



Forward
Movement

inspire disciples. empower evangelists.

Submission Guidelines for *Forward Day by Day*

Forward Day by Day offers daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's *Book of Common Prayer*. The meditations are rich in substance and offer a wide range of witness and experiences. Each month's meditation is written by a different author. Inspiring readers since our first issue was published in 1935, *Forward Day by Day* remains a significant resource for daily prayer and Bible study to readers worldwide.

We welcome new authors to the pages of our daily devotional guide *Forward Day by Day*. To be considered as a *Forward Day by Day* author, send three sample meditations in care of the managing editor (address below). Choose three of the following four biblical verses on which to base your meditations: Psalm 139:21; Mark 8:31; Acts 4:12; or Revelation 1:10. The editorial staff issues invitations to write for *Forward Day by Day* about a year in advance.

Please include a brief biography, including your local congregation, occupation, and any social media handles (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.). Also include information about how you are familiar with *Forward Day by Day* and 2-3 sentences about why you should be selected. *Your submission is not complete until we receive both the biography and three sample meditations.*

Send submissions to:

editorial@forwardmovement.org

Questions? Call us at 800-543-1813

Important notes

Where to begin: We encourage you to begin with prayer and reflection on your relationship with Christ. The best devotions expand on the scripture, encouraging deeper engagement, shining a light on a new understanding, and connecting the Word of God to everyday life. We look for engaging storytellers with an authentic and faithful voice. We encourage prospective writers to read *Forward Day by*

Day for at least a quarter (three months) to get a sense of the type and tone of content. It is available [online](#).

Style: Use concrete images, illustrations, analogies, and parables when possible. The most effective *Forward Day by Day* writers offer a mix of first-person stories and exploration of scripture. Write in your own voice and from your own context but also be sensitive to readers from other traditions and locales, non-Christian readers, and readers with limited education. Use inclusive language when possible (humankind, not mankind, use God instead of he, etc.).

Controversial topics: *Forward Day by Day* is not the place to score points on controversial topics. Occasionally, when the scripture passage pertains to it, an author chooses to say something about such a topic. If you write about a hot-button issue, do so with humility and make certain your comment shows respect for persons who hold a different view.

Length: Space is limited. Each meditation, including the scripture passage, can include up to 220 words. This does not include the date at the top of the page or the lectionary citations and Anglican Communion prayer request at the bottom of the page. *Your submission should be at or under the word-count maximum in order for us to consider it.*

Original Content: Your submissions must be your own original content. Already published work will not be accepted. Limit use of quotations from copyrighted works; we will not publish meditations that include language for which we need copyright permissions. If you are selected as a writer, the meditations are subject to editing and approval and will be copyrighted by Forward Movement for use including, but not limited to, print, electronic media, and online distribution.

Timeline: Once you submit your meditations, you will receive an email within a few days notifying you of our receipt. Please allow six weeks for notification about whether you are selected as a monthly author. Authors receive a small honorarium and five copies of the booklet upon publication.