

devotions for board meetings

devotions for board meetings are increasingly recognized as a valuable practice for organizations seeking to foster unity, purpose, and ethical decision-making among their leadership teams. Incorporating devotions into board meetings provides an opportunity for reflection, inspiration, and alignment with organizational values. This comprehensive article explores the importance of devotions for board meetings, offers practical ideas for crafting meaningful devotionals, discusses the benefits of spiritual reflection in business settings, and provides tips for selecting appropriate devotion themes. Whether you are a nonprofit, church, school, or corporate board, you will find actionable guidance to make your board meetings more purposeful and engaging. Read on for expert strategies to integrate devotions for board meetings that support team cohesion, ethical leadership, and mission-driven progress.

- Understanding the Importance of Devotions for Board Meetings
- Benefits of Spiritual Reflection in Organizational Leadership
- How to Structure Devotions for Board Meetings
- Popular Devotion Themes for Board Meetings
- Practical Tips for Leading Effective Devotions
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Understanding the Importance of Devotions for Board Meetings

Devotions for board meetings serve as intentional moments to set the tone and direction for decision-making and collaboration. These brief spiritual reflections help board members center themselves before discussing important matters, ensuring that values and purpose are at the forefront. Devotions can involve scripture reading, prayer, inspirational stories, or guided meditations, depending on the context and organizational culture. By prioritizing devotions, boards demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles, unity, and mission alignment, which are essential for effective governance and leadership. Organizations that incorporate devotions for board meetings often report increased morale, better communication, and a stronger sense of shared responsibility.

Benefits of Spiritual Reflection in Organizational Leadership

Integrating devotions into board meetings yields numerous benefits that extend beyond spiritual growth. When board members engage in regular spiritual reflection, they are reminded of their organization's core values and mission. This practice fosters an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect, which is vital for productive decision-making. Spiritual reflection also encourages humility, gratitude, and ethical discernment, traits that enhance leadership effectiveness. Boards that consistently incorporate devotions find that members are more focused, empathetic, and motivated to pursue the organization's goals with integrity.

Key Benefits of Devotions in Board Meetings

- Improved unity and collaboration among board members
- Enhanced focus on mission and core values
- Greater ethical awareness and accountability
- Increased empathy and understanding
- Reduced stress and improved meeting atmosphere
- Encouragement and inspiration for challenging decisions

How to Structure Devotions for Board Meetings

Structuring devotions for board meetings requires thoughtful planning to ensure that they are relevant, concise, and impactful. While the format may vary depending on the organization, most devotions follow a simple outline designed to encourage reflection and discussion. It is important to allocate adequate time for devotions without detracting from the meeting's agenda. Typically, devotions are held at the beginning of the meeting to set a positive and focused tone. Leaders should tailor the content to the needs and preferences of the board, ensuring inclusivity and respect for diverse beliefs.

Suggested Structure for Devotions

1. Opening: Welcome and introduction to the devotion topic
2. Reading: A relevant scripture, quote, or story
3. Reflection: Brief thoughts connecting the reading to the organization's work

4. Discussion: Optional sharing or responses from board members
5. Prayer or Meditation: Closing with prayer or a moment of silence

This structured approach helps keep devotions for board meetings organized, meaningful, and respectful of participants' time.

Popular Devotion Themes for Board Meetings

Choosing the right theme for devotions in board meetings is essential for relevance and impact. Themes should resonate with the organization's mission, current challenges, or leadership values. Some themes focus on scripture, while others draw from inspirational quotes, historical figures, or contemporary issues. By rotating themes, boards can keep devotional time fresh and engaging, ensuring that all members find meaning in the practice.

Examples of Effective Devotion Themes

- Servant Leadership and Humility
- Stewardship and Accountability
- Unity and Teamwork
- Vision and Purpose
- Faith and Courage in Decision-Making
- Integrity and Honesty
- Gratitude and Recognition
- Perseverance in Challenging Times

These themes provide a foundation for meaningful devotions that speak to the unique needs of boards and their leadership responsibilities.

Practical Tips for Leading Effective Devotions

Leading devotions for board meetings requires preparation and sensitivity to the group's dynamics. Effective leaders understand the importance of keeping devotions concise, engaging, and relevant. It is helpful to rotate leadership responsibilities, allowing different

board members to contribute their perspectives. The use of practical examples, relatable stories, and inclusive language ensures that all participants feel comfortable and valued during devotional time.

