



5-Day Devotional: Resolved to Reconcile

Day 1: The Heart of Reconciliation

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Devotional: God's ultimate desire is reconciliation. Through Christ, He didn't count our trespasses against us, but instead appointed us as ambassadors of this same reconciling love. Before addressing conflict with others, we must first align our hearts with God's heart. When we humble ourselves before Him, He grants us a greater grace—not just for salvation, but grace to extend to others.

Today, ask yourself: Is my heart aligned with God's desire for reconciliation? The ministry of reconciliation isn't optional for believers; it's our ordained calling. When we reconcile with one another, we live out the gospel message to a watching world. Let reconciliation become the foundation of how you handle every relationship conflict.

Reflection: Who in your life needs to see God's reconciling love through you today?

Day 2: The Enemy Within

Reading: James 4:1-10

Devotional: Conflict often reveals what's truly ruling our hearts. James reminds us that quarrels come from desires battling within us—we want something and don't get it. Before pointing fingers at others, we must examine ourselves. Are we seeking God's will or our own? The enemy isn't always external; sometimes it's our own pride, selfishness, and unwillingness to submit to God. Humility is the key that unlocks greater grace. When we humble ourselves before God, acknowledging our own faults and failures, He lifts us up and empowers us to

extend grace to others.

Today, resist the urge to blame others. Instead, ask God to reveal any pride or selfishness in your heart that's preventing reconciliation.

Reflection: What desires in your heart might be causing conflict with others?

Day 3: The Trap of Offense

Reading: Luke 17:1-4; Proverbs 19:11

Devotional: Jesus warned that offenses will come—they're inevitable. The Greek word for offense, *skandalon*, refers to the trigger of a trap. When we take the bait of offense, we can stumble into sin: bitterness, unforgiveness, hatred. But offense also presents a crisis—a decisive moment where we choose our direction. Will we move toward Christ or toward our flesh?

Proverbs teaches that sensible people control their temper and earn respect by overlooking wrongs. This doesn't mean ignoring genuine hurt, but rather choosing to look beyond the offense, releasing it to God rather than demanding immediate justice. Every offense is an opportunity to reveal Christ's grace.

Today, when offense comes, pause and ask: "Who is king of my heart?"

Reflection: What offense are you holding onto that needs to be released to God?

Day 4: Grace Upon Grace

Reading: Psalm 103:8-14; Ephesians 4:31-32

Devotional: David understood God's character: compassionate, merciful, slow to anger, filled with unfailing love. God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve because He knows how weak we are. He has shown us immeasurable grace and mercy. How many times have we offended God with our sin, yet He didn't demand immediate justice? While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Now, as followers of Christ who house His Spirit, we're called to extend the same grace to those who offend us—whether intentionally or unintentionally. Our ability to show grace flows directly from the grace we've received. When someone wounds you, remember the cross. Jesus' response to the greatest offense in history was, "Father, forgive them." Let His example transform how you respond today.

Reflection: How has God's grace toward you changed how you view those who've hurt you?

Day 5: Peacemakers Reveal the Gospel

Reading: Matthew 5:9, 23-24; Romans 12:18

Devotional: Jesus blessed the peacemakers, calling them children of God. When we choose reconciliation over retaliation, forgiveness over bitterness, and grace over grudges, we reveal the gospel to a watching world. Our conflicts aren't just personal matters—they're spiritual opportunities to demonstrate Christ's transforming power. The world is watching how Christians handle disagreements. Do we mirror the world's hostility, or do we reflect Christ's love?

If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. This requires humility, intentionality, and the Holy Spirit's power. You cannot stop people from offending you, but you can stop offense from living in you.

Today, be a peacemaker. Pray for those who've hurt you. Seek reconciliation where possible. Let your life display the reconciling heart of God.

Reflection: Who needs to experience you as a peacemaker this week?

Closing Prayer: *Father, thank You for reconciling me to Yourself through Christ. Help me to become a minister of reconciliation in every relationship. When offense comes, remind me to pause, humble myself, and seek Your heart. Give me grace to overlook offenses, wisdom to address what needs addressing, and courage to always choose peace. Let my life reveal the gospel message of Your reconciling love. In Jesus' name, Amen.*