

5-Day Devotional: Encountering the Holy God

Day 1: The Majesty of God's Presence

Reading: Isaiah 6:1-4

Devotional: When Isaiah encountered God seated on His throne, he witnessed majesty that filled the entire temple. The seraphim, magnificent creatures themselves, covered their faces and feet, recognizing they were unworthy even to look upon God. Today, we often approach worship casually, forgetting the awesome holiness of the One we serve. God is not distant or disinterested—He is powerfully present, worthy of our complete attention and reverence. As you go through your day, pause to acknowledge His presence. Let worship move beyond familiar songs to genuine awe. Ask yourself: When was the last time I was truly undone by God's holiness? Create space today for silent worship, allowing His majesty to overwhelm your heart and realign your perspective.

Day 2: Recognizing Our True Condition

Reading: Romans 3:10-26

Devotional: Isaiah's immediate response to God's presence was "Woe to me! I am ruined!" He recognized his sinfulness in the light of God's perfection. We live in a culture that minimizes sin, comparing ourselves to others rather than to God's standard. But salvation begins with honest recognition of our depravity apart from Christ. This isn't about condemnation—it's about reality. We cannot appreciate the cross until we understand what we needed saving from. Today, resist the temptation to grade your righteousness on a curve. Instead, stand before the mirror of God's Word and see yourself truthfully. Then turn to the cross, where Jesus paid the price you could never pay. Let this dual revelation—your need and His provision—transform your gratitude and devotion.

Day 3: Cleansed by God's Initiative

Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Devotional: Isaiah didn't cleanse himself. A seraphim brought a coal from the altar and touched his lips, declaring his guilt removed and sin atoned for. This beautifully foreshadows the gospel: salvation is entirely God's initiative. We were dead in our sins, but God made us alive in Christ. You cannot save yourself through effort, church attendance, or good behavior. Salvation comes through encountering the living God who reaches down to touch and transform us. Today, reflect on your salvation story. Was it a genuine encounter that undid you and made you new? Or have you simply added Jesus to your life without dying to yourself? If you've never truly surrendered, today can be that day. If you have, recommit everything to Him—your time, finances, relationships, and future. You are not your own; you were bought at a price.

Day 4: Daily Bread from Heaven

Reading: John 6:25-40, 48-58

Devotional: The Israelites learned they couldn't stockpile manna—it spoiled overnight. God required them to gather fresh bread each morning, teaching dependence on Him daily. Jesus declared Himself the Bread of Life, inviting us to feed on Him continually. Sunday's worship cannot sustain you through the week. Yesterday's encounter with God won't nourish you today. You need Him every single day. Tomorrow morning, before checking your phone or rushing into your routine, spend time with Jesus. Read His Word, worship Him, pray. It doesn't require hours—just intentionality. Let your children see you seeking God. Model what it means to hunger for Him above everything else. When you're filled with His presence daily, that's what overflows to others. Spiritual starvation leads us to consume things that cannot satisfy. Feed on Christ today.

Day 5: Here Am I, Send Me

Reading: Isaiah 6:5-8; Romans 12:1-2

Devotional: After encountering God's holiness and experiencing cleansing, Isaiah heard God's call: "Whom shall I send?" His response was immediate and unconditional: "Here am I. Send me." No negotiations, no questions about comfort or convenience—just complete availability. When we truly grasp our depravity and God's salvation, our lives are no longer our own. We become living sacrifices, wholly devoted to His purposes. Today, examine your response to God's call. Do you serve Him with conditions attached? Do you hold back areas of your life—career decisions, finances, relationships, time? Or can you honestly say, "Here am I. Use me however You desire"? This surrendered life isn't burdensome; it's freedom. God's calling on your life is the greatest privilege imaginable. Open your hands today. Release everything to Him and rediscover the joy of complete surrender to the One who gave everything for you.

As you complete this devotional plan, remember: encountering God daily transforms everything. Make space for Him. Worship Him in spirit and truth. Die to yourself so you can truly live for Him.