

QFMC 5 Day Devotional

Week of August 16, 2026 by Ryan Massey

Based on the Themes of Matthew 8 and the Sermon

Day 1: The Willingness of Jesus

Reading: Matthew 8:1-4

Devotional: The leper did not doubt whether Jesus could heal him. His only question was whether Jesus was willing. That is a profound and honest kind of faith. He came broken, marginalized, untouchable by the standards of his world, and he knelt before the one person who did not turn away. Jesus reached out and touched what others refused to approach. He did not heal from a distance. He moved toward the suffering. Whatever you carry today that feels untouchable or shameful, bring it to Jesus with the same honest question. He is willing.

Reflection Question: What have you been hesitant to bring before Jesus, assuming he might not want to deal with it?

Practical Application: Write down one area of your life you have been keeping at a distance from God. Bring it to him in prayer today, openly and without pretense.

Day 2: Faith That Marvels God

Reading: Matthew 8:5-13

Devotional: A Roman centurion, a man of power and authority in an occupying empire, came to Jesus with remarkable humility. He understood authority because he exercised it daily, and he recognized in Jesus a power that far exceeded anything he commanded. Jesus marveled. The Son of God was moved by this man's faith. The centurion did not demand. He did not presume. He simply trusted. Jesus reminds us that access to the kingdom is not granted by heritage, religious familiarity, or proximity to church life. It is received through genuine, humble faith. Do not presume your seat at the table. Come with open hands.

Reflection Question: In what ways might you be relying on religious routine or background rather than a living, active faith in Jesus?

Practical Application: Spend time today examining the quality of your trust in Jesus. Ask him to reveal any areas where entitlement has replaced genuine dependence.

Day 3: No One Beyond His Reach

Reading: Matthew 8:14-17

Devotional: Matthew presents a remarkable range of people in this passage. An outcast leper. A foreign soldier's servant. An ordinary woman sick in bed. Strangers arriving after sundown with no appointment and no credentials. Jesus healed them all. He did not rank them. He did not sort them by spiritual resume or social standing. He simply moved toward each one and brought wholeness. Matthew ties all of this to Isaiah's words, describing a Messiah who personally takes on human suffering rather than observing it from a safe distance. There is no category of person beyond the reach of Jesus. None.

Reflection Question: Who in your life have you written off as unlikely to experience God's grace or healing? How might Jesus see that person differently?

Practical Application: Identify one person on the margins of your community. Pray for them specifically today, and consider one tangible way you might move toward them this week.

Day 4: The Kingdom Belongs to the Humble

Reading: Matthew 7:21-27 and Isaiah 53:4-5

Devotional: Jesus warned that many who performed great works in his name would hear a sobering response on the last day. Doing things for Jesus is not the same as knowing Jesus. The Sermon on the Mount closes with the image of two builders, and the difference between them is not effort but foundation. Isaiah 53 describes a suffering servant who carries what we cannot, who bears what breaks us. The healing Jesus brings is not a reward for religious performance. It flows from his own willingness to absorb our brokenness. Build on him, not on what you have done for him.

Reflection Question: Is your spiritual life built on your relationship with Jesus, or on your activity and service in his name?

Practical Application: Set aside fifteen minutes today not to do anything for God, but simply to be with him. Let that be your foundation.

Day 5: Praying With Confidence in a Broken World

Reading: Romans 8:18-26 and Matthew 8:8

Devotional: The centurion's words carry a quiet but powerful confidence: just say the word. He did not demand a timeline. He did not require a visible sign before he believed. He simply trusted that the authority of Jesus was sufficient. Romans 8 reminds us that all of creation is groaning, longing for restoration. We live in that tension. Healing does not always come immediately. Suffering is real. But the Spirit intercedes for us in our weakness, and Jesus is not distant from our pain. He has carried it. Come to him in faith, lay your burdens at his feet, and trust the one who holds the word that makes all things new.

Reflection Question: Where are you currently wrestling with unanswered prayer? How can you hold both honest grief and confident trust at the same time?

Practical Application: Write a prayer today that names your need honestly, acknowledges Jesus as Lord and King over that situation, and surrenders the outcome to his authority and timing.