

Plastic Christianity Series

5-Day Devotional

Week 5

Day 1: Buried and Raised

Scripture: Romans 6:3-8

Paul describes baptism as stepping into the story of Jesus. We identify with His death, burial, and resurrection. The old life is buried, and a new life begins. Following Jesus means we no longer have to stay stuck in who we used to be. Sin, shame, and old patterns do not get the final word anymore. Jesus does. Baptism reminds us that our faith is not just about believing information, it's about being changed by Him.

- What stands out to you most in this passage?
- What parts of your old life still try to pull you backward?
- How have you seen Jesus begin changing you?

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for making new life possible. Help me walk in the freedom You give. Amen.

Day 2: Faith Responds

Scripture: Acts 2:36-41

When the crowd hears Peter preach, they are deeply convicted and immediately ask what they should do. Peter calls them to repent and be baptized. Their response matters. They do not just hear truth and move on with life as normal. They act on it. Sometimes we convince ourselves that knowing truth is enough. James already challenged that idea earlier in this series. Real faith responds. It takes steps. It moves toward Jesus instead of staying comfortable.

- Why do you think the people responded so quickly?
- What keeps people from taking steps of obedience?
- What is one step of faith God may be asking you to take?

Prayer: God, help me respond when You speak instead of staying comfortable. Amen.

Day 3: A New Creation

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; Ezekiel 36:25-27

Jesus doesn't just improve people a little bit. He changes them from the inside out. Paul says we become a new creation in Christ, and Ezekiel points to God giving His people a new heart and spirit. That does not mean we instantly have everything figured out. We still grow. We still struggle. But our identity changes. We are no longer defined by our past, failures, or shame. God is actively transforming us into something new.

- What do these passages teach about the kind of change God wants to bring?
- Why do people often try to manage appearances instead of addressing the heart?
- How would your life look different if you fully believed God was making you new?

Prayer: Jesus, continue changing my heart and shaping me into who You created me to be. Amen.

Day 4: Public Faith

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 10:9-10

Jesus told His followers to make disciples and baptize people. Faith was never meant to stay hidden. Baptism becomes a public declaration that someone belongs to Jesus. Public faith can feel intimidating because it invites accountability and commitment. But following Jesus was always meant to be lived openly. We are not called to quietly admire Him from a distance. We are called to follow Him with our lives.

- Why do you think Jesus made baptism part of discipleship?
- What fears or pressures can keep people from openly following Jesus?
- What would it look like for you to live more boldly in your faith this week?

Prayer: God, give me courage to live openly and faithfully for You. Amen.

Day 5: Keep Following

Scripture: Philippians 1:6; Colossians 2:6-7

Baptism is not the finish line. It's the beginning of a lifelong walk with Jesus. Paul reminds believers that God is still working in them and will continue what He started. There will be seasons where growth feels exciting and seasons where growth feels slow. But discipleship is not built in one emotional moment. It's built through consistency, surrender, and continuing to stay rooted in Christ over time.

- What do these passages teach about spiritual growth?
- Why is consistency often harder than enthusiasm?
- What rhythms or habits help keep you rooted in Jesus?

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for continuing to work in me. Help me stay rooted in You and keep following faithfully. Amen.