

# Because He Got Up “I Have a New Life”: A 5-Day Devotional Journey

## Day 1: From Death To Life

Reading: [Genesis 2:8-17; Revelation 22:1-5](#)

**Devotional:** In the beginning, humanity had access to the tree of life—unbroken fellowship with God, eternal existence without pain or death. Sin changed everything. When Adam and Eve chose disobedience, they were driven from God's presence and separated from that tree of life. Yet Scripture opens and closes with this beautiful promise: **access restored**. The final chapter of Revelation reveals the tree of life once again, standing in the center of God's eternal city, its leaves bringing healing to the nations. Between Genesis and Revelation stands another tree—the cross. This is the bridge from death to life, from separation to reconciliation.

**Today, reflect on this question:**

What have you done with that middle tree?

Have you allowed the cross to bridge the gap between your spiritual death and eternal life?

The resurrection proves that death doesn't have the final word. Because Jesus got up, you can have access to the tree of life once more.



~ *Minister Kelvin L. Briggs*

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## Day 2: Walking in Newness of Life

**Reading:** Romans 6:1-14; Colossians 3:1-17

**Devotional:** Baptism isn't just a symbolic ritual—it's a burial and resurrection. When you went down into the water, the old you died. When you came up, you rose with resurrection power to walk in newness of life. But what does that new walk look like? It's evident in how you handle sin. Instead of hiding from God in shame, you run boldly to His throne of grace. Instead of covering your failures, you confess them honestly, knowing there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. The new walk replaces guilt with grace and transforms your desires. You begin to crave holiness over worldly pleasures.

You make choices **not** based on what feels good, but on what pleases God. This doesn't mean perfection—it means progression. You're being transformed from glory to glory, forgetting what lies behind and pressing forward.

Each day becomes a funeral for fleshly desires and a resurrection toward Christ-likeness.

Let your light shine so others see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Your changed life is your greatest witness.



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## Day 3: A New Heart, A New Identity

**Reading:** Ezekiel 36:22-32; 2 Corinthians 5:17

**Devotional:** God promises something radical: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." A stone heart is hard, cold, unresponsive to God's voice. It hides in shame, covers sin with fig leaves of self-justification, and blames others for its failures. But a fleshly heart—soft, warm, responsive—can receive God's Spirit and respond to His conviction. This transformation doesn't happen through self-improvement or religious activity. It happens at baptism, when you die with Christ and rise with His resurrection power dwelling within you. The Holy Spirit takes up residence, convicting you of sin and empowering you toward righteousness.

**If you're still comfortable in your sin, you may still be operating with a stone heart.** But if sin makes you uncomfortable, if you find yourself running to God rather than from Him when you fail, that's evidence of your new identity. You are no longer who you were. The old you died at the cross.

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## Day 4: A New Pursuit

**Reading:** Psalm 1; Matthew 6:19-34; Philippians 3:7-14

**Devotional:** What are you pursuing in this life? Your answer isn't found in what you say, but in how you spend your time, energy, and resources. A tree planted by streams of water stands firm, deeply rooted, consistently fruitful. When you're firmly planted in Christ, your pursuit changes.

The main thing becomes keeping the main thing the main thing—seeking first the kingdom of God. Pure religion isn't measured by the size of your Bible or the amount of your offering. James defines it clearly: caring for orphans and widows while keeping yourself unspotted from the world. It's loving the least and guarding against sin. This pursuit feels like a battle because it is one.

You're fighting against the flesh, resisting the broad road that leads to destruction, and choosing the narrow gate that leads to life. Few find it because it's difficult. But those who do discover that when they seek God's kingdom first, everything else falls into proper alignment. **Stop chasing what the world offers and start pursuing what heaven values.** Your purpose is found in good works, growing in Christ-likeness, and helping deliver other souls from darkness to light.

~ Minister Kelvin L. Briggs

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## Day 5: Living Forgiven and Free

Reading: 1 John 1:5-2:2; Hebrews 4:14-16; Romans 8:1-11

**Devotional:** Here's the uncomfortable truth that sets us free: when you came to Christ, that person who committed those sins died. The addict, the liar, the adulterer, the thief—that person was buried in baptism. You are new. When people try to remind you of your past, you can honestly say, "I'm sorry you missed the funeral, but that person is dead." This isn't denial or avoidance—it's the power of the cross. Nothing you've done is beyond the reach of Christ's blood.

No sin is too great, no past too dark, no addiction too strong. At the cross, Jesus paid it all. The resurrection proves that death and sin don't have the final word. So why do you still walk in shame? Why do you let guilt keep you from God's presence? Come boldly before the throne of grace. There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. Your healing begins at the cross and continues at the tree of life. Stop choosing the wrong tree of self-reliance and shame. Choose the cross daily.

**Take it up and follow Jesus. Because He got up, you can live forgiven, walk free, and pursue heaven with confidence. The old you is dead. Live like it.**

*~ Minister Kelvin L. Briggs*