

# 5 Day Devotional

## Day 1: Seen and Known

### Devotional

Have you ever felt invisible in a crowd? Zacchaeus certainly did. As the chief tax collector in Jericho, he was wealthy but utterly alone. Everyone despised him as a traitor who got rich by exploiting his own people for Rome. When Jesus came to town, Zacchaeus had to climb a tree just to catch a glimpse - the hostile crowd would never make room for someone they hated. But something beautiful happened in that moment. Jesus didn't just see Zacchaeus physically; He saw him personally, deeply, intimately. In Scripture, being seen by God is never just about eyesight - it's about being truly known. When Jesus looked up at that tree, He saw past Zacchaeus's reputation, past his failures, past what everyone else thought about him. He saw a man created in God's image, a man worth loving, a man worth saving. The same is true for you today. No matter how others see you, no matter how you see yourself, Jesus sees you completely and loves you unconditionally. You are not invisible to Him. You are not forgotten. You are seen, known, and deeply loved.

### Bible Verse

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." - Psalm 139:13

### Reflection Question

In what areas of your life do you feel unseen or misunderstood, and how might knowing that Jesus truly sees you change your perspective?

### Quote

When Jesus looks up, he sees Zacchaeus, and I mean really sees him. Not just physically, but personally, deeply, intimately.

### Prayer

Jesus, thank You for seeing me completely and loving me unconditionally. Help me to rest in the truth that I am known and valued by You, regardless of how others perceive me.

## Day 2: Called by Name

### Devotional

Names matter. They carry identity, belonging, and purpose. When Jesus called out "Zacchaeus," it wasn't just to get his attention - it was a declaration of identity and belonging. Remarkably, the name Zacchaeus means "righteous one." Here was a man who was anything but righteous, yet Jesus called him by a name that spoke to who he could become, not who he had been. This is the heart of grace. Jesus doesn't call us based on our past failures or current struggles. He calls us by our true identity - beloved children of God. When God calls you by name, it means you belong to Him. You're not defined by your mistakes, your reputation, or what others think about you. You're defined by His love and His purpose for your life. Just as Jesus saw Zacchaeus's potential for righteousness, He sees yours too. Your past doesn't disqualify you from God's calling. Your present circumstances don't limit His plans for you. When Jesus calls your name, He's inviting you into a new identity, a new beginning, and a new life.

### Bible Verse

"Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.'" - Luke 19:1-6

### Reflection Question

How does knowing that Jesus calls you by name and sees your potential rather than just your past change how you view yourself and your future?

### Quote

When Jesus says his name, this is so important, because in scripture, when God calls you by name, it means identity, it means belonging. It means you're known by the Creator.

### Prayer

Lord, thank You for calling me by name and seeing who I can become in You. Help me to embrace my true identity as Your beloved child.

## Day 3: Come As You Are

### Devotional

"Come down immediately. I must stay with you today." These words changed everything for Zacchaeus. Notice what Jesus didn't say. He didn't tell Zacchaeus to clean up his act first, to make amends, or to prove he was worthy. Jesus simply said, "Come." This is the radical nature of grace - it doesn't wait for us to get our lives together. Grace meets us exactly where we are, in all our mess and brokenness. Zacchaeus didn't change so that Jesus would accept him. Jesus accepted him, and that acceptance transformed him. This is how God's love works. You don't have to fix yourself before coming to Jesus. You don't need to have all the answers or overcome all your struggles first. Jesus is saying to you today what He said to Zacchaeus: "Come as you are." Your invitation to relationship with God isn't based on your performance or your perfection. It's based on His love and His grace. The very fact that you're seeking Him, that you're reading this devotional, shows that God has been pursuing you. He's not waiting for you to get it all together. He's waiting for you to simply say yes to His invitation.

### Bible Verse

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

### Reflection Question

What areas of your life do you feel you need to "fix" before fully surrendering to Jesus, and how can you release those to Him today?

### Quote

You don't have to clean yourself up first, and you don't have to have it all figured out. Jesus didn't wait for Zacchaeus to get it together or know everything. And he's not waiting for that with you either. Come as you are.

### Prayer

Jesus, thank You for accepting me just as I am. Help me to stop trying to earn Your love and instead rest in Your grace.

## Day 4: True Transformation

### Devotional

When grace truly touches a heart, transformation follows. Zacchaeus's response to Jesus was immediate and radical. He gave half his possessions to the poor and promised to repay anyone he had cheated four times over. This wasn't Jesus demanding change - this was the natural overflow of a heart that had encountered divine love. There's a crucial difference between regret and repentance. Regret says, "I feel bad I got caught." Repentance says, "I've sinned against God, and I want to make it right." Zacchaeus demonstrated true repentance through his actions. His transformation wasn't about earning salvation - he was already accepted by Jesus. His generosity flowed from gratitude, not guilt. When we truly understand how much we've been forgiven, how completely we've been accepted, it changes how we live. We don't serve God to earn His love; we serve Him because we've already received it. Real change happens from the inside out, not the outside in. A claim to be a Christian without change isn't the same as a life surrendered to Christ. True faith produces fruit.

### Bible Verse

"But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.'" - Luke 19:8

### Reflection Question

What evidence of transformation is visible in your life since encountering Jesus's love and grace?

### Quote

Zacchaeus wasn't saved because he cleaned up his life. He cleaned up his life because he was saved.

### Prayer

God, let my life be a reflection of Your transforming grace. Help me to live generously and righteously out of gratitude for Your love.

## Day 5: Your New Beginning

### Devotional

"Today salvation has come to this house." With these words, Jesus declared that Zacchaeus was no longer defined by his past but by God's grace. The man the crowd rejected, God had now accepted. This is the power of the Gospel - it offers us a completely new beginning. The story of Zacchaeus points us to another tree - the cross. There, Jesus took the punishment and rejection that we deserve so we could receive the acceptance only He can give. The rejection we deserve fell on Jesus so the acceptance we don't deserve could be given to us. Today could be your day to come down from whatever tree you've been hiding in. Maybe it's the tree of shame, fear, pride, or self-reliance. Jesus is calling your name, inviting you to a new life, a fresh start, a clean slate. You don't have to stay stuck in your past. You don't have to remain defined by your failures. Jesus came to seek and save the lost - and that includes you. The reason you started looking for God in the first place is because He has always been looking for you. Today could be the day you meet Jesus face to face. Today could be the day your new life begins.

### Bible Verse

"Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.'" - Luke 19:9-10

### Reflection Question

What would it look like for you to fully embrace the new beginning that Jesus offers, leaving behind whatever has been holding you back?

### Quote

Today could be the day you come down from your tree. Today could be the day you meet Jesus face to face. And today could be the day your new life begins.

### Prayer

Lord Jesus, I accept Your invitation to new life. Thank You for seeking me and saving me, and for the fresh start You offer today.