

Easter 2026

5-Day Devotional

Day 1: The Reality of Resurrection

Reading: Acts 4:13-20

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished, and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. “What are we going to do with these men?” they asked. “Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it. But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name.”

Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Devotional:

The disciples' transformation from fearful to fearless proves the resurrection's reality. Peter and John stood before the same authorities who killed Jesus, yet they refused to stop speaking about what they had "seen and heard." Their courage wasn't manufactured—it was born from encountering the risen Christ. No one dies for a lie they invented. When threatened with death, these men doubled down on their testimony. What "stones" of doubt or fear are blocking your faith today? The same resurrection power that transformed cowering disciples into bold witnesses is available to you. Ask God to help you move from intellectual agreement to experiential faith. The resurrection isn't just historical fact—it's present reality.

Day 2: God Sees You

Reading: Psalm 139:1-18

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,” even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts,^[a] God! How

vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.

Devotional:

Just as Mr. Rogers noticed and valued every person he met, Jesus sees you in your struggles and successes. He doesn't care about your status, accomplishments, or failures—He simply cares. In Pastor Ben's Easter sermon, he told a story of how Mr. Rogers could connect with anyone. Mr. Rogers met a gentlemen named Billy who was his driver for the weekend at a conference. Billy wasn't just a service provider to Mr. Rogers; he became a friend worth visiting in the hospital years later. Similarly, Jesus doesn't remain in the "backseat" of your life, distant and disconnected. He wants to move to the front seat, engaging in authentic relationship. Today, pause and ask: "Lord, do You see me?" Then watch for His answer. God delights in giving signs that He notices you. Your prayers aren't bouncing off the ceiling—they're heard by a God who knows your name and keeps your concerns close to His heart.

Day 3: Nothing Stops God's Love

Reading: Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Devotional:

The stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb symbolizes every barrier between us and God's love being removed. Death itself couldn't stop God's plan to reach you. What feels immovable in your life right now? Fear, sorrow, doubt, or uncertainty? The resurrection declares that nothing—not death, not failure, not your past—can separate you from God's love. The same power that raised Jesus from the grave is available to roll away the stones in your life. There's nothing to lose by asking God for help. Life is hard enough without trying to navigate it alone. Call on that miracle power today. Invite Jesus into your specific struggle. The God who defeated death cares about every detail of your journey.

Day 4: Signs of His Presence

Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who

does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.” He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Devotional:

On the Emmaus Road, two disciples walked with the risen Jesus without recognizing Him—until He broke bread with them. God wants to give you signs of His presence, but you must keep your eyes open. Like the woman who received concrete confirmation of her prayer yesterday, God delights in showing up in tangible ways. Sometimes we miss Him because we're looking for spectacular miracles while He's present in ordinary moments. The letter Robin Williams carried reminded Kyle he was noticed; God carries your concerns with Him always. Today, ask God for a sign that He's real and attentive to your life. Then watch expectantly. He may show up in a conversation, a timely provision, or an unexpected peace.

Day 5: Living Resurrection Life

Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Devotional:

The resurrection isn't just about what happened two thousand years ago—it's about living with resurrection power today. You've been given "new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." This hope isn't wishful thinking; it's confident expectation based on God's proven faithfulness. The disciples didn't just believe in resurrection—they lived resurrection lives, speaking with boldness despite threats. How does resurrection power change your Monday morning? Your difficult relationships? Your

financial stress? Easter's message is that Jesus is present to anyone who calls on His name. He likes you, loves you, and wants to walk through every season with you. Today, invite Him into the front seat of your life and experience the freedom of rolling away the stones.