Suggestions for Successful Devotions

- Prepare the devotion in advance and practice delivery
- Keep devotions short (5–10 minutes) to respect time constraints
- Incorporate diverse perspectives and themes
- Use clear, simple language and avoid jargon
- Encourage voluntary participation in prayer, reflection, or discussion
- Align devotional content with current organizational challenges or achievements
- Follow up with a brief summary or takeaway for reflection

These tips help ensure that devotions for board meetings remain a positive and valued aspect of organizational culture.

Sample Devotion Ideas for Board Meetings

To make devotions for board meetings impactful, leaders can draw inspiration from a variety of sources. Well-crafted devotions often combine scriptural insights, motivational stories, or practical lessons that relate directly to board responsibilities. It is important to choose devotion ideas that reflect the organization's values and the unique context of each meeting.

Short Devotion Example: Unity in Service

Begin with a reading from Psalm 133, emphasizing the blessings of working together in harmony. Share a story about a successful team project that was made possible by collaboration. Reflect on how unity strengthens decision-making and organizational impact. Close with a prayer for continued teamwork and mutual respect among board members.

Short Devotion Example: Wisdom in Leadership

Read a passage from Proverbs 2:6, highlighting the value of seeking wisdom in leadership. Discuss a recent challenge faced by the board and the importance of discernment. Invite members to share brief insights on how wisdom has guided their decisions. End with a

prayer for guidance and clarity as the board moves forward.

Short Devotion Example: Gratitude for Service

Share a quote about gratitude and thank board members for their dedication. Reflect on the impact of recognizing and appreciating each other's contributions. Offer a moment of silent reflection for members to consider what they are grateful for in their roles. Conclude with a prayer for a spirit of thankfulness to permeate the meeting.

These examples illustrate how devotions for board meetings can be tailored to meet the needs of the group, promoting reflection, unity, and purposeful leadership.

Frequently Asked Questions About Devotions for Board Meetings

Q: Why are devotions important for board meetings?

A: Devotions for board meetings help set a purposeful and ethical tone, fostering unity and reflection among members. They encourage leaders to focus on core values, mission, and ethical decision-making.

Q: What is the best time to include devotions in board meetings?

A: Most organizations schedule devotions at the beginning of board meetings to establish a positive atmosphere and guide discussions with intentionality.

Q: How long should devotions for board meetings last?

A: Effective devotions typically last between 5 to 10 minutes, ensuring they are concise and respectful of the board's agenda while remaining meaningful.

Q: Who should lead devotions for board meetings?

A: Leadership can rotate among board members, or a designated individual with experience in leading spiritual reflections may take responsibility. Rotating leadership encourages diverse perspectives.

Q: What topics are suitable for devotions in board

meetings?

A: Common topics include unity, wisdom, stewardship, gratitude, integrity, and purpose. Themes should align with organizational values and current challenges.

Q: Can devotions be inclusive of different beliefs?

A: Yes, devotions for board meetings can be designed to respect diverse faith backgrounds by focusing on universal values, inspirational stories, or moments of reflection.

Q: How can devotions improve board decision-making?

A: Devotions encourage ethical reflection, humility, and collaboration, which support better decision-making and leadership effectiveness.

Q: Are devotions necessary for all types of boards?

A: While not mandatory, devotions are particularly effective for boards in faith-based, nonprofit, and educational organizations that value spiritual reflection and ethical leadership.

Q: What resources are available for finding devotion ideas?

A: Leaders can use scripture passages, motivational quotes, leadership books, and online devotionals tailored to organizational contexts for inspiration.

Q: How do devotions support organizational culture?

A: Regular devotions for board meetings reinforce a culture of gratitude, unity, and ethical leadership, contributing to a more positive and mission-driven environment.

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Devotions for Board Meetings: Guiding Your Leadership with Faith

Are you looking for ways to infuse your board meetings with a sense of purpose, unity, and ethical guidance? Starting your board meetings with a short, thoughtful devotion can be a powerful way to foster a positive and productive atmosphere. This post offers a practical guide to incorporating devotions into your board meetings, providing examples and considerations to help you navigate this sensitive yet potentially transformative practice. We'll explore how to choose appropriate readings, lead impactful devotions, and address potential concerns. Let's delve into how to make devotions a meaningful part of your board's process.

Choosing Appropriate Devotions for Your Board

The key to successful board meeting devotions lies in selecting material that resonates with your diverse group while maintaining a respectful and inclusive environment. Avoid overtly partisan or sectarian content. The goal is to inspire, not to preach.

