



5-Day Devotional: Living in the Freedom of Christ

Day 1: No Longer Slaves, But Children

Reading: Galatians 4:1-7; Romans 8:14-17

Devotional: You are not a slave working to earn God's approval. Through Christ, you have been adopted into God's family with full rights as a child and heir. This changes everything about how you approach God. You don't come to Him with fear, wondering if you've done enough to deserve His love. Instead, you come boldly, calling Him "Abba Father"—a term of intimate relationship and trust.

Today, reject the lie that you must perform to be loved. Your identity isn't found in what you do, but in whose you are. You belong to God, not because you earned it, but because Jesus paid the price for your adoption.

Reflection Question: In what areas of your life are you still trying to earn God's love instead of resting in it?

Day 2: The Danger of Performance-Based Faith

Reading: Galatians 3:1-14; Ephesians 2:8-9

Devotional: Many believers live on an emotional roller coaster, feeling close to God when they perform well and distant when they fail. This isn't the gospel. Your relationship with God doesn't fluctuate based on your Monday Bible reading or your Saturday mistakes. Christ's finished work on the cross is sufficient.

When you try to add human effort to God's grace, you actually diminish the

power of the cross. The Galatians fell into this trap, and Paul urgently called them back to the simple truth: salvation is by grace through faith, period. God isn't trying to improve your behavior from the outside; He's transforming you from the inside out by forming Christ in you.

Reflection Question: What rules or regulations have you placed on yourself or others that add to the simple gospel of grace?

Day 3: Your Identity Determines Your Freedom

Reading: Galatians 5:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Devotional: Knowing who you are in Christ is foundational to living in freedom. Your identity isn't found in your title, your status, your successes, or your failures. It's rooted in the redemptive work of Jesus on the cross. When you understand this, you won't allow circumstances, people's opinions, or even your own mistakes to dictate your worth. You can handle life's challenges because you know whose you are.

The enemy wants to steal your identity by getting you to focus on performance, but God declares you are His beloved child. This identity gives you confidence to fulfill God's calling, even when you stumble. Choose daily to live from this identity rather than trying to earn it.

Reflection Question: How would your life change if you fully believed your identity is secure in Christ regardless of your performance?

Day 4: Cast Out the Slave Woman

Reading: Galatians 4:21-31; John 8:31-36

Devotional: Paul uses Abraham's two sons to illustrate two ways of relating to God: Ishmael represents human effort to fulfill God's promises, while Isaac represents God's miraculous fulfillment of His own promises. When we try to accomplish God's purposes through our own strength and methods, we create ongoing conflict and bondage. God told Abraham to cast out the slave woman because the son of the slave would not share the inheritance with the son of the free woman.

Today, God calls you to cast out religiosity, legalism, and self-effort. Stop trying to fulfill God's promises through human strength. Trust God's grace and His power to complete what He started in you.

Reflection Question: What "human attempts" to earn God's favor do you need to cast out of your life?

Day 5: Living as Heirs, Not Slaves

Reading: Galatians 4:8-20; 1 John 4:16-19

Devotional: The greatest tragedy isn't that bondage chains a sinner, but that it convinces a son or daughter to live like a slave. You have been adopted, redeemed, and given full inheritance rights as God's child. Yet many believers still live in fear, trying to earn what has already been freely given. God doesn't love you more when you perform well or less when you fail. His love is constant, unconditional, and complete. You cannot lose your inheritance through mistakes.

Choose today to live in the freedom Christ purchased for you. Don't return to the chains He already broke. Rest in His finished work and let that security transform how you live.

Reflection Question: What would it look like for you to live today as a beloved heir rather than a fearful slave?

Weekly Challenge: Complete the homework assignment mentioned in the sermon. Read Galatians 5 and create two columns: one listing the works of the flesh and another listing the fruit of the Spirit. Circle which ones are evident in your life. Ask someone who knows you well to give honest feedback. Use this as a starting point for prayer, asking God to continue forming Christ in you.