

# Plastic Christianity Series

## 5-Day Devotional

### Week 3

#### Day 1 Shaped by Pressure

**Scripture:** Romans 12:1-2

Everything in our world is shaping us. Culture, expectations, pressure, opinions. If we're not careful, we slowly start to bend without even realizing it. Paul says not to conform to the pattern of this world, but to be transformed by renewing our minds. That means we don't just drift into faith, we choose it. Pressure doesn't just show up in big moments, it's constant. And over time, it forms us. The question is, what is shaping you right now?

- Where do you feel the most pressure in your life right now?
- What voices or influences are shaping how you think and live?
- What would it look like to intentionally choose transformation this week?

**Prayer:** God, help me recognize what is shaping me. Renew my mind and help me follow You. Amen.

#### Day 2 Pleasing God, Not People

**Scripture:** Galatians 1:10

There will always be tension between pleasing God and pleasing people. You can love people well and still not align with everything they expect from you. The moment you decide to follow Jesus fully, you will feel that tension. Approval is powerful. It's something we all want. But Paul makes it clear, if our goal is to please people, we will struggle to truly follow Christ. Real faith means choosing God even when it costs you something relationally or socially.

- Where are you most tempted to seek approval from people?
- When have you felt tension between doing what's right and what's accepted?
- What would it look like to choose God in that situation this week?

**Prayer:** God, help me care more about pleasing You than pleasing others. Amen.

#### Day 3 When You Fall Short

**Scripture:** Matthew 26:69-75; John 21:15-17

Peter denies Jesus three times. The same Peter who said he never would. This is a picture of failure under pressure. But the story doesn't end there. In John 21, Jesus restores Peter. He doesn't discard him, He meets him with grace and calls him forward again. This is important. You will fall short at times. That doesn't

disqualify you. The danger is not failure, it's staying there. Grace is not permission to keep compromising, it's the invitation to come back and keep following.

- What stands out to you about Peter's failure and restoration?
- How do you typically respond when you fall short?
- What would it look like to receive God's grace and move forward?

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank You for Your grace. Help me not stay stuck in failure but keep following You. Amen.

## **Day 4 Don't Confuse Grace with Compromise**

**Scripture:** Galatians 2:20-21

Grace is one of the most powerful truths in our faith, but it can also be misunderstood. Grace doesn't lower the standard, it changes how we live. Paul reminds us that we no longer live for ourselves. Our lives are now rooted in Christ. When we begin to use grace as an excuse to compromise, we've missed the point. Grace is what empowers us to live differently, not comfortably stay the same. It's not about perfection, but it is about direction.

- Why is it easy to misuse the idea of grace?
- Where might you be tempted to justify compromise?
- What would it look like to live from your identity in Christ this week?

**Prayer:** God, help me understand grace correctly and live in a way that honors You. Amen.

## **Day 5 You're Not Meant to Do This Alone**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Hebrews 10:24-25

One of the most practical ways to fight compromise is community. Left on our own, we are more vulnerable to pressure and drift. God designed us to walk with others, people who will encourage us, challenge us, and speak truth into our lives. Real faith isn't lived in isolation. It's lived in community. When you surround yourself with the right people, you're more likely to stand firm when pressure comes.

- Who in your life has permission to speak truth into you?
- Where are you trying to do your faith on your own?
- What is one step you can take to build stronger, honest community?

**Prayer:** God, thank You for community. Help me surround myself with people who point me toward You. Amen.