H3: Focusing on Universal Themes:

Instead of focusing on specific religious doctrines, consider themes that transcend religious boundaries. These could include:

Integrity and Ethical Leadership: Explore passages emphasizing honesty, transparency, and accountability - crucial qualities for any board.

Collaboration and Teamwork: Find readings that highlight the importance of working together towards a common goal. The book of Acts in the Bible, for example, offers many examples of collaborative leadership.

Vision and Purpose: Devotions focused on setting goals, overcoming challenges, and maintaining a long-term perspective can be profoundly impactful.

Compassion and Empathy: Emphasize the importance of understanding and serving the stakeholders your organization serves.

Gratitude and Appreciation: A simple expression of gratitude for the opportunity to serve can set a positive tone for the meeting.

H3: Finding Suitable Resources:

Numerous resources can provide suitable devotional material. Consider:

Online Devotionals: Many websites offer daily or weekly devotional readings with diverse perspectives. Search for "short devotions for meetings" or "inspirational readings for leadership".

Books of Poetry or Prose: Select passages from well-known authors or poets that speak to themes of leadership, service, and community.

Classic Literature: Excerpts from works known for their ethical or inspirational content can offer rich fodder for reflection.

Personal Reflections: A board member with strong communication skills could prepare a brief, personal reflection based on their experiences or beliefs. However, ensure this aligns with the board's overall ethos and avoids any potential conflict of interest.

Leading Effective Devotions at Board Meetings

The manner in which devotions are presented is as important as the content itself.

H3: Keeping it Concise and Respectful:

Devotions should be brief (3-5 minutes maximum) to avoid disrupting the meeting's agenda. Always offer a clear invitation for participation but avoid pressure or coercion. Those who do not wish to participate should be accommodated with respectful silence.

H3: Establishing a Consistent Process:

Regularity fosters a sense of routine and expectation. Decide if devotions will be a regular feature (e.g., at the beginning of each meeting) or occasional. Assign the responsibility for leading devotions in a rotating manner to various board members. This distributes the burden and fosters a sense of shared responsibility.

H3: Facilitating Discussion (Optional):

Depending on your board's culture, you may choose to include a brief period for reflection or discussion after the devotion. Keep this time limited and focused on how the devotion's message relates to the board's work.

Addressing Potential Concerns

Introducing devotions into board meetings may raise concerns.

H3: Maintaining Inclusivity:

Transparency is vital. Clearly communicate the purpose and process to all board members in advance. Ensure that the chosen devotions are inclusive and do not alienate or exclude anyone based on their beliefs. Emphasize the focus on shared values and principles rather than specific religious doctrines.

H3: Legal and Ethical Considerations:

Consult with legal counsel if you have concerns about potential legal or ethical ramifications, particularly regarding the separation of church and state.

Conclusion

Incorporating devotions into your board meetings can be a powerful way to enhance your leadership, foster unity, and promote ethical decision-making. By carefully selecting appropriate material, leading the devotions respectfully, and addressing any potential concerns proactively, you can create a more meaningful and productive environment for your board. Remember, the goal is to inspire and uplift, not to impose beliefs. With thoughtful consideration, devotions can become a valuable asset for your organization.

FAQs

1. What if a board member objects to the devotions? Respect their perspective and offer them the option to step out of the room during the devotion. Transparency and respect are crucial.
2. How can I ensure devotions remain secular and inclusive? Focus on universal themes of ethics, leadership, and service. Avoid overtly religious or sectarian language.
3. What if I don't have a religious background but want to lead a devotion? You can still share a brief reflection on a positive or inspirational theme related to leadership or teamwork.
4. How can I prevent devotions from becoming too lengthy or disruptive? Keep them concise (3-5 minutes) and clearly communicate time constraints to the presenter.
5. Are devotions appropriate for all types of board meetings? Consider the context. They might be particularly beneficial for strategic planning sessions or meetings focusing on organizational mission and values.

devotions for board meetings: The Four Pages of the Sermon Paul Scott Wilson, 2010-09-01 Doing justice to the complexity of the preaching task and the questions that underlie it, Wilson organizes both the preparation and the content of the sermon around its four pages. Each page addresses a different theological and creative component of what happens in any sermon. Page One presents the trouble or conflict that takes place in or that underscores the biblical text itself. Page Two looks at similar conflict--sin or brokenness--in our own time. Page Three returns to the Bible to identify where God is at work in or behind the text--in other words, to discover the good news. Page Four points to God at work in our world, particularly in relation to the situations described in Page Two.

