

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from Pastor Paul Pett's sermon from Sunday, August 2, 2026, the Tenth Sunday After Pentecost:

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Theme: Called by Grace, Sent in Love

Day 1: The Grief of a Compassionate Heart

Reading: [Romans 9:1-5](#)

Devotional:

Paul opens Romans 9 not with argument but with anguish. He grieves deeply over those who do not know Christ, and he does not hide it. This is not weakness. This is the mark of a heart shaped by God's own heart. Before you consider who in your life does not yet believe, ask yourself whether you feel anything about it. Grief over a lost soul is not despair. It is love taking its proper form. Let the faces of those you love who do not know Christ move you today not to anxiety, but to prayer.

Reflection: Who comes to mind when you read of Paul's sorrow? Bring that person before God in prayer today.

Day 2: Nothing Can Separate, Yet Someone Is Still Lost

Reading: [Romans 8:35-39](#)

Devotional:

The triumphant close of Romans 8 declares that nothing in all creation can separate the believer from the love of God in Christ Jesus. That is a foundation of unshakable confidence. But Paul does not let that confidence become comfortable isolation. The very next breath he draws is one of sorrow for those outside that love. Security in salvation is never meant to produce indifference. It is meant to free you from fear so that you can turn outward with boldness. You are held. Now ask yourself who around you is not yet held, and what you will do about it.

Reflection: How does your assurance of salvation shape the way you think about those who do not yet believe?

Day 3: Children of Promise, Not of Bloodline

Reading: [Romans 9:6-13](#)

Devotional:

God's purposes do not rise or fall on human lineage or achievement. Paul makes this plain when he draws from the story of Jacob and Esau. Before either had done anything, God's call was already at work. This is not a story about fairness. It is a story about the sovereign grace of a God who chooses to save through promise rather than performance. You did not earn your place among the children of God. It was given. That same grace that reached you can reach anyone. No person you know is beyond the scope of a God who calls before works begin.

Reflection: Is there someone in your life you have quietly decided is too far gone to reach? What does today's reading say to that assumption?

Day 4: God's Compassion Does Not Withdraw

Reading: [Matthew 23:37-39](#)

Devotional:

Jesus looked over Jerusalem and wept. The city that had rejected the prophets, that would soon reject him, was still the object of his longing. He did not turn away. He grieved, and his grief was the grief of one who had offered everything and been refused. This is the heart of God on display. He does not abandon those who turn from him. He mourns them. If you have prayed for someone for years with no visible response, take courage. The God you serve is still standing with open arms. Your faithfulness in prayer and witness reflects his faithfulness to the lost.

Reflection: How does the image of Christ weeping over Jerusalem change the way you pray for those who have rejected the faith?

Day 5: You Give Them Something to Eat

Reading: [John 6:1-14](#)

Devotional:

When Jesus told his disciples to feed the crowd, they could not imagine how. What they had seemed laughably small. But Jesus took what was offered, gave thanks, and multiplied it beyond measure. The command still stands. You give them something to eat. You may feel your words are too few, your faith too small, your relationships too complicated. Offer them anyway. God does not need your abundance. He needs your willingness. The same Christ who fed five thousand from a child's lunch can take your small, imperfect witness and use it to bring life to a soul that is perishing without him.

Reflection: What small, practical step can you take this week to share Christ with someone who does not yet know him?