###### A logo for teaching and learning club  Description automatically generated

###### Devotions

Bringing faith into the classroom is helpful and, often, expected by the students. Devotions that are not related to the content of the course for that day are considered side-by-side faith integration. Although faith is being discussed in the classroom, it is set next to the content rather than being woven into the content. As much as possible, instructors will want to select topics for devotions that are related to the content being taught in that class session or to the overall content of the course.

Devotion Structure

A structure for devotions makes it easier for instructors to write new devotions. David Platt, pastor of McLean Bible Church, uses the REAP method for devotion development. REAP stands for Read, Examine, Apply, and Pray. Click here for an explanation of this method (p. 7). Many of the examples discussed below were built using this method.

Another method on campus is the SOAP method. It is very similar to REAP, but it stands for Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer. There is no difference in the structure of the devotion, but instructors may prefer one acronym over another.

The crux of the matter is to read the scripture. Then, take some time to think about key words in the scripture and what they tell the reader. You may want to talk about the context of the scripture or define a particular word. In Apply and Application, instructors make the scripture relevant to the lives of the students, the course content, the profession the degree is preparing the students for, or something else the instructor deems important. The goal is to find a way to make the scripture relevant to the students. Finally, the devotion wraps up in prayer.

Devotion Examples

Some instructors connect the devotion to a larger theme. At CBU, our Provost has set a new theme for each year (courage, simplicity, intentionality, speak life, etc.). Many instructors choose to arrange for devotions around these themes to help guide spiritual formation in students. Follow the link to find examples of devotions that you can use in your class or use as an example to write a new devotion.

[Devotion Examples](https://calbaptist.box.com/s/bltwis0xyvup92npgy3m4e16a42bjk5e)