devotions for board meetings: Lead Like Jesus Ken Blanchard, Phil Hodges, 2008-09 Learn how to lead like Jesus, whether in the home, the church, the community, or the marketplace; moving not only from success to significance but taking a step beyond significance--surrender.

devotions for board meetings: Encouragement for Today Renee Swope, Lysa TerKeurst, Samantha Evilsizer, 2013-09-24 Pull away from the things that pull you down and find lasting encouragement for today. The women at Proverbs 31 Ministries offer 100 devotions of wit, wisdom, and encouragement for women. For twenty years the P31 team has equipped and encouraged nearly a million women to live in the power of God's truths that apply to their everyday life. Written by

women from every walk of life, you will find inspiration to live authentically and fully grounded in the Word of God. The P31 Team shares from the realities of everyday life including highs and lows, humorous stories and tender moments. You will be drawn toward the truths God offers and enabled to rise above and become all God created you to be.

devotions for board meetings: Breaking Busy Alli Worthington, 2016-01-26 Have you ever felt like a fraud or failure as you struggle to find balance in life? Do you find yourself juggling everything in mediocrity and feeling like you're succeeding at very little? In her no-nonsense style, Alli Worthington--popular podcaster and author of *The Year of Living Happy*--tackles the big questions about finding happiness and one's God-given purpose. Have you ever felt like a fraud or failure as you struggle to find balance in life? Do you find yourself juggling everything in mediocrity and feeling like you're succeeding at very little? In her no-nonsense way, Alli Worthington tackles the big questions about finding happiness and one's God-given purpose. *Breaking Busy* marries popular secular research with solid biblical principles, instilling confidence that you, too, can move from crazy busy to confident calm. With refreshing candor, uproarious true stories, and a Christian worldview, Alli delivers truths that dismantle common happiness myths. Then she empowers you to get unstuck, to let go of the good to make way for the great, to know yourself and your Creator, and ultimately to find peace and purpose in this world of crazy. You will: Learn how to stop chasing what leaves you empty and start doing what you were created to do. Identify the common lies you believe and how to strip their power from your life. Recognize how what you say no to determines what you can say yes to. With relatable anecdotes, Alli models real-life guidance on boundaries, relationships, and self-care, humbly examining her own mistakes and walking through how she learned from her missteps and found peace in a world of busyness. If you long to find real connection with both your loved ones and your Creator, Alli Worthington deftly balances intelligent humility and heartwarming humor to help you rediscover your path.

devotions for board meetings: *Beginning Ministry Together* Roy M. Oswald, James Heath, Ann Heath, 2003-12-01 *Beginning Ministry Together* is about the transition period between the announcement that one pastor is leaving and the time when another pastor is well settled. The message brought by Roy Oswald and colleagues Jim and Ann Heath is that this is not an impossible time to be survived only with a lot of expert help. Rather, even though the task is complex, committed congregational leaders can handle it—with the help of people who have been on this journey before. Oswald describes how clergy and congregations can better end and begin pastorates. He shows them how to say good-bye and discern their needs for the future—how to use the open space between pastorates for evaluation and preparation for a new day.

devotions for board meetings: Just. You. Wait. Tricia Lott Williford, 2019-07-09 Everybody waits. We wait for a spouse, wait for a baby, wait on our children, wait for our parents. We wait for clarity and direction. We wait on a job, a promotion, a new direction. We wait for hope, for healing, and for miracles. We wait on God. And when we misunderstand what waiting is about, we can get confused about what God is up to. Waiting is one of God's favorite tools. He can do certain things in our hearts, our lives, and our relationships while we wait—things we cannot experience once we've opened the gift we have been waiting for. So just you wait, because everyone takes their turn in the waiting room. It's a long and painful fact of life, but shortcuts and microwaves aren't the answer. God is at work behind the scenes in invisible ways you can't see . . . yet. Just you wait and see how ready you'll be if you spend your waiting well. Because when your opportunity comes, you don't want to spend more time on the bench. When you wait well, you can say, "Look out, world: I am getting ready to shine. Just you wait." In these pages, Tricia discusses the joy hidden in the discipline of waiting, and the practices of believing God is for you and working on your behalf, even when the work of His hand is hard to find.

