewish people during the time of Ezekiel. Why would they need to be cleansed? Why would they need to be brought back into their land?*

Thursday, January 29: Read Matthew 28:16-20

Notice how much active obedience is shown in the few short verses of today's reading. "The eleven disciples went...where Jesus had told them to go...Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...baptizing them...teaching them..." Living in God's kingdom isn't a passive, stationary activity. There are no walls and boundaries we can comfortably sit inside; it is a moving kingdom we are to take out into the world. This is very different from our current definition of a sovereign state or citizenship. Being in the kingdom means being a servant of the King and bringing those rights and privileges to others. How upside down is our current thinking compared to this?

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss how "upside down" this version of the Kingdom seems today.*

Friday, January 30: Read 1 Peter 2:9-12

Yet again, our definition of a kingdom is turned back on its head. Today's scripture was written to believers during the Roman Empire when being a Christian required true courage in the face of persecution, and real discipline amidst the temptation of a society built on indulgence and debauchery. Yet these early Christians found joy, mercy, and light through their incredible obedience. What might we be able to do if we have this same discipline today? What might change in our world that could turn everything upside down...or rightside up?

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *How do you see the world, yourself, and God differently because of what you believe?*

Saturday, January 31: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-11)

Memorize as many of the Beatitudes as you can. Write them on your heart

Sunday, February 1: Let us prepare our hearts and minds with our Prayer of Confession: *Holy and gracious God, you have called us to be people of peace, but we confess how quickly we divide, how easily we hold grudges, and how slowly we seek healing. You offer us grace upon grace, yet we are slow to extend that grace to others. We choose comfort over transformation, and pride over reconciliation. We resist the transforming work of Your grace. Forgive us, Lord. Uproot what is broken within us and renew us by your Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.* From Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church Prayer of Confession, August 17, 2025 <https://www.mdpc.org/media/prayers-of-confession/>