

# 5-Day Devotional: "If God Is Not in Your Heart, He Cannot Be in Your Home"

## Day 1: The Call To Sincerity

**Reading:** Joshua 24:14 -- In this passage, Joshua calls the people of Israel to serve God with sincerity and truth, setting aside every false allegiance.

### Devotional:

It is easy to perform the outward motions of faith while the heart remains distant. Sincerity is not simply doing the right things -- it is doing them for the right reason, before the right audience. God is not impressed by polished appearances on Sunday mornings if Monday through Saturday tells a different story.

**Ask yourself honestly:** is your service to God driven by genuine love and conviction, or by the expectations of those around you? True sincerity means your private life and your public life tell the same story. Strive today to close the gap between the two.

**Practical Application:** Identify one area of your spiritual life where your private behavior does not match your public confession. Bring it before God in prayer and ask for the sincerity that comes from a heart fully surrendered to Him.

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## Day 2: No Other Gods

**Reading:** Exodus 20:3-5 -- God commands His people to place nothing before Him, declaring Himself a jealous God who will not share His rightful place of worship with any idol or competing allegiance.

### Devotional:

The gods of this age rarely look like carved statues. They look like careers, sports seasons, social organizations, and even family relationships placed above devotion to God. Anything that consistently takes priority over your worship, your study of Scripture, or your service to the body of believers has become a god in your life. The command has not changed. God requires first place -- not second, not equal footing.

Examine your weekly schedule, your finances, and your emotional energy. **Where do they point?** Whatever receives your greatest devotion reveals what truly sits on the throne of your heart.

**Practical Application:** Make a list of the top five things that consume your time and attention each week. Honestly evaluate whether God holds the highest position among them. Adjust one commitment this week to better reflect His priority in your life.



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## Day 3: Choosing Whom You Will Serve

**Reading:** Matthew 6:24 -- This verse makes plain that no person can divide their ultimate loyalty between two masters. A choice must be made, and that choice will be revealed by what a person consistently pursues.

### Devotional:

Indecision is itself a decision. When Joshua told the people to choose that day whom they would serve, he was not offering a suggestion -- he was issuing a challenge. Many people occupy the uncomfortable middle ground of wanting the benefits of serving God without the full commitment that service requires. That middle ground does not exist in Scripture. The gate is described as straight and the way as narrow, and few find it. Choosing God means choosing His word as your standard, His assembly as your priority, and His people as your family. That choice must be made fresh every single day.

**Practical Application:** Write down a clear, personal statement of commitment to God. Be specific about one area where you have been double-minded. Share that commitment with a trusted brother or sister in Christ who can hold you accountable.

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## Day 4: The Temple You Carry

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 6:19 -- This verse reminds believers that their bodies are not their own. The Holy Spirit dwells within those who have obeyed the gospel, making the body itself a sacred dwelling place that belongs to God.

### Devotional:

We invest enormous energy into maintaining our outward appearance -- our clothing, our vehicles, our homes. Yet the most important dwelling place we steward is the one that houses the Spirit of God. What are you feeding that temple? What are you allowing through its doors? Romans 12:1 calls believers to present their bodies as a living sacrifice -- holy and acceptable to God. That is described not as an extraordinary act of devotion but as a reasonable one, given everything God has done. The care you give to your inner life -- through prayer, Scripture, and obedience -- determines the health of the home God has chosen to inhabit.

**Practical Application:** Establish or recommit to one daily spiritual discipline this week -- whether Scripture reading, prayer, or fasting. Treat it with the same consistency you give to your physical routines, and track your faithfulness over the next seven days.



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## Day 5: Teaching the Next Generation

**Reading:** Deuteronomy 6:6-9 -- God instructs His people to keep His commands in their hearts and to pass them on diligently to their children -- in the home, on the road, at rest, and at rising. The Word is meant to saturate every corner of daily life.

### Devotional:

The children in your home and in your congregation are not watching your words nearly as closely as they are watching your life. They see whether the Bible sits open or collects dust. They notice whether worship is approached with joy or reluctant obligation. They observe how you treat your brothers and sisters in Christ when conflict arises. You cannot give what you do not have. If God is not genuinely in your heart, He cannot be faithfully transmitted to the next generation through your example. The most powerful sermon any parent or mentor will ever preach is the one lived out quietly, consistently, and sincerely in front of those who are watching.

**Practical Application:** This week, initiate one intentional spiritual conversation with a child, younger sibling, or newer believer in your life. Share something specific God has been teaching you. Let them see that your faith is real, active, and worth inheriting.



# 5-Day Devotional: Bearing Fruit in Christ

## Conclusion: The Fruit Check

As you complete this devotional journey, remember: God didn't call us simply to memorize the fruit of the Spirit—He called us to BE fruitful. These qualities should be visible evidence that we've been transformed by Christ. Self-control holds all these fruits together like a bridle controls a powerful horse. Let God's Word control your responses, your reactions, and your relationships.

**Final Reflection Question:** What fruit needs the most growth in your life right now? Commit to focusing on that fruit, allowing the Holy Spirit to cultivate it in you daily.

"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples." (John 15:8)