devotions for board meetings: Marriage After God Aaron Smith, Jennifer Smith, 2019-06-04 What if God has purposed your marriage for something so much more than happily ever after? Since the very beginning, God's design for marriage has been for husbands and wives to be ambassadors of holy love to a hurting world. Still, too many couples stop short at happy and wonder why they feel

unsatisfied. Rather than you and me against the world, God calls each couple to the rich and meaningful mission of you and me for the world. In *Marriage After God*, Aaron and Jennifer Smith, popular marriage bloggers at HusbandRevolution.com and UnveiledWife.com, transparently share their own journey of turning a marriage in crisis into a marriage built on Christ's redemptive love. With fresh biblical insight and intimate stories of their own struggles and victories, this book will guide you toward a God-centered, ministry-minded, and thriving marriage. Throughout *Marriage After God*, you'll learn to: Discover the signature marks of a marriage after God Find principles for building an unshakable marriage foundation Let God's story take the lead in your love story Recognize the tools God has already equipped you with for a missional life together Filled with timeless wisdom, this thorough and practical book will empower you and your spouse to dream, decide, and do as you step hand in hand into God's ultimate purpose for your marriage. God has created your remarkable, romantic, and redemptive relationship to be a powerful light to a dark and hurting world. Let *Marriage After God* be your invitation to marriage as God intended--a life-saving, hope-inspiring, and transforming force of God's love. Praise for *Marriage After God*: This book is an incredible resource for anyone trying to grow or step into a healthier and more life-giving marriage. Aaron and Jen pull no punches; are honest, raw, and authentic; and show that a marriage in pursuit of Jesus can change the world. --Jefferson Bethke, New York Times bestselling author of *Jesus > Religion* There is a short list of books I'm stashing away for my three small kiddos to read when they are older--*Marriage After God* is one of them. Dear couples of the world, you have picked up a treasure! This book will give you clear direction to live out God's will for your marriage. There is no greater gift you can give yourselves than to run after Him together. *Marriage After God* will show you how! --Lara Casey, author of *Cultivate* and *Make It Happen*

devotions for board meetings: *Journey of the Soul* Bill Gaultiere, Kristi Gaultiere, 2021-02-16 The healthy Christian life is one of continuing spiritual, emotional, and relational growth. But so many of us feel stuck or stagnated at one stage of the journey. It's not always clear to us where or why we are stuck, making it difficult to take the next step on our journey of the soul. That's where Bill and Kristi Gaultiere come in. After decades in private practice as counselors and therapists, they have developed a unique model for growing in grace. In *Journey of the Soul*, they draw on more than 70,000 hours of providing therapy and spiritual direction to show you how to identify your current stage of faith and the next steps to take based on your unique needs and struggles. With Scripture, self-assessments, and soul care practices to support your progress along the way, this insightful and inspiring book will be a treasured companion on your journey no matter where you are or how long you've been following Jesus.

devotions for board meetings: Morning Meetings with Jesus Susan O'Carroll Drake, 2008 Designed for each school day in the student year, these light-hearted and insightful devotions offer lessons from the Master Teacher and a challenge to apply that lesson in real-life situations that confront educators in today's classroom. From the student who attacks verbally or physically to the lab experiment that goes wrong, teachers face a variety of challenges - and veteran teacher of Baltimore's public school, author Susan O'Carroll Drake, shares not only her own experiences but the biblical principles she has gleaned from a study of Jesus' life and teaching. Each devotion offers a Scripture reading, key verse, personal anecdote, biblical insight, and practical application before concluding with a brief prayer.

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true purpose as stewards who have been baptized into Christ. Stewardship will help pastors to teach and preach stewardship as a call to repentance and new life.

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devotions for board meetings: *Love Like That* Les Parrott, 2018-09-04 What can the Bible teach us about unconditional, everlasting, life-changing love? Join #1 New York Times bestselling author Dr. Les Parrott as he shows us that we all deserve Love Like That. In this authentic, practical book, Dr. Parrott provides a simple plan to improve all of your relationships--with spouses, family, friends, coworkers, and even strangers. Dr. Parrott takes proven findings from psychology and sociology and blends them with biblical teaching to reveal five transformative ways of relating to people demonstrated by Jesus himself. In Love Like That, Dr. Parrott gives you the tools you need to love like Jesus, because when you do: you become less detached and more mindful you become less exclusive and more approachable you become less judgmental and more grace-full you become less fearful and more bold you become less self-absorbed and more self-giving Dr. Parrott teaches us that loving like Jesus can be a daily reality for anyone who chooses it. Why? Because this love isn't elusive. It isn't pie-in-the-sky. It isn't out of reach or relegated to untouchable saints. It's real. Jesus gives us practical examples of how to love in extraordinary ways. And you're likely closer to it than you know. Praise for Love Like That: From the first vulnerable sentence, this heart-felt message from Dr. Parrott will compel you to not only be a better person, it will show you exactly how you can do just that. --Dave Ramsey, #1 bestselling author and radio host Refreshingly honest and incredibly practical. This book is for everyone who wants to love like Jesus but never thought they could. I've personally benefited from this helpful book, and you will too. --Lysa TerKeurst, president of Proverbs 31 Ministries and bestselling author of Forgiving What You Can't Forget With an incredible blend of contemporary social science and a deep understanding of Scripture, Les Parrott's writing will help you see beyond what you may be tempted to settle for. And he'll show you the way, step-by-step, to realizing the kinds of relationships we all long for. --Lee Strobel, New York Times bestselling author of The Case for Christ

