

Hope Alive

1 Corinthians 15:12-26



April 12, 2026

DAY 1: A NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST

READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-10

You are no longer defined by your past or the legacy of sin inherited from Adam and Eve. Through Christ's resurrection, God has made you alive together with Him. This isn't just forgiveness—it's a complete identity transformation. You've moved from spiritual death to abundant life, from enemy to beloved child. Today, reflect on what it means to be "raised with Christ." What old labels have you been carrying that no longer define you? God's rich mercy has rewritten your story. You are His workmanship, created for good works. Let this truth sink deep: you are a son or daughter of the living God, made alive by His grace.

Reflection: Write down three old identities you're leaving behind and three new truths about who you are in Christ.

DAY 2: MADE NEW FROM THE INSIDE OUT

READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-21 & EZEKIEL 36:25-27

God doesn't just clean up your exterior—He transforms you from the inside out. He removes your heart of stone, unresponsive and numb to His presence, and gives you a heart of flesh that beats with spiritual life. This new creation isn't about trying harder to be good; it's about becoming someone fundamentally different. When sin bothers you now, that's actually evidence of your new heart! You're no longer comfortable in patterns that grieve God. You are living proof that God's future is breaking into the present. The old has passed away; the new has come. You're not who you used to be—you're evidence to a dying world that resurrection life is real and available.

Reflection: In what areas do you sense God making you new? Where is your heart becoming more responsive to Him?

DAY 3: EMPOWERED BY RESURRECTION POWER

READING: ROMANS 8:9-17

The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave now lives in you. Pause and let that reality settle in your heart. This isn't symbolic language—it's the actual power of God dwelling within your mortal body. The Holy Spirit isn't just a helper; He's the guarantee of your future resurrection and the source of power for abundant life today. Jesus told His disciples it was better for them that He leave so the Spirit could come. Why? Because the Spirit brings God's presence everywhere you go, empowers you to live differently, and gives you a down payment of your future inheritance. You're not striving in your own strength—you're walking in resurrection power.

Reflection: Ask the Holy Spirit to show you one area where you need His power today. Surrender your striving and receive His strength.

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DAY 4: LIVING IN THE TENSION OF HOPE

READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-28

You live in a beautiful tension—between the "already" and the "not yet." Christ has already defeated death, but death hasn't been fully eliminated. You're already a new creation, but creation still groans for complete restoration. This tension isn't frustrating; it's filled with hope. Jesus is the firstfruit, the guarantee that a full harvest is coming. Your resurrection is certain. Creation's renewal is promised. Death's destruction is inevitable. This hope isn't wishful thinking—it's confident expectation based on what God has already accomplished through Jesus. Because Christ lives, you can face your past without shame, your present with courage, and your future with unshakable confidence. Hope is alive because Jesus is alive.

Reflection: What situation feels most hopeless right now? How does the certainty of Christ's resurrection speak into that circumstance?

DAY 5: WALKING IN NEWNESS OF LIFE

READING: ROMANS 6:1-14

Baptism symbolizes a profound reality: you were buried with Christ and raised to walk in newness of life. This isn't just about life after death—it's about living differently now. Sin and death no longer rule you. You're free to live in peace with God, empowered by His Spirit, transformed by His grace. This new way of life means participating in resurrection power daily. Like those rats in the hope experiment who swam sixty times longer after being rescued, you can endure because you have hope. You're not treading water alone, desperately trying to survive. In Christ, you're resting in His finished work while actively walking in the freedom He purchased. Hope alive means you're truly alive—today and forever.

Reflection: What would it look like to walk in newness of life in one specific area today? Take one step of obedience in that direction.

Closing Prayer: Father, thank You that because Jesus is alive, hope is alive in me. Help me walk daily in my new identity, empowered by Your Spirit, confident in Your promises. May I be living proof of resurrection life to a world desperate for hope. In Jesus' name, Amen.