

2026-04-01 5 Day Devotional

5-Day Devotional: Encountering the Almighty

Day 1: The Humbling Presence of God

Reading: Job 40:1-5; James 4:6-10

Devotional: Job spoke boldly about God's perceived unfairness until God appeared in the storm. Suddenly, Job's complaints vanished. He placed his hand over his mouth, saying, "I am unworthy." When we truly encounter God's presence, our grievances dissolve into worship. Like Job, we often contend with God, questioning His justice while forgetting His sovereignty. True humility isn't manufactured; it's the natural response to seeing God as He truly is. Today, consider where you've been contending with God rather than surrendering to Him. What complaints have you been nursing? God invites you not to argue, but to trust. When you focus on God's greatness rather than your pain, perspective changes everything. Spend time in His presence today, allowing His majesty to silence your questions and awaken your worship.

Day 2: The Mystery of Christ in You

Reading: Colossians 1:24-29; 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Devotional: Paul discovered a revolutionary truth: "Christ in you, the hope of glory." This isn't mere theological concept but transformative reality. Paul actually rejoiced in his sufferings, seeing them as participation in Christ's ongoing work through His church. We resist this idea in our comfort-seeking culture, yet suffering has divine purpose. When Christ lives in you, you possess "glorious riches"—not material wealth, but spiritual treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Your struggles aren't interruptions to your faith; they're opportunities to display Christ's sustaining power. Like Paul, you can endure hardship not by gritting your teeth, but by drawing on the inexhaustible life of Christ within you. Today, recognize that every breath, every challenge, every moment is an opportunity to let Christ's life shine through your mortality. You are His dwelling place.

## Day 3: The Call to Completeness

Reading: Colossians 2:1-7; Ephesians 4:11-16

Devotional: Christianity isn't a "one and done" experience. Paul urged believers toward completeness in Christ—not perfection without flaws, but being completely immersed in Him 24/7. We settle for Sunday Christianity when God offers constant communion. Being "rooted and built up in Him" requires intentional cultivation through Scripture, prayer, community, and worship. Like constellations where individual stars create magnificent patterns, Christians together form something far greater than isolated believers. You weren't designed for solo spirituality. The American church often emphasizes individual salvation while neglecting communal transformation. But God calls us to "admonish and teach everyone with all wisdom." Are you growing deeper in Christ? Are you helping others grow? Today, take one step beyond mere attendance toward authentic community. Share your struggles, encourage someone's faith, or simply admit you need help staying on the narrow path.

## Day 4: The Resurrection Power in Suffering

Reading: Philippians 3:7-11; Romans 8:16-18

Devotional: The night Jesus was betrayed, He sweat drops of blood in Gethsemane. Yet He surrendered: "Not my will, but yours." Three days later, resurrection power vindicated His suffering. This same pattern applies to us. Paul desired to "know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings." Notice the connection—resurrection power flows through suffering, not around it. When facing hardship, we often pray for removal rather than transformation. But God may be waiting for the perfect timing, working purposes beyond our understanding. Every difficult moment is ordained; God numbered your days before one came to be. Your suffering isn't punishment—it's participation in Christ's ongoing redemptive work. Today, instead of asking "Why me?" ask "What are you doing, Lord?" Trust that the God who raised

Jesus will also bring resurrection from whatever death you're experiencing.

## Day 5: Living Without Regret

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:9-15; Revelation 22:12-13

Devotional: One day you will give an account of your life before Jesus. Will you stand with confidence or regret? The sermon challenges us: when we see God's full glory, will we wish we'd lived differently? The disciples missed Jesus' significance even while walking with Him. We risk the same—possessing complete access to God yet treating it casually. Paul "contended" and "struggled" for believers to reach spiritual maturity, viewing it as treasure worth pursuing. What if today you truly believed Jesus is returning soon? Would you read Scripture more? Pray differently? Love more sacrificially? Forgive more quickly? The greatest tragedy isn't suffering—it's wasting the salvation you've received. God didn't save you merely to keep you from hell, but to transform you into Christ's likeness now. Today, live with eternity in view. Make choices that will bring joy, not regret, when you stand before Him. Start living for Him differently—not tomorrow, but today.