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devotions for board meetings: *Dear Lord, They Want Me to Give the Devotions!* John D. Schroeder, Shane Groth, 1993 Take those frequently repeated canned devotions and make them uniquely fit a particular business meeting, prayer meeting, or other meeting.

devotions for board meetings: *Connecting the Dots* Peter Rudowski, 2009-04-09 We have learned from nature that animal and plant life thrives when all the systems of their surroundings are in harmony. The same can be said for human institutions. When the organizational systems of human institutions are in harmony, the organization thrives. This book identifies the interaction of eight organizational components that promote creative ministry in the Christian church setting. The

author combines biblical study, management theory and hard-earned experience to help church leaders understand and use organizational systems to maximize their ministry. Connect the dots of these eight components for effective ministry in the 21st century.

devotions for board meetings: Love Life Again Tracie Miles, 2018-08-01 In *Love Life Again*, Tracie reminds readers they each get only one life to live and inspires them not to take it for granted. Through compelling personal stories and powerful insights from Scripture, she helps women identify the stumbling blocks to their joy and offers tools and insights to take back control of their happiness. Every chapter ends with a practical call to action to motivate readers to begin loving their lives again. She also offers reflection questions, prayers, and creative ideas to help readers smile. *Love Life Again* helps readers learn how to live the abundant lives Jesus died for them to have, despite the circumstances they may face.

devotions for board meetings: Habits of Devotion James M. O'Toole, 2018-07-05 For generations, American Catholics... lived out their faith through countless unremarkable routines. Deep questions of theology usually meant little to them, but parishioners clung to deeply ingrained habits of devotion, both public and private. Particular devotions changed over time, waxing or waning in popularity, but the habits endured: going to mass on Sunday, saying prayers privately and teaching their children to do the same, filling their homes with crucifixes and other religious images, participating in special services, blending the church's calendar of feast and fast days with the secular cycles of work and citizenship, negotiating their conformity (or not) to the church's demands regarding sexual behavior and even diet.... It was religious practice, carried out in daily and weekly observance, that embodied their faith, more than any abstract set of dogmas.—from the Introduction In *Habits of Devotion*, four senior scholars take the measure of the central religious practices and devotions that by the middle of the twentieth century defined the ordinary, week-to-week religion of the majority of American Catholics. Their essays investigate prayer, devotion to Mary, confession, and the Eucharist as practiced by Catholics in the United States before and shortly after the Second Vatican Council.

devotions for board meetings: WHISPERING HOPE Themba Levi J. Mafico, 2023-08-23 *Whispering Hope* is a spiritual and motivational book written to help those who, like Themba Mafico's grueling life's journey, feel hopelessly hemmed in abject poverty. Heeding the small, still voice, as its subtitle alludes, demonstrates by many examples how one can overcome poverty, inordinate crises, innumerable political and racial impediments. Inspired by Elijah's sojourn to the mountain of God where he was invigorated by a small, still voice, the book teaches the importance of periodically withdrawing from the crowd and noises. Mafico's life demonstrates that in stillness one comes to know God, and in waiting that he reinvigorates and mounts up, like an eagle, to the pinnacle of life. This book narrates a triumphant journey against all odds spurred by listening to one's inner small still voice that continuously sounds words of encouragement, advice, and good cheer to keep hope alive. Without hope, a person in crisis encounters God's silence and threatening noises and a myriad of adversarial situations. But in stillness and quietude, one hears God's still, small voice whispering encores of hope. The hullabaloo, melee, and cacophony submerge God's voice, plunging a sufferer into a hopeless void. The book is replete with anecdotes, stories, and experiences that teach tenacity, courage, perseverance, long-suffering, endurance, staying the course, and setting one's face unflinchingly like flint inching toward the prize. Moreover, Mafico's story subtly teaches how reliance on the biblical teaching, parental advice and instructions, and hard work lead to a wholesome life filled with confidence and unstinting hope. When facing a unique and difficult situation, a still, small voice is heard saying, This, too, shall pass. By compelling examples, Mafico has demonstrated the spiritual and mental strength derived from living a disciplined lifestyle filled with hope.

