

5-Day Easter Devotional: Living in Resurrection Power

Day 1: The Reality of Our Need

Reading: Romans 3:21-26

Devotional: Before we can truly appreciate what Christ has done, we must honestly face what we are without Him. Romans reminds us that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." This isn't meant to condemn but to awaken us to reality. We cannot save ourselves through religious effort or good intentions. Yet in our helplessness, God demonstrates His greatest love—He freely declares us righteous through Christ Jesus. Today, resist the temptation to minimize your sin or maximize your goodness. Instead, stand in the honest place of need. It's only when we acknowledge we're drowning that we reach for the Lifeguard. Let this truth humble you and drive you deeper into gratitude for the Savior who came precisely because you needed Him.

Reflection: Where am I still trying to earn God's approval rather than resting in what Christ has already accomplished?

Day 2: The Cross: Love Made Visible

Reading: Matthew 27:27-50

Devotional: The cross wasn't just a historical event—it was love choosing to suffer. As Jesus hung between heaven and earth, mocked and bleeding, He had the power to save Himself. Yet what held Him there wasn't the nails; it was His love for you. Every lash He endured was for your freedom. Every insult He absorbed was to silence the accusations against you. When darkness covered the land and the Father turned away, Jesus experienced the separation from God that our sin deserved. He became sin so you could become righteous. Today, don't rush past the brutality of Calvary. Let the weight of what He endured sink in. The God of the universe loved you enough to be broken for you. That changes everything.

Reflection: What sin am I holding onto that Jesus already paid for? How does His sacrifice compel me to live differently today?

Day 3: The Empty Tomb: Death Defeated

Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

Devotional: "He is not here; He has risen!" These words shattered the darkness and changed human history forever. The resurrection wasn't just about Jesus coming back to life—it was the defeat of sin, death, and the devil's stranglehold on humanity. When Jesus walked out of that tomb, He walked out with the keys to death and hell. Every fear you carry about the future, every anxiety about what

comes after this life, was answered in that moment. Death no longer has the final word. The same power that raised Christ from the dead now lives in you. You serve a living Savior, not a dead religious figure. Today, let resurrection hope flood your perspective. Whatever feels dead in your life—dreams, relationships, purpose—can be resurrected by the One who conquered the grave.

Reflection: What area of my life needs resurrection power today? Do I truly believe Jesus can bring life from death?

Day 4: Transferred into His Kingdom

Reading: Colossians 1:13-23

Devotional: You are no longer who you were. Through Christ, you've been rescued from the kingdom of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of God's beloved Son. This isn't just forgiveness—it's a complete change of citizenship, identity, and destiny. The Creator of everything, the One who existed before time began, came to purchase your freedom. You're not merely forgiven; you're adopted. Not just saved from something, but saved for Someone. Christ is supreme over all creation, yet He chose to reconcile you to Himself through His blood. You now stand before God as if you had never sinned. Let this truth reshape how you see yourself. You're not defined by your past failures or present struggles. You're defined by whose you are—a child of the King.

Reflection: Am I living like I've been transferred into God's kingdom, or am I still operating under the old kingdom's rules and fears?

Day 5: Go and Tell

Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Matthew 28:18-20

Devotional: Paul called himself the worst of sinners, yet God showed him mercy to demonstrate that no one is beyond salvation's reach. If God can save Paul—and save you—then everyone has hope. The resurrection isn't just something we celebrate once a year; it's the message the world desperately needs to hear every single day. Jesus didn't save you just so you could enjoy a personal relationship with Him. He saved you to be a witness of His transforming power. The same patience God showed you, He wants to show others through your testimony. Today, ask yourself: who needs to hear what Jesus has done for me? Your coworker facing despair, your neighbor battling addiction, your family member convinced they're too far gone—they need to know that everyone who believes can be saved. Don't keep this treasure to yourself.

Reflection: Who is one person I can share the hope of the resurrection with this week? What's stopping me from telling them?

Closing Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for loving me enough to die for me and for defeating death so I could live forever with You. Help me never to lose the wonder of what You've done. Fill me with resurrection power to live boldly and share Your love with a world that desperately needs You. In Your mighty name, Amen.