

## **BSBC 2020 Lenten Devotional Guide and Suggestions**

Thanks for your willingness to write for this meaningful and inspirational project! Listed below you will find guidelines and helpful suggestions for writing your devotion.

### **Guidelines / Format**

Each devotion will list the scriptural address of the passage you have chosen, your reflections, a point to ponder and a one to two sentence closing prayer.

Example:      Matthew 4:1-11  
                 Your reflections  
                 A one sentence point to ponder  
                 A one to two sentence prayer based on your reflections

Each devotion is not to exceed 500 words (this includes your reflection, point to ponder and prayer) and is due by January 31. Emailed copies are encouraged (please send to [info@boilingspringsbaptist.org](mailto:info@boilingspringsbaptist.org)), but paper copies may be turned in to the church office.

### **Helpful Suggestions for Writing your Devotion**

As you read and prepare to write, you should do so from a pure heart and a focused mind. Writing with humility and spiritual sensitivity, you can encourage and challenge others towards a closer walk with the Lord.

Read all the scripture passages for your day, pray and decide which one you feel led to write on.

Read and re-read your chosen passage several times and from different translations.

Begin to record your initial reflections and thoughts.

Learn more about the context of your passage. A good study Bible will help with this. Who wrote it? Type of literature? When was it written? Where was it written and to whom? What was going on in the time it was written? Why was it written?

Note: you will learn a lot of information about your passage. All of the information you learn will not need to be included in your reflection. Seeing the big picture of your passage is important as you begin writing.

Try to narrow your focus to the one thing you want readers to take away from your devotion and center your reflections, point to ponder, and prayer around this.

Is there a short story from your life and faith journey that should make its way into your reflections? This personal story will help lead readers toward the one thing you hope they will take away from your devotion.

You've got this! Allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide your writing!