



# 5 Day Devotional

This five day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into the sermon from this weekend. We will explore the core themes and messages, focusing on how they can be applied to our daily lives.

## Day 1

*Matthew 12:43-45*

The first day of our devotional focuses on the parable Jesus shared about an evil spirit returning to an empty house. This story highlights the importance of not just removing sin from our lives but also filling our lives with the Holy Spirit. When our hearts are left vacant, we become vulnerable to even greater spiritual attacks.

Jesus used this parable to condemn the Pharisees' approach to religion which was heavily based on self-righteousness and self-effort. The Pharisees believed keeping the laws was sufficient for earning God's favor, yet they missed the essence of true faith. We are reminded that our spiritual journey is not only about removing sin, but also about becoming like Jesus, filled with His holiness and Spirit.

- What areas of your life are you trying to cleanse through your own efforts?
- Have you been more focused on what you shouldn't do, rather than who you should become?
- How can you invite the Holy Spirit into the areas of your life that feel empty?
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the voids in your heart with His presence.
- Ask God to help you shift your focus from self-effort to reliance on Him.

# Day 2

*1 Peter 1:14-16*

Today, we reflect on Peter's command to be holy in all we do. Holiness is not just about avoiding evil but about actively pursuing a relationship with God. It is about being set apart for a unique purpose and allowing God's character to influence and shape who we become.

Holiness involves both the negative aspect of avoiding sin and the positive aspect of growing in Christ-likeness. As we set our eyes on Jesus and aim to become more like Him, our actions begin to reflect His love and righteousness. Instead of merely focusing on what we must avoid, we should concentrate on embodying the virtues and characteristics of Jesus.

- In what ways can you actively pursue holiness in your daily life?
- How can you shift your focus from merely avoiding sin to growing in Christ-likeness?
- What actions can you take today to reflect the character of Jesus?
  
- Ask God to reveal areas in your life that need more of His presence.
- Pray for a deeper desire to know Jesus and to be transformed into His image.

# Day 3

*Romans 8:29*

On this third day, we delve into Paul's teaching that God has chosen us to be conformed to the image of His Son. Our ultimate goal as Christians is to reflect the character and priorities of Jesus. This involves a continuous process of transformation and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Being conformed to the image of Christ means that our values, behaviors, and attitudes should increasingly mirror those of Jesus. This transformation is not something we achieve on our own, but it is the work of the Holy Spirit in us. As we surrender to God's will and allow Him to work within us, we become more like Jesus each day.

- What specific areas in your life need transformation to become more Christ-like?
- How can you cooperate with the Holy Spirit in this transformative process?
- In what ways have you seen God's transforming work in your life already?
  
- Pray for an openness to the Holy Spirit's transforming work in your life.
- Ask God to help you see how you can reflect Jesus in your daily interactions.

# Day 4

*Romans 12:2*

For our fourth day, we focus on Paul's exhortation to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This renewal is a crucial aspect of our spiritual growth. It involves replacing our worldly thoughts with God's truths, allowing our attitudes and perspectives to align with His.

Transforming our minds requires a deliberate focus on God's Word and consistent prayer. As we meditate on Scripture and seek God's guidance, our minds are renewed, and our lives reflect God's will more fully. This transformation helps us discern God's perfect will and live a life that is pleasing to Him.

- What worldly thoughts or beliefs do you need to replace with God's truths?
- How often do you spend time meditating on Scripture and seeking God's guidance?
- What steps can you take to renew your mind daily?
  
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you in transforming your mind according to God's Word.
- Ask God to help you see His truths and replace any worldly beliefs you hold.

## Day 5

*1 Peter 1:15-16*

On our final day, we revisit Peter's call to holiness. Holiness involves setting ourselves apart for God's unique purpose in our lives. This day, we reflect on how we can live out this calling in practical ways, embodying Jesus' character and love in all we do.

Living a holy life means more than just avoiding sin; it's about embracing our identity in Christ and allowing His love to flow through us. Our actions, words, and thoughts should be a testament to God's presence in our lives. As we strive for holiness, we draw closer to God and reflect His glory to the world.

- How can you set yourself apart for God's unique purpose in your life?
- What practical steps can you take to embody Jesus' character daily?
- How can your actions, words, and thoughts reflect God's love more clearly?
  
- Pray for the strength and wisdom to live a holy life set apart for God.
- Ask God to help you reflect His love and character in all you do.