

# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *November 21-25, 2022*

*These devotionals were originally used with the "In-Between Time" sermon series in August 2018*

## INTRODUCTION

How do we give thanks in times of uncertainty and struggle - those situations that prompt us to ask "what now?"

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### Monday: 1 Kings 4:21-34

The reign of Solomon proves to be a period of unprecedented peace, prosperity, and cultural development. The Israelites look back on this as the golden age of Israel. Think about a season in your life that you look back on fondly. What did you enjoy about that season?

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### Tuesday: Job 1:13-22

Job experienced tragic loss in his life and still had tremendous faith in God. Have you ever seen someone demonstrate great faith in God despite difficult circumstances? If so, how did the person's faith influence your own?

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### Wednesday: 1 Kings 19:1-10

Elijah had so many miraculous experiences, you'd think that he'd have unshakable faith. The pressure of being such a high-profile prophet of God had gotten to Elijah and he hightailed it into the wilderness. When God met him there, Elijah was undone, feeling like he was the only prophet left, confident that he was completely isolated and imperiled. When have you faced a difficult event or season in life that caused you to feel you'd never be happy again or that no good could come from what you were experiencing? What happened?

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### Thursday: Matthew 4:12-13, Matthew 11:2-6

When John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus did not go visit him... he went further away from him. This left John wondering if Jesus was who he thought he was. Has there ever been a time when you felt God was absent from your life, apathetic about what you were going through, or angry with you? How did it influence your relationship with him? What did you do?

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### Friday: John 11:1-7

When Jesus heard that his friend Lazarus was very ill, he stayed where he was for the next 2 days. It seemed strange that Jesus would not go and heal his friend and prevent his death. But Jesus was up to something no one could understand. It's been said that "just because God is silent doesn't mean he is unconcerned." How would your life be different if you lived as though you fully believed that truth?

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## MOVING FORWARD

Sometimes God is silent just because he's silent. Just because he's silent doesn't mean he's absent, unconcerned, or angry. You may need to know that someday. You may need to know it today. During challenging times, it's easy to assume that you'll never be happy again, no good can come from your circumstances, or there's no use continuing. Hold on to joy, hope, and purpose by holding on to the truth that God still has the whole world - your world - in his hands.