

2026-09-16 5 Day Devotional

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on Themes from 1 Kings 17 and the Sermon on Fear, Faith, and God's Provision

Day 1: The Book You Are Writing

Reading: 1 Kings 16:29-33

Devotional: Every life tells a story. The account of Ahab is sobering not because he was a distant villain, but because it forces a personal question: if God were to summarize what you did more of than anyone around you, what would he write? The answer is not meant to condemn but to awaken. God is not keeping score to shame you. He is inviting you to be conscious of the narrative your choices are building. Today, sit quietly before God and ask him honestly to show you what he sees. Then ask him to write something better through your surrender.

Reflection Question: If God finished the sentence "did more..." about your life this past week, what would he say?

Practical Application: Write one specific thing you want God to do more of through you this week. Post it somewhere visible as a daily reminder.

Day 2: Sharks in the Tank

Reading: Romans 5:1-5

Devotional: The Apostle Paul describes in Romans 5 how suffering produces perseverance, perseverance produces character, and character produces hope. God does not remove every adversary from your life because resistance is what keeps you swimming. Like fish that grow soft without a predator in the tank, believers who are never pressed tend to drift toward spiritual laziness. The resistance you are facing right now is not evidence that God has abandoned you. It is evidence that he trusts the process he designed. The wheat and the tares grow together for a reason. Your growth

depends not on the absence of pressure but on who you lean on when it comes.

Reflection Question: What current resistance in your life might God be using to strengthen your faith rather than destroy it?

Practical Application: Identify one difficult circumstance you have been asking God to remove. Spend time today asking him instead what he is building in you through it.

Day 3: Simple Obedience in Awkward Moments

Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-11; James 2:14-18

Devotional: Elijah did not have a smooth, polished approach when he arrived at Zarephath. He asked a grieving widow for water and bread when she had almost nothing left. It was uncomfortable, unconventional, and by most social standards, inappropriate. Yet it was exactly what God told him to do. Faith rarely arrives wrapped in convenience. God is far less concerned with how elegant your obedience looks than with whether it actually happens. Sensitivity toward others is good, but it must never become the reason you fail to do what God has clearly spoken. Simple obedience, even when awkward, is the language faith speaks most fluently.

Reflection Question: Is there something God has been prompting you to do that you have delayed because it felt uncomfortable or socially awkward?

Practical Application: Take one small step of obedience today in an area where you have been hesitating. Do not wait until it feels natural.

Day 4: Do Not Be Afraid

Reading: Isaiah 41:10; Hebrews 2:14-15

Devotional: Elijah looked a starving widow in the eye and said, "Do not be afraid." He could say it with conviction because he had already lived it. He

had watched ravens bring him food. He had seen a brook sustain him in drought. His courage was not manufactured from thin air. It was forged through experience with a faithful God. The book of Hebrews reminds us that Jesus destroyed the power of death so that those who believe in him no longer need to live enslaved to the fear of it. The sting is gone. The grave does not have the final word. You are carrying a badge that says you do not have to fear. Stop leaving it in your pocket.

Reflection Question: In what area of your life are you living as though Christ has not already conquered death and fear?

Practical Application: Memorize Isaiah 41:10 this week. Each time fear surfaces, speak the verse aloud as a declaration of what God has already promised.

Day 5: The Jar That Never Emptied

Reading: 1 Kings 17:12-16; Philippians 4:19

Devotional: The widow of Zarephath acted on a word she barely understood, from a stranger she had just met, in the middle of her most desperate moment. She used her last handful of flour to feed someone else first. And the jar never ran out. God's provision does not always arrive before the act of faith. Sometimes it arrives because of it. Paul writes in Philippians 4 that God will supply every need according to his riches in glory. That is not a promise that you will never face an empty jar. It is a promise that the one who fills it is inexhaustible. What looks like your last handful is often just the beginning of what God is about to do.

Reflection Question: Where have you been holding back from God because you are afraid there will not be enough left for you?

Practical Application: Practice one act of generosity today that requires you to trust God with what feels scarce. Give before it feels comfortable, and watch what God does next.