devotions for board meetings: Spiritual Practices in Community Diana Shiflett, 2018-12-11 Diana Shiflett has spent years leading groups of all descriptions in spiritual practices, and in this personal, hands-on guide, she walks us through a wide array—from communal silence and Scripture meditation to active prayer and corporate discernment. Offering step-by-step instructions, this

resource will show you how spiritual practices can become life-giving resources in your ministry setting for years to come.

devotions for board meetings: *Living the Christian Year* Bobby Gross, 2012-04-25 Bobby Gross presents chapters on each season of the liturgical year, accompanied by weekly devotions based on the Sunday readings of the lectionary cycle. His book offers a flexible weekly format, designed to let you break the devotions down any way you want to.

devotions for board meetings: Bible and Breakfast Asheritah Ciuciu, 2019-10-01 Are you starting your day on empty? Before your feet hit the ground, chaos drowns out any hope of quiet time with Jesus, as the alarm blares, kids run around the house, and your to-do list reminds you that you're already behind. Bible and Breakfast is for you. In just a month, you'll kickstart a morning habit of meeting with Jesus and eating a healthy breakfast every day. Join Bible teacher and author Asheritah Ciuciu for 31 devotions for busy women and 31 tasty breakfast recipes. EACH DEVOTION INCLUDES: FEAST Bible Study prompts for days you want to dig deep Snack on-the-go devotionals for busy days Plenty of space for journaling and responding RECIPES FEATURE: Family favorites that are healthy enough to feel good about and tasty enough that your kids will eat them A full color photo for every recipe Lots of gluten-free, kid-friendly, and freezer-friendly options No more waiting for the perfect time and place. Experience the joy of starting your mornings with Jesus today.

devotions for board meetings: The Pastor as Evangelist, 1984-01-01 From a minister, professor, and recognized leader in the field of evangelism comes a challenge to pastors to take a new look at their mission. Richard Stall Armstrong invites pastors to put on evangelistic glasses to perceive what it means to be a pastor-evangelist in terms of personal relationships and in light of the various factors that define evangelism. Clearly and compellingly, Armstrong shows how to take the responsibility for evangelism seriously. He analyzes in a concrete way the many contexts of evangelism--the difference between witnessing to the young and the old, to individuals and groups, on the telephone or on television. He counsels pastors to adopt not a particular method but rather a style that is nondogmatic, that blends consistency with flexibility, and, above all, one that reflects the integrity and power of the Christian message. Biblically based, theologically sound, and vocationally relevant, this book is full of useful ideas and practical suggestions that will benefit pastors, professors, and seminarians.

devotions for board meetings: *Budgeting for a Healthy Church* Jamie Dunlop, 2019-04-02 Many pastors conceive of the church budget as primarily a financial tool, but in fact it is primarily a pastoral tool. A church's philosophy of ministry is locked into its budget, and so the budget will either stifle or accelerate any attempts to move a congregation toward a biblical model of church health. As such, the church budget is a far more potent pastoral tool than many church leaders realize. *Budgeting for a Healthy Church* examines each section of the budget in light of Biblical principles to show how a church budget can lock in healthy approaches to ministry. Whereas most books on church budgeting are how books, explaining how the budgeting process should work, this is a what book, helping church leaders determine the pastoral implications of what they choose to fund in their budgets.

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show that almost every assembly of parishioners emphasizes caring for others, even if the help is modest. Thus American congregations uphold an implicit but strong norm of social responsibility and work to improve the quality of life for members and nonmembers alike. Many of the problems associated with urban life persist in the face of governmental inaction, and the burden of responsibility cannot be shouldered entirely by congregations. However, in a city such as Philadelphia, where half the residents are regular attenders of religious congregations, hopes for urban improvement are largely to be found in these local groups. Special focus is given in the book to kinds of care that often go unnoticed: volunteerism, provision of refuge, and informal assistance to community members in need. All told, Cnaan asserts, congregations are an essential component of Philadelphia's civil society. Without them, the quality of life would deteriorate immeasurably.

