



5-Day Devotional: Bridging the Gap

Day 1: The Wall-Breaking Gospel

Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Devotional: Before Christ, we stood separated—excluded, without hope, and far from God. But Jesus didn't leave us there. Through His blood, He demolished the dividing wall of hostility, creating one new humanity where former enemies become family. This isn't just ancient history; it's your story. You were once far off, but now you've been brought near. Today, reflect on the barriers Christ destroyed to reach you. What walls did He break down in your life? His sacrifice wasn't selective—it was for all people, across all divides. Let this truth humble you and fuel your gratitude. The gospel that saved you now sends you to others still standing outside the wall.

Reflection Question: What barrier did Christ break down to reach you, and how does that shape how you view others?

Day 2: Viewing People Through Christ's Eyes

Reading: John 4:1-26

Devotional: Jesus intentionally crossed every social, ethnic, and religious

boundary to meet the Samaritan woman at the well. He saw beyond her reputation, her gender, and her ethnicity to her eternal soul. The religious establishment would have avoided her; Jesus initiated conversation with her. He didn't wait for her to clean up—He met her in her mess. This is how we're called to see people: not through the lens of politics, prejudice, or pride, but through the blood of Christ. Every person you encounter is either lost or saved, created in God's image and deeply loved by Him. When you view people as Jesus does, barriers crumble and compassion flows.

Reflection Question: Who have you been viewing "according to the flesh" rather than as someone created in God's image?

Day 3: Ambassadors of Reconciliation

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Devotional: Paul's words are urgent: the love of Christ controls us. We are new creations, called to a ministry of reconciliation. This isn't optional for some believers—it's the mandate for all. God makes His appeal through you. Think about that weight: the Creator of the universe chooses to work through broken, redeemed people to reach a broken world. But here's the challenge: we can't reconcile others if we're holding onto our own barriers. Selfishness, pride, busyness, and prejudice disqualify us from being effective ambassadors. Today is the day of salvation—not tomorrow. Lay down whatever keeps you from fully embracing your calling to connect people with the gospel.

Reflection Question: What barrier in your life is preventing you from being an effective ambassador for Christ?

Day 4: The Power of Intentional Connection

Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Devotional: Love must be genuine. Hospitality must be practiced. Kindness costs nothing but changes everything. In a culture drowning in shallow digital contact, the church is called to something deeper—life-on-life connection. You cannot disciple someone you haven't connected with. You cannot engage someone you've kept at arm's length. Biblical hospitality opens doors: sharing a meal, listening to someone's story without trying to fix them, showing up when it's inconvenient. These simple acts demolish walls and create space for the gospel. Don't wait for the perfect moment or the perfect person. Pray for one person by name this week and intentionally pursue connection with them.

Reflection Question: Who is one person God is calling you to intentionally connect with this week?

Day 5: Laying Down Your Life

Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Devotional: Christ's humility is our model. He laid down everything—heaven for a manger, perfection for a cross—to bridge the gap between God and humanity. Now He calls us to do the same: to lay down our lives for others. The Greek word for "life" here is *psyche*—your mind, will, and emotions. Everything you think and feel about someone, you're called to surrender and replace with God's perspective. This is the heart of connection and engagement. When you crucify your flesh—your pride, your preferences, your prejudices—you make room for Christ to work through you. No political ideology, no personal comfort, no fear can be more important than the gospel. Lay it all down and watch God build bridges through you.

Reflection Question: What aspect of your "psyche" (mind, will, emotions) do you need to lay down to better love others as Christ does?

Closing Prayer: *Father, forgive me for the walls I've built and the barriers I've tolerated. Help me see people as You see them—created in Your image, deeply loved, and in need of Your grace. Fill me with Your love that controls, compels, and transforms. Make me an ambassador of reconciliation who connects with people intentionally and engages them with the gospel courageously. Remove my selfishness, pride, fear, and prejudice. Use me to bridge the gap between the lost and the Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.*