

11-05-25 5 Day Devotional

5-Day Devotional: Burying the Old, Embracing the New

Day 1: The Burial of Your Past

****Reading:**** Romans 6:1-14

****Devotional:****

Baptism isn't just a symbolic act—it's a burial. When you went under the water, you buried your old life, your old sins, your old identity. Paul reminds us that we were "buried with him through baptism into death." The question is: have you truly let go? Or are you like a dog returning to its vomit, digging up what God has declared dead? The old you—with all its shame, addiction, bitterness, and pride—was nailed to the cross with Christ. Stop carrying around that stinky corpse. God has made you a new creation. The grave is sealed. Leave it there and walk in newness of life.

Day 2: The Damascus Road Moment

****Reading:**** Acts 22:1-21

****Devotional:****

Paul's transformation wasn't gradual—it was immediate and total. After encountering Christ, he didn't go back to persecuting Christians. He was baptized, received the Holy Spirit, and started his new mission. Notice what Ananias said: "What are you waiting for?" Many of us have encountered Christ but are still waiting to fully commit. We're standing at the edge of our Damascus Road, one foot in the old life, one in the new. Paul shows us that true conversion means complete redirection. Did Paul let his murderous past define him? No. He moved forward with holy urgency. What are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized in purpose, and wash away the delays.

Day 3: Don't Look Back

****Reading:**** Genesis 19:15-26; Luke 9:57-62

****Devotional:****

Lot's wife didn't just glance back—she gazed longingly. The Hebrew word

"nebat" means to look with intense desire. She couldn't let go of Sodom, and it cost her everything. Jesus warns that "no one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom." Ancient farmers had to focus on a distant tree to keep their rows straight. One look back meant a crooked line. Your Christian life requires the same forward focus. You cannot build your new life while mourning your old one. Comfort and growth cannot coexist. Stop romanticizing your past sins. That life is Sodom—under judgment and burning. Fix your eyes on Jesus and plow forward.

Day 4: Armed for Battle

****Reading:**** Ephesians 6:10-20

****Devotional:****

Every morning, you must put on the full armor of God. This isn't optional—it's essential for survival. The belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit aren't decorative; they're defensive and offensive weapons. Those fiery darts—accusations, temptations, doubts—come daily. When a sinful thought invades your mind, take it captive immediately with Scripture. Remember: you're not just human anymore. God's Spirit lives in you. You cannot be plucked from His hand. This is war, and you're divinely equipped. Prayer isn't your spare tire—it's your lifeline. Stand firm. You're not fighting for victory; you're fighting from victory already won at the cross.

Day 5: Your Mat Carriers

****Reading:**** Mark 2:1-12

****Devotional:****

Four friends carried a paralyzed man through a crowd, climbed onto a roof, tore it apart, and lowered him to Jesus. That's what mat carriers do—they refuse to let you stay stuck. You need people who will speak truth into your life, who will call you out when you're not glorifying God, who will carry you when you can't walk. These aren't casual acquaintances; they're brothers and sisters who know you deeply and love you enough to discipline you. Don't wait for crisis to build these relationships. If you don't have a mat carrier, find one today. Be vulnerable. Put down your pride. And remember:

Jesus healed that man because of his friends' faith. Whose roof are you willing to tear apart? Who's tearing one apart for you?