



5-Day Devotional: Walking in Freedom by the Spirit

Day 1: Freedom in Christ Alone

Reading: Galatians 5:1-6

Devotional: Jesus plus nothing equals freedom. This simple yet profound truth challenges us to examine what we've added to the gospel. Have you attached conditions to God's grace—certain behaviors, dress codes, or religious performances? Paul warns the Galatians that adding anything to Christ's finished work severs us from the very source of life. Like a branch cut from a tree, we may look alive for a while, but we'll eventually wither. Today, surrender your "Jesus plus" mentality. Freedom isn't found in what you do for God, but in what Christ has already done for you. Stop striving and start resting in His complete work on the cross.

Reflection Question: What have I been adding to the gospel that God wants me to release?

Day 2: Love That Serves

Reading: Galatians 5:13-15

Devotional: Freedom without purpose leads to chaos. God didn't liberate you from sin's bondage so you could serve your own appetites. Your freedom has a divine purpose: to love and serve others. The world defines freedom as doing whatever you want; Christ defines it as the power to do what you ought. Before you post on social media, speak to your spouse, or respond to conflict, ask yourself: "Will this wound or heal their soul?" Just because you can say something doesn't mean you should. True freedom is surrendering your rights for the sake of unity and choosing relationship over being right. Let love guide your

liberty.

Reflection Question: How can I use my freedom today to serve someone rather than myself?

Day 3: Walking in Step with the Spirit

Reading: Galatians 5:16-18

Devotional: Walking by the Spirit isn't mystical—it's practical, moment-by-moment dependence on God. Like a train designed for tracks, you're most free when you stay on God's path for your life. The Holy Spirit functions like GPS, guiding you to destinations you've never been, course-correcting when you miss a turn, and warning of dangers ahead. He doesn't demand you see the whole map before moving forward; He asks you to trust the next instruction. Today, surrender your day to Him before your feet hit the floor. Feed your spirit more than your flesh—spend more time in prayer than scrolling, more time in worship than entertainment. Whatever you feed grows; whatever you starve dies.

Reflection Question: Am I feeding my spirit or my flesh more today?

Day 4: The Fruit of Connection

Reading: Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:4-5

Devotional: You don't produce spiritual fruit by trying harder—fruit grows because the branch stays connected to the vine. When connected to Jesus, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control naturally flow from your life. These aren't nine separate fruits to manufacture through willpower; they're one fruit of the Spirit produced through abiding. Disconnected from Christ, you work harder and produce the rotting fruit of the flesh—exhaustion, strife, anger, and division. Jesus said, "Come to Me, all who are weary, and I will give you rest." Stop exhausting yourself trying to live the Christian life in your own strength. Stay connected. Let Him produce what only He can.

Reflection Question: What fruit am I currently producing—flesh or Spirit?

Day 5: Choosing Rest Over Exhaustion

Reading: Matthew 11:28-30; Galatians 5:24-25

Devotional: Living your way exhausts you; living God's way restores you. The

flesh always demands more—more striving, proving, fighting, pretending. But Jesus offers something radically different: rest. Not the rest of doing whatever you want, but the rest found in surrendering to who He is. When you're yoked with Christ, He carries the heavy load while inviting you to participate in His work. Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. This is your choice: Will you live by the Spirit today? Will you feed your spiritual life or your fleshly appetites? The altars are open. Step out in faith and say, "Jesus, I'm tired of doing this on my own. I need You."

Reflection Question: What burden am I carrying that Jesus wants to take from me today?