

Galatians 3: Living in God's Grace 5-Day Devotional

Day 1: Remembering Where Grace Began

Reading: Galatians 3:1-5

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. ² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? ⁴ Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? ⁵ So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

Devotional

Paul asks the Galatians to remember their beginning—when the Spirit moved powerfully among them, breaking down walls between people. Take time today to recall your own spiritual beginning. When did you first experience God's grace? Perhaps it was a moment when you felt truly accepted despite your flaws, or when community embraced you unconditionally.

The danger isn't forgetting information about grace; it's forgetting to live by grace. We slip back into hierarchies, judgments, and comparisons. We forget that the Spirit brings us together as equals—all needing God, all needing each other.

Reflection: *Write down one specific memory of experiencing God's grace. How can you return to that grace-filled perspective today?*

Day 2: The Community of the Burning Coal

Reading: Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Devotional

A coal removed from the fire burns brightly alone—but only for a moment. Soon it dims and dies. We were never meant to sustain our faith in isolation. When we make mistakes, our instinct is often to retreat into shadows, believing we're unworthy of community. But that's precisely when we need grace-filled fellowship most.

The church isn't a gathering of people who have it all together. It's a community where broken coals are placed back into the fire, where warmth returns, where light is restored. Your flame may feel dim today, but you belong in the fire. Let others help reignite what fear or shame has diminished.

Reflection: *Are you isolating yourself from community? What step can you take to reconnect?*

Day 3: Children of Promise

Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

After this, the word of the HH came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield,

your very great reward.”

² But Abram said, “Sovereign HH, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴ Then the word of the HH came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶ Abram believed the HH, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Reading: Galatians 3:26-29

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Devotional

Abraham and Sarah’s story reminds us that faith isn’t perfection—it’s trust despite imperfection. They laughed at God’s promises. Abraham sold his wife for livestock. They made terrible decisions out of fear. Yet God called them faithful and made them ancestors of blessing.

You don’t have to have a perfect faith journey. Your doubts, fears, and failures don’t disqualify you from God’s promises. Like Abraham and Sarah, you’re learning to trust through the mess. And remarkably, God says you’re a child of promise—not because you’ve earned it, but because of grace.

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female. Economic status, background, knowledge—none of it matters. You are one in Christ Jesus.

Reflection: *What fear is keeping you from trusting God’s promise today?*

Day 4: The Spirit-Led Church

Reading: Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.

⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Devotional

Paul describes the early Galatian church as “spirit-led”—a place where wealthy landowners worshiped alongside slaves, where Jewish believers and Gentile converts became family, where women and men served together. The only word to describe it was that “the Spirit was in this place.”

This wasn’t about perfect theology or flawless programs. It was about people who needed each other, who saw past society’s hierarchies to recognize their shared dependence on grace. When we create tiers in the

church—insiders and outsiders, mature and immature, worthy and unworthy—we’ve forgotten what grace means.

A grace-filled church isn’t one without differences; it’s one where differences don’t determine worth. Everyone belongs. Everyone is needed.

Reflection: *Who in your faith community might feel like an outsider? How can you extend grace to them?*

Day 5: Don’t Forget Grace

Reading: Galatians 3:10-14

For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.”¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.”¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.”¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.”¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Devotional

Paul’s passionate plea echoes across centuries: “Don’t forget what grace is all about.” It’s easy to drift from grace back into performance, from acceptance back into judgment, from community back into hierarchy. We start measuring ourselves against others—grateful we’re not “down there,” anxious we’re not “up there.”

But Christ redeemed us from this exhausting system. We don’t earn God’s love through religious achievement or moral superiority. We receive blessing through faith—the same faith Abraham and Sarah stumbled toward through their imperfect journey.

Today, you don’t have to prove yourself. You don’t have to earn your place. You are already a beloved child of God, called to live in the freedom and unity that grace provides.

Reflection: *Where have you replaced grace with performance? Ask God to help you rest in His acceptance today.*