



5 DAY DEVOTIONAL

Day 1: The Dance of Love and Obedience

Reading: John 14:15-24

Jesus teaches us that love and obedience are intertwined in our relationship with Him. Today, reflect on how your love for Christ is expressed through your obedience. Are there areas in your life where you struggle to obey? Consider how deepening your love for Jesus might fuel your desire to follow His commands. Remember, obedience without love is mere legalism, but love without obedience is not true love at all. Pray for the Holy Spirit to kindle a deeper love for Christ in your heart, knowing that as your love grows, so will your desire to obey.

Day 2: The Promise of the Helper

Reading: John 16:5-15

Jesus promised to send us the Holy Spirit as our Helper, Advocate, and Comforter. Today, meditate on the incredible gift of the Holy Spirit dwelling within you. How aware are you of His presence in your daily life? The Spirit is there to guide you into all truth, convict you of sin, and empower you to live for Christ. Take time to invite the Holy Spirit to work more fully in your life, illuminating Scripture and producing spiritual fruit. Ask for His help in areas where you feel weak or uncertain.

Day 3: Living by the Spirit

Reading: Galatians 5:16-25

Paul contrasts the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit. As you read this passage, examine your own life. Which list more accurately describes your daily actions and attitudes? Remember, the fruit of the Spirit is evidence of His work in our lives. Focus especially on love, the first fruit listed. How can you allow God's love to flow through you more freely today? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you "keep in step" with Him, producing more spiritual fruit and less works of the flesh.

Day 4: Not Orphans, But Children of God

Reading: Romans 8:14-17

Jesus promised not to leave us as orphans, and through the Holy Spirit, we are adopted as God's children. Reflect on what it means to be a child of God. How does this identity shape your view of yourself and your relationship with God? The Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children and heirs. Take time to thank God for this incredible privilege and ask Him to help you live in the fullness of your identity in Christ.

Day 5: Delighting in God's Word

Reading: Psalm 119:9-16, 97-105

Jesus said that those who love Him will keep His word. The Psalmist expresses a deep love and delight for God's word. How do you view Scripture? Is it a duty to read, or a delight? Today, ask God to give you a greater love for His word. As you read, look for the beauty and wisdom in God's commands. Pray that the Holy Spirit would use Scripture to transform your mind and heart, making you more like Christ. Consider memorizing a verse that particularly speaks to you, allowing God's word to dwell richly in your heart.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Promised Helper (John 14:15-24)

1. How does understanding the connection between love and obedience change your perspective on following Christ? In what areas of your life do you find it most challenging to align your love for Jesus with obedience to His commands?
2. Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as the 'Helper' and 'Spirit of Truth'. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit's guidance and assistance in your own life, particularly in understanding and applying Scripture?
3. Pastor Nick mentions that 'the antidote for disobedience isn't obedience, it's love.' How might focusing on deepening your love for Christ, rather than just trying harder to obey, transform your spiritual journey?
4. In what ways does the concept of God making His 'home' with those who love and obey Him impact your understanding of your relationship with God? How might this change your daily interactions with Him?
5. The passage discusses the fruit of the Spirit versus the works of the flesh. How can you practically 'keep in step with the Spirit' to produce more spiritual fruit in your life?
6. How does the promise that Jesus will not leave us as orphans comfort and challenge you in your faith walk? In what areas of your life do you need to more fully embrace this truth?
7. Pastor Nick emphasizes that loving Jesus means loving His Word. How can you cultivate a deeper love and appreciation for Scripture in your daily life?
8. Reflect on the metaphor of Michelangelo's David, with the Holy Spirit 'chiseling away' at believers. What areas of your life might God be 'chiseling' to make you more like Christ?
9. How does understanding the Trinitarian nature of God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) as described in this passage enrich your worship and relationship with God?
10. Pastor Nick concludes with a call to surrender to Christ's Lordship and allow the Holy Spirit to 'clean house'. What might this look like practically in your life right now?



SMALL GROUP GUIDE

The Promised Helper (John 14:15-24)

Key Takeaways:

1. Love and obedience are both conditions and convictions of following Christ.
2. The Holy Spirit is our promised Helper, Advocate, and Comforter.
3. True love for Jesus is demonstrated through obedience to His Word.
4. The indwelling Holy Spirit produces fruit in the believer's life.
5. God makes His home in those who love and obey Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does Jesus mean when He says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments"? How do love and obedience relate to each other in our Christian walk?
2. Pastor Nick mentioned that "Love for Christ is the root and obedience is the fruit." How have you experienced this in your own life?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in helping us love and obey Jesus? Share an experience where you felt the Holy Spirit's guidance or comfort.
4. How does the world's view of truth differ from the "Spirit of truth" Jesus describes? How can we align ourselves more with God's truth?
5. Discuss the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Which fruit do you find most challenging to cultivate, and why?
6. Pastor Nick mentions that we are not left as orphans. How does knowing that God dwells within believers through the Holy Spirit impact your daily life?

Practical Applications:

1. Daily Scripture Reading: Commit to reading God's Word daily this week, asking the Holy Spirit to illuminate its meaning for you.
2. Love-Driven Obedience: Identify one area where you struggle to obey God. Pray for a deeper love for Christ to motivate your obedience in this area.
3. Fruit Check: Examine your life for evidence of the fruit of the Spirit. Choose one fruit to intentionally cultivate this week.
4. Dwelling Place Preparation: Spend time in prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to "clean house" in your heart, surrendering any areas you've been holding back.
5. Love in Action: Show love to someone in a tangible way this week, letting your actions be an overflow of your love for Christ.