

5 DAY DEVOTIONAL- Share What You Have

Day 1: The Power of Transformation

Devotional: Transformation marks the beginning of every new life story in Christ. Think about the lame man in Acts 3 who had spent his entire life sitting at the temple gate begging. In an instant, everything changed when Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have, I give you in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." The man didn't just walk—he leaped and praised God! His transformation was undeniable. People who had seen him begging for years now witnessed him dancing through the temple courts. They couldn't look away. Our own transformations might not be as visibly dramatic, but they're no less real. Perhaps Jesus has given you peace in place of anxiety, joy instead of depression, or freedom where addiction once ruled. These changes aren't just personal benefits—they're visible evidence of Jesus' power working in our lives. When we allow others to see our transformation, we create opportunities to redirect attention to Jesus, just as Peter did when crowds gathered around the healed man. Our changed lives become living testimonies that point not to our own strength or goodness, but to the extraordinary work of our Savior.

Bible Verse: "Then Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.'" - Acts 3:6

Reflection Question: What specific transformation has Jesus worked in your life that might serve as a visible testimony to others if you were willing to share it?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for the ways you've transformed my life. Help me recognize these changes as gifts not just for me, but as testimonies to share with others. Give me courage to let my transformation be visible so that others might see You through me. Amen.

Day 2: The Source of Our Story's Power

Devotional: We often hesitate to share our faith stories because we think they're not dramatic enough. We compare our testimonies to those who've overcome addiction or been rescued from terrible circumstances, and we wonder if our "ordinary" stories matter. But here's the liberating truth: the power of your testimony doesn't come from how dramatic your past was. Its power comes from pointing to Jesus and what He has done. Even the most seemingly ordinary transformation—from self-reliance to God-dependence, from spiritual apathy to passionate faith—reveals the extraordinary work of our Savior. In Acts 3, when crowds gathered around the healed man, Peter immediately redirected their attention: "It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see." Peter understood that the miracle wasn't about him or his power—it was about Jesus. Your story matters not because of what you've done or what you've overcome, but because it reveals who Jesus is and what He can do. When we share our stories with this understanding, we free ourselves from the pressure to have the most dramatic testimony and instead focus on faithfully pointing to our faithful Savior.

Bible Verse: "It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see." - Acts 3:16

Reflection Question: How might your perspective on sharing your faith story change if you focus less on how dramatic it is and more on faithfully pointing to Jesus?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you that the power of my story doesn't depend on me or my past, but on Your faithfulness. Help me to share my testimony in a way that clearly points to Jesus rather than drawing attention to myself. Give me confidence that my story matters because You are the author of it. Amen.

Day 3: Baptism: Making the Invisible Visible

Devotional: God often uses visible signs to represent invisible realities. In the story from Acts 3, the formerly lame man's leaping and walking served as visible evidence of the healing power of Jesus. Everyone could see the transformation that had occurred. Baptism functions in a similar way for believers. When someone steps into the waters of baptism, they're making a public declaration: "Something has happened inside me that you can't see, but this visible act represents that invisible reality." Think about it—the internal work of salvation, forgiveness, and new life isn't something others can observe directly. But baptism allows us to show outwardly what has happened inwardly. It's a powerful testimony that says, "I am not who I once was. Jesus has changed me." Just as the healed man couldn't remain sitting quietly at the gate after his transformation, those who have experienced the life-changing power of Jesus feel compelled to demonstrate it. Baptism isn't about drawing attention to ourselves—it's about creating an opportunity to point to Jesus and invite others to experience Him too.

Bible Verse: "He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God." - Acts 3:8

Reflection Question: Whether you've been baptized or not, how are you making the invisible work of Jesus in your life visible to those around you?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for the ways you make yourself known through visible demonstrations of invisible realities. Help me to live in such a way that

others can see evidence of your work in my life. Give me courage to make public what you've done privately, not for my glory but for yours. Amen.

Day 4: Sent with a Story

Devotional: Have you ever considered that there's no such thing as a nonsent Christian? From the moment we become followers of Jesus, we're commissioned as His representatives wherever we go. We don't need special training or official titles—we simply need to recognize that we've been entrusted with a story to share. The early church didn't spread through elaborate programs or marketing campaigns. It spread because ordinary people who had encountered Jesus couldn't keep quiet about Him. They shared their stories in marketplaces, homes, and workplaces—wherever they found themselves. Your daily environments—your workplace, neighborhood, gym, coffee shop, or family gatherings—are not just places you happen to be. They're places where God has strategically positioned you to share your story. The people in your life aren't random connections; they're relationships through which the gospel can flow. This doesn't mean you need to preach sermons or have all the theological answers. It simply means being authentic about what Jesus has done in your life and being willing to extend the invitation for others to experience Him too. Your story is a powerful tool in God's hands—not because of your eloquence, but because it testifies to His faithfulness.

Bible Verse: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

Reflection Question: What specific environments has God placed you in where your story might impact others, and how might you be more intentional about seeing yourself as 'sent' to those places?

Prayer: Holy Spirit, open my eyes to see the places where you've sent me as mission fields. Give me courage to share my story authentically and to invite others to experience Jesus. Help me to remember that I don't need to be

perfect—I just need to be willing to point to you. Use me as your witness right where I am. Amen.

Day 5: Stories That Fuel Movements

Devotional: Throughout history, the most powerful movements haven't spread primarily through information or arguments—they've spread through stories. Stories engage not just our minds but our hearts and imaginations. They help us see possibilities we couldn't envision before. The early Christian movement exemplifies this truth. The disciples didn't just share theological concepts—they told stories about what they had seen Jesus do and what He had done in their own lives. These testimonies created a ripple effect as each new believer added their story to the growing movement. Your story is part of this same movement. When you share how Jesus has transformed your anxiety into peace, your shame into freedom, or your purposelessness into meaning, you're not just sharing information—you're extending an invitation. A true testimony doesn't just say, "Here's what God did for me." It says, "And here's what He can do for you, too." This is how the gospel continues to spread—not primarily through buildings, programs, or even sermons, but through ordinary people who recognize that their stories are meant to be shared. When we understand this, we realize that we aren't just beneficiaries of God's grace—we're carriers of it to a world that desperately needs good news.

Bible Verse: "From the very beginning, Christianity wasn't spread by military force or by political power. Christianity didn't spread as a result of advertising campaigns. It spread because ordinary people encountered an extraordinary God and they couldn't keep quiet about it."

Reflection Question: How might your perspective and approach to evangelism change if you viewed it less as sharing information and more as sharing your ongoing story with Jesus?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for including me in your ongoing story of redemption. Help me to see my testimony not as something that belongs to me, but as a story that's meant to be shared. Give me opportunities to tell

others what you've done, and help me to extend the invitation for them to experience you too. May my story be one that fuels the movement of your gospel in my generation. Amen.