devotions for board meetings: *The Woman's Press*, 1939

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devotions for board meetings: *The Wisdom of the Seasons* Charles M. Olsen, 2009-10-30 The church year is often seen as a framework for church programs, but well-known Alban author Charles Olsen shows readers how it can be a prism through which congregations more deeply understand their own stories. By weaving together our narratives and those of Christian tradition, a congregation can clarify its identity, grow in wisdom, and discover a new vision and ministry. Olsen draws parallels between the church seasons and practices of spiritual formation--letting go, naming and celebrating God's presence, and taking hold. He shows us how these movements are expressed in the three major cycles of the church year--Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Focusing on communal narratives, he presents a process for telling a story and forming a corporate memory of the story, and then deepening and reflecting on it by exploring the season of the church year that captures its character.

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devotions for board meetings: Holding On When You Want to Let Go Sheila Walsh, 2021-09-21 Are you struggling today? Do you look back and long for what used to be, or are you looking ahead and have no idea what's coming? Are you stuck in the middle of a mess because life has not turned out as you expected? When you run to God for answers, do you often feel like you aren't getting them--or at least aren't getting the answers you want? Are you holding on . . . but not sure how much longer you can? In times of not knowing, Sheila Walsh offers a lifeline of hope. With great compassion born of experience and hardship, Walsh comes alongside the hurting, fearful, and exhausted to remind us that we serve a God who is so much greater than our momentary troubles, no matter how insurmountable they feel. She doesn't offer a quick fix. She offers a God fix. Sharing from her own painful struggles and digging deep into biblical stories of rescue, hope, and miracles, she gives you the strength to keep going, to keep holding on to God in a world turned upside down. The accompanying study includes 10 lessons to help individuals or groups dive deeper.

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Henry M. Robert III, Daniel H. Honemann, Thomas J. Balch, 2020-08-25 The only current authorized edition of the classic work on parliamentary procedure--now in a new updated edition Robert's Rules of Order is the recognized guide to smooth, orderly, and fairly conducted meetings. This 12th edition is the only current manual to have been maintained and updated since 1876 under the continuing program established by General Henry M. Robert himself. As indispensable now as the original edition was more than a century ago, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised is the acknowledged gold standard for meeting rules. New and enhanced features of this edition include: Section-based paragraph numbering to facilitate cross-references and e-book compatibility Expanded appendix of charts, tables, and lists Helpful summary explanations about postponing a motion, reconsidering a vote, making and enforcing points of order and appeals, and newly expanded procedures for filling blanks New provisions regarding debate on nominations, reopening nominations, and completing an election after its scheduled time Dozens more clarifications, additions, and refinements to improve the presentation of existing rules, incorporate new interpretations, and address common inquiries Coinciding with publication of the 12th edition, the authors of this manual have once again published an updated (3rd) edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief, a simple and concise introductory guide cross-referenced to it.

devotions for board meetings: I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die Sarah J. Robinson, 2021-05-11 A compassionate, shame-free guide for your darkest days "A one-of-a-kind book . . . to read for yourself or give to a struggling friend or loved one without the fear that depression and suicidal thoughts will be minimized, medicalized or over-spiritualized."—Kay Warren, cofounder of Saddleback Church What happens when loving Jesus doesn't cure you of depression, anxiety, or suicidal thoughts? You might be crushed by shame over your mental illness, only to be told by well-meaning Christians to "choose joy" and "pray more." So you beg God to take away the pain, but nothing eases the ache inside. As darkness lingers and color drains from your world, you're left wondering if God has abandoned you. You just want a way out. But there's hope. In *I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die*, Sarah J. Robinson offers a healthy, practical, and shame-free guide for Christians struggling with mental illness. With unflinching honesty, Sarah shares her story of battling depression and fighting to stay alive despite toxic theology that made her afraid to seek help outside the church. Pairing her own story with scriptural insights, mental health research, and simple practices, Sarah helps you reconnect with the God who is present in our deepest anguish and discover that you are worth everything it takes to get better. Beautifully written and full of hard-won wisdom, *I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die* offers a path toward a rich, hope-filled life in Christ, even when healing doesn't look like what you expect.

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by the Christian community, Lee studied for the ministry in a desire to extend God's grace and encouragement to others. After surmounting several academic and denominational obstacles, he finally achieved an active ministry in the church and higher Christian education. However, in the process of acquiring an acceptable ministry, Lee lost sight of grace as the heart of his faith. It took his own spiritual and moral failure to help him truly accept his parents and others. In his brokenness, Lee learned by experience that grace and grace alone is everyone's hope and strength.

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