



5 Day Devotional: [Watch - Ascended](#)

Day 1: The Gift of Unity

Devotional

Unity is not something that happens by accident. It is something God values deeply, and it often comes at a cost. David wrote Psalm 133 in the middle of real division. His nation was split, relationships were fractured, and the pain of disunity was very real. Yet out of that pain, he wrote some of the most beautiful words in all of Scripture about what it looks like when brothers and sisters actually live together in harmony. God designed the sacrificial system in part to draw His people back together. Sin separates us, from God and from each other. The sacrifices were His appointed way of restoring what had been broken. Every offering brought to the altar was a reminder that restored relationship requires something given up. This is still true today. Real unity in a community of believers rarely comes without some personal cost. It requires patience when someone frustrates you. It requires humility when you think you are right. It requires choosing the relationship over being comfortable. But here is the encouragement: God does not ask you to pursue unity alone. He modeled it first. He initiated it. And He calls you into something that He Himself deeply desires for you. You were made for this kind of community. The longing you feel for genuine belonging is not weakness. It is a reflection of how God wired you.

Bible Verse

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!" - Psalm 133:1

Reflection Question

Is there a relationship in your life where division has taken root, and what would it cost you personally to take the first step toward unity?

Prayer

Lord, thank You for caring about our relationships with one another. Give me the humility and courage to pursue unity even when it is costly. Amen.

Notes

Day 2: The Perfect Sacrifice That Changes Everything

Devotional

Every lamb brought to the altar in ancient Israel was pointing to something. The priests knew it. The people sensed it. The sacrifices worked, but they had to be repeated again and again because nothing offered by human hands could fully close the gap between a holy God and sinful people. Hebrews 10:1 tells us plainly that the law was only a shadow of the good things to come. The sacrificial system was never the destination. It was a signpost. Then Jesus came. He did not come to add to the list of sacrifices. He came to fulfill every single one of them. His death on the cross was the offering that needed no repetition. It was accepted once, completely, for all people in all times. Every sin you have ever committed, and every sin you will ever commit, was covered by that one perfect act of love. Before you accepted Him, Scripture says you were His enemy. Not a stranger. Not someone He was indifferent toward. An enemy. And yet He came anyway. He looked at the distance between you and Him, and He crossed it at the greatest possible cost. That is not a small thing. That is the most staggering act of love in all of history. And it is the foundation on which everything else in your life with God is built.

Bible Verse

"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." - 1 John 2:2

Reflection Question

How does truly grasping that Jesus pursued you while you were still His enemy change the way you see people in your life who feel difficult to love?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for crossing every distance to reach me. Help me never take Your sacrifice for granted, and let it shape how I love others. Amen.

Notes

Day 3: Love That the World Cannot Ignore

Devotional

Jesus did not leave His followers with a long list of rules to mark them as His own. He gave them one defining command: love one another. In John 13, He told His disciples that the watching world would recognize them not by their theology, not by their buildings, and not by their programs. They would be known by their love for each other. That is a bold claim. It means that the way a community of believers treats one another is actually a form of witness. Think about what that means practically. When you choose kindness over criticism inside your church family, you are showing the world something real. When you forgive someone who hurt you, when you show up for someone in a hard season, when you lay down your preferences for the sake of someone else, you are putting the gospel on display. This is not about performing for an audience. It is about genuinely loving the people God has placed around you. But the beautiful side effect is that authentic love is impossible to ignore. People who are lonely, skeptical, or hurting are drawn to communities where love is real. You have an opportunity every single day to be part of something that points people toward God. It starts with how you treat the person sitting next to you.

Bible Verse

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
- John 13:34-35

Reflection Question

If someone outside your church were watching how your community treats one another this week, what would they conclude about the God you follow?

Prayer

Father, let my love for others be genuine and visible. Use my relationships to draw people closer to You. Amen.

Notes

Day 4: Unity Is God's Priority

Devotional

It is one thing to say unity matters. It is another thing entirely to realize that Jesus prayed for it. In John 17, on the night before His crucifixion, Jesus lifted His eyes to heaven and prayed for His followers. He asked that they would be one, in the same way that He and the Father are one. That is an extraordinary standard. The unity He was asking for was not just getting along. It was a deep, Spirit-rooted oneness that reflects the very nature of God. If Jesus spent some of His final hours praying for the unity of His people, that tells you something important. This is not a secondary concern. It is not a nice bonus if things happen to go well. It is a priority of God Himself. And if it is His priority, it deserves to be yours. Pursuing unity in a community of imperfect people is not always easy. There will be misunderstandings, differences of opinion, and moments where it would be simpler to just pull back. But every time you choose to lean in rather than pull away, you are aligning yourself with what Jesus was praying for. You are not just keeping the peace. You are participating in something God deeply cares about. That is worth the effort.

Bible Verse

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." - John 17:20-21

Reflection Question

In what area of your relationships or church community are you tempted to pull back rather than pursue unity, and what would it look like to choose differently?

Prayer

Lord, align my heart with what You care about most. Give me the desire and the strength to pursue unity with the people around me. Amen.

Notes

Day 5: Living With Hope While We Wait

Devotional

The story is not over yet. Psalm 134 lifts our eyes forward. It points to a day when every nation will gather to worship the King, when God will dwell with His people fully and forever. This is not wishful thinking. It is a certain hope, grounded in the promises of a God who has never broken one. First Peter 1 describes this inheritance as imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. It is already being kept for you. Nothing can

touch it, diminish it, or take it away. That is the future you are moving toward. But this kind of hope is not meant to make you passive. It is meant to make you purposeful. Knowing where the story ends should change how you live right now. It should make you more generous, more forgiving, more committed to loving the people around you well. We are being prepared for something. The way we love one another, the way we worship together, the way we pursue unity in the middle of an imperfect world, all of it is part of that preparation. Jesus is coming. That is not a distant theological idea. It is a living, breathing hope that belongs to you personally. Let it fuel the way you love, the way you serve, and the way you eagerly look forward to what is still to come.

Bible Verse

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you." - 1 Peter 1:3-4

Reflection Question

How would living with a daily awareness of the hope you have in Christ change the way you treat the people around you this week?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that our story does not end here. Fill me with eager hope and let that hope overflow into how I love others while I wait for Your return. Amen.